



THE ACADEMIA

Official International Bulletin of the University of Santo Tomas

Vol. LII No. 10

October 1 - 31, 2022

ISSN0117-0083



UST Rector Very Rev. Fr. Richard G. Ang, O.P., Ph.D. (left), assisted by UST Secretary-General Rev. Fr. Louie R. Coronel, O.P., EHL, presents a University token to Obiena (center) after the courtesy call.

UST welcomes home Thomasian Olympian pole vaulter EJ Obiena

The world's number 3 pole vault athlete and Filipino Olympian Ernest John "EJ" Obiena was given a hero's welcome at his second home, the University of Santo Tomas, on September 29, 2022.

Obiena, a fourth year Electronics Engineering student under the UST Faculty of Engineering who is currently on leave to concentrate on his training abroad, has played track and field for UST in the University Athletics Association of the Philippines (UAAP) and UniGames.

After signing the University guestbook at UST's historic Arch of the Centuries, Obiena paid a courtesy call upon the UST Rector Very Rev. Fr. Richard G. Ang, O.P., Ph.D.

A testimonial luncheon, hosted by the University for Obiena, at the Dr. Robert Sy Grand Ballroom of the Bl. Buenaventura García Paredes O.P. Building, included the conferment of the Pope John Paul II Award for his Outstanding Achievement in Sports.

UST Vice Rector Rev. Fr. Isaias D. Tiongco, O.P., JCD, expressed his support for Obiena and commended his mindset, saying that, "Your self-discipline

and confidence, determination, and rigorous training are bearing much fruit, and more will come, I am sure, to the delight, honor, and gratitude of not only your fellow Thomasiens, but likewise your countrymen."

Presenting the award was Fr. Tiongco, accompanied by UST Secretary-General Rev. Fr. Louie R. Coronel, O.P. EHL, and assisted by members of the Central Committee on Student Awards, namely, College of Nursing Regent Rev. Fr. Julius Paul Factora, O.P., Office for Student Affairs Director Asst. Prof. Ma. Cecilia A. Tio Cuison, College of Tourism and Hospitality Management Dean Assoc. Prof. Gezzez Giezi G. Granado, DCL, and University Registrar Mr. Cesar Velasco, Jr.

Obiena humbly thanked the University for welcoming him home.

"I've always been part of the University, even when I was away," said Obiena.

He also expressed gratitude to his mentors in the Faculty of Engineering, saying "I would not have been here today without your guidance."

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EJ OBIENA FROM PAGE 1



Obiena (right) is welcomed by UST Secretary-General Louie R. Coronel, O.P., EHL, and Office of Public Affairs Director Asst. Prof. Joreen T. Rocamora, Ph.D.



Obiena answers questions from the media.

"I will keep my feet on the ground and I will keep soaring high for the University, for the country, and hopefully make the world a little bit better in my own way," vowed Obiena.

Also included in the program were the blessing of Obiena by UST Vice Rector for Religious Affairs Rev. Fr. Pablo T. Tiong, O.P., and a press conference with the world-class athlete.

Later that afternoon, Obiena also met with his fellow Thomasian student-athletes at the UST Institute of Physical Education and Athletics.

In 2022, the 6'2" Thomasian pole vaulter has had an impressive streak, having won 17 medals, with 12 of them gold.

After representing the Philippines in the 2020 Tokyo Olympics, the twenty-six-year-old Obiena is now the only Filipino to obtain a medal in the World Athletics Championships, having won the bronze in Eugene, Oregon, USA, where he set the Asian record and his new personal best with a 5.94-meter performance in July 2022.

More recently, he defeated the current world #1 and Olympic titleholder Armand Duplantis by leaping 5.91 meters at the Brussels Diamond League in Belgium earlier in September.



(From left:) UST Secretary-General Rev. Fr. Louie R. Coronel, O.P., EHL; College of Nursing Regent Rev. Fr. Julius Paul Factora, O.P.; UST Vice Rector Isaias D. Tiongco, O.P.; EJ Obiena with his Pope John Paul II Award; his parents Emerson and Jeanette Obiena; Office of Student Affairs Director Asst. Prof. Ma. Cecilia A. Tio Cuison, College of Tourism and Hospitality Management Dean Assoc. Prof. Gezzez Giezi G. Granado, DCL, and University Registrar Mr. Cesar Velasco, Jr.

UST joins *PinasLakas* national COVID-19 booster campaign

UST, in collaboration with the Department of Health (DOH), the Manila City Health Department, and the Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines, joined the nationwide booster campaign "*PinasLakas*", a Covid-19 vaccination drive for Thomasians. Students, academic and support staff, and their dependents were able to secure booster doses at the UST Practice Gym on September 22 and October 18, 2022.

Showing full support to the booster campaign, UST Rector Very Rev. Fr. Richard G. Ang, O.P., Ph.D., encouraged the community to secure their jabs. In his welcome remarks (in Filipino), Fr. Ang emphasized that "if [the community] gets vaccination boosters, we can all ensure that we are ready, safe, and have a higher chance of remaining healthy. We can protect not only ourselves, but also our family and loved ones."

"We have to take care of each other, and I'm very glad that we are one in this goal today," said Fr. Ang.

PinasLakas launch sites include schools, malls, plazas, and places of worship – areas people can easily access to get their vaccines. UST is the first Philippine higher education institution to join this campaign and received the most single-day registrations.

Gracing the event were officials including: Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) Assistant Secretary for Community Participation Elizabeth N. Lopez-De Leon, who is an alumna of the College of Commerce and Business Administration; Commission on Higher Education (CHED) Educational Supervisor II Dr. Annalyn P. Diaz; Manila Health Department City Epidemiology Surveillance Unit Chief Dr. Jessie Bermejo; Metro Manila Center for Health Development Director III Aleli Annie Grace P. Sudiagal; and Metropolitan Manila Development Authority Director IV Dr. Maria Loida Alzona.



UST Rector Very Rev. Fr. Richard G. Ang, O.P., Ph.D., delivers a welcome message.

UST FMS closes 150th anniversary year, gears up for future of medical education with capital campaign



The 3D render of the Henry Sy, Sr. Hall, which will rise next to the Tan Yan Kee Student Center

At the end of the University of Santo Tomas Faculty of Medicine and Surgery's (UST-FMS) 150th anniversary celebration, its *Anargyroi* Foundation, Inc. (AFI) held "Go Further: Beyond 150 Years – A Capital Campaign" on October 3, 2022, at the Buenaventura Garcia Paredes O.P. Building lobby.

The program recognized AFI's current donors and pledgees, and served as an avenue to invite new potential donors. It also established the collaboration of AFI, University of Santo Tomas, and the alumni of the Faculty of Medicine and Surgery, the first and oldest school of medicine in the Philippines, which has produced over 40,000 doctors.

"Go Further" was the official introduction to the public of the upcoming 1.2-billion PHP target that would address the Sts. Cosmas and Damian Simulation and Research

Center project, which replicates clinical scenarios in order to provide students a strong link between their basic medical education and actual clinical practice. Using simulation aides, students can learn more effectively without fear of harming patients.

The target amount would see to the completion and furnishing of the Henry Sy Sr. Hall, the building that will house the Simulation and Research Center; the support of relevant medical research; the awarding of scholarships to underprivileged medical students, and the modernization of facilities at the St. Martin de Porres Building.

After the blessing was given by UST FMS Regent Rev. Fr. Angel A. Aparicio, O.P., the message of gratitude and legacy was delivered by

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UST Rector Very Rev. Fr. Richard G. Ang, O.P., Ph.D., delivers a message.



Dean Maglinao delivers a message.

AFI Trustee and Fundraising Committee Chairman Dr. Charles Cuaso discusses the capital campaign.



Dr. Charles Cuaso
AFI Trustee



Unveiling of the ceremonial thermometer by Dr. Charles Cuaso (right) and Asst. Prof. Ward

the UST Rector Very Rev. Fr. Richard G. Ang, O.P., Ph.D. Commending the FMS for fostering a culture of excellence in the medical profession, Fr. Ang expressed that the capital campaign launch was “a fitting occasion to give thanks and to celebrate the legacy of the UST FMS in commemoration of its sesquicentennial foundation anniversary.”

Fr. Ang reflected on gratitude, calling it an act of opening oneself to the grace of God, and thanked the many donors that committed to the capital campaign, particularly the alumni. “Your selfless dedication and support to UST’s Vision-Mission are expressions of your gratitude to your alma mater and your desire to leave a legacy to the next generation.”

The Rector also warmly thanked the Vice Chairman of SM Investments Corporation (SMIC) and the Henry Sy Foundation Teresita Sy-Coson for her generous donation and suggestions in the design of the Henry Sy, Sr. Hall, which will be named after her father.

“Physical structures will provide us with material and tangible legacy, but at the same time we are striving for a lasting legacy that is intangible - a legacy of character and integrity,” said the Father Rector.

Designed by Architects Rodolfo and Ana Ventura, the seven-storey building “will evoke transparency from within, modernity and innovation – the direction that the UST Faculty of Medicine and Surgery is now actively pursuing. The Building exteriors will also feature vertical aluminum sun breakers, which while being functional in itself, will evoke verticality and suggest growth and reaching up to new heights with the innovation in the study of medicine,” as written in the structure notes.

“The Henry Sy, Sr. Hall will be a state-of-the-art structure designed to meet the challenges and expectations of a digitally-inclined medical education landscape. It will house technologically-advanced facilities and equipment, which will complement the existing teaching, learning, and research practices of the University. It is yet another milestone, securing the UST FMS a relevant spot, a significant spot in Catholic medical education in the country, the region, and the world,” said the FMS Dean and AFI President Dr. Ma. Lourdes Maglinao.

The Dean further explained, “Today, our battle cry is ‘Go Further Beyond 150 Years—a statement that inspires movement and direction. We have aptly made this the official banner of our ambitious 1.2-billion capital campaign. Nurtured by our past and inspired by our tomorrow, we go further in every milestone as the cradle of Philippine medical education, building a future founded on Thomasian values, legacy, and excellence.”

The event also included AFI Fundraising Committee Chairman Dr. Charles Cuaso’s presentation of the Fundraising Committee Blueprint and conversations among benefactors and friends of UST FMS and AFI, including representatives from the Henry Sy Foundation, Starkey Hearing Technologies, UNILAB, the FMS Class of 1986, the UST Medical Alumni Association, Drs. Peter and Linda Fang, and beneficiaries of the AFI.

AFI Development Office Executive Director Asst. Prof. Anna Maria Gloria Ward, in her closing remarks, said “We

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Pasig LGU sends 162 teacher-scholars to UST for 10-month certificate program



(Seated, from left:) Pasig City Schools Division Superintendent, Ms. Ma. Evalou Concepcion A. Agustin, Vice Rector for Academic Affairs Prof. Cheryl R. Peralta, DrPH, Pasig City Mayor Hon. Victor Ma. Regis ‘Vico’ N. Sotto and officials from Pasig City and UST, including Dean Romero (standing, second from left) and Dean Papa (standing, sixth from left) [Photo courtesy of the official Facebook page of Mayor Vico Sotto]

The University of Santo Tomas, the Local Government of the City of Pasig, and the Department of Education - Pasig Schools Division Office (SDO) partnered to conduct a post-baccalaureate program for 162 teachers to earn a Certificate in Science Teaching. The parties signed a Memorandum of Agreement on September 20, 2022 at the Pasig City Mayor’s Office.

Through a hybrid format, a 27-unit program will be accomplished over the course of ten months. The participating teacher-scholars from Pasig City will learn under the mentorship of expert educators from the UST College of Education and the College of Science.

Vice Rector for Academic Affairs Prof. Cheryl R. Peralta, DrPH, representing the Rector Very Rev. Fr. Richard G. Ang, O.P., Ph.D., signed the Memorandum of Agreement on behalf of the University, while the Pasig City Mayor Hon. Victor Ma. Regis ‘Vico’ N. Sotto and the Pasig City Schools Division Superintendent, Ms. Ma. Evalou Concepcion A. Agustin signed for the City Government of Pasig.

College of Education Dean Assoc. Prof. Pilar I. Romero, Ph.D., College of Science Dean Prof. Rey Donne S. Papa, Ph.D., Certificate of Science Teaching Project Leader Mr. Louie B. Dasas, Ph.D., Department of Secondary Education Chair Mr. John Christian C. Valeroso, Ph.D., were in attendance.

Congressman Roman Romulo, Pasig City Vice Mayor Hon. Robert Vincent Jude Jaworsky, Jr., City Councilor (In-Charge of Education) Hon. Corazon Raymundo, Pasig SDO Assistant Superintendent Dr. Carolina Rivera, Schools Governance & Operations Division Chief Dr. Victor M. Javeña, SDO Public Schools District Supervisor Dr. Sofia J. Papio, and Education Program Supervisor for Science and SHS Ms. Liza Alvarez also attended.



3D renders of the facilities inside the soon-to-rise Henry Sy, Sr. Hall

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encourage everyone to come and be part of this historical narrative, that in UST FMS’ celebration of its 150th anniversary, its alumni and friends sourced and gathered its resources to assure that it remains to be one of the best medical schools in the Philippines. After all, not everyone can claim to be the Cradle of Medical Education in the country.”

She also shared that of 45 rooms available for naming rights, 14 of the rooms are already reserved for donors and pledgees.

Dr. Cuaso and Asst. Prof. Ward then unveiled a ceremonial thermometer that signified the progress toward the 1.2-billion-peso goal.

Interested donors may contact the AFI through anargyroifoundation@gmail.com

Reyes of Educ bags top prize in 1st *Timpalak Mario Miclat sa Pagsasalin*

Asst. Prof. Alvin Ringgo C. Reyes, former chair of the Secondary Education Department, College of Education, took the grand prize in the inaugural *Timpalak Mario Miclat sa Pagsasalin* on September 30, 2022, International Translation Day.

Reyes bested 22 other finalists, who came from the academe and the literary industry, in the contest organized by the Filipinas Institute of Translation, Inc.

The senior member of the UST Sentro sa Salin at Araling Salin and former chair of the Departamento ng Filipino received Php100,000 to finish his Filipino translation of the Japanese classic novel *Kokoro* by Natsume Sōseki.

Reyes related the significance of translating Asian literature into Filipino, especially in a borderless world hastened by internationalization and globalization.

"Kailangang maunawaan din natin ang realidad ng mga kapuwa natin sa mas malaking pamayanang ating kinabibilangan," he explained.

Reyes's translation was guided by Venuti's theory on foreignization at domestication, a topic discussed in the *Pagsasalin* subject which he helped create in the department.

"Naging hamon sa akin kung paano pananatilihin ang natatanging kahulugang kultural ng mga termino sa kalagayan ng Japan noong 1910 na siyang reference ng nobela," he said.

The contest was held in partnership with Katipunan sa Kultura at Kasaysayan (KKK2022), UP Departamento ng Filipino at Panitikan ng Pilipinas (UPDFPP), UP Kolehiyo ng Arte at Literatura (UPKAL), Likhaan: UP Creative Writing Center, Maningning Miclat Arts Foundation, Inc. (MMAFI), and UP Sentro ng Wikang Filipino Diliman (SWF-UPD).



Reyes (seated, second from left) with National Artist for Literature Virgilio Almario (seated, third from left) [Photo courtesy of Alma Miclat]

Faculty of Engineering fetes Outstanding Alumni for 2020

The University of Santo Tomas Engineering Alumni Association Inc. (USTEAAI) conferred the Outstanding Thomasian Engineer Award for 2020 to nine UST Faculty of Engineering alumni during its General Assembly on September 10, 2022, at the Dr. Robert Sy Grand Ballroom, Buenaventura G. Paredes, O.P. Building.

Joining the roster of alumni who have received the award in the previous years for their outstanding achievements in the different fields of engineering are Engr. Frederick C. Parayno and Engr. Joseph Cerezo both BS Civil Engineering, Batch 1987; Engr. Jerenato B. Alfante, BS Civil Engineering Batch 1984; Engr. Restituto A. Cabrera, BS Civil Engineering, Batch 1983; Engr. Maria Virginia Braga-Magat, BS Civil

Engineering, Batch 1982; Engr. Emmanuel L.R. Estrada, BS Electronics Engineering, Batch 1982; Engr. Nathaniel R. Orillos, BS Chemical Engineering, Batch 1981; Engr. Elvira Q. Nombrefia-Arceo, BS Industrial Engineering, Batch 1980; and Engr. Justo Ma. J. Lopez, BS Electrical Engineering, Batch 1974.

Engr. Parayno was President of the USTEAAI from 2014 to 2016 and of the UST Alumni Association from 2015 to 2017. For almost 10 years, he was University Researcher and Senior Lecturer at UP Diliman. He was Senior Project Manager of Metro Rail Transit Corp. and VP for Commercial Development & Special Project

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of MRT Development Corp. Currently, he is the Executive Vice President of MRT Development Corporation and President of Metro Rail Transit Corporation.

Engr. Cerezo, who is also a lawyer, was the President of USTEAAI from 2012 to 2014. At present, he is a Trustee of the University of Santo Tomas Law Alumni Foundation, Vice President of the Integrated Bar of the Philippines Quezon City Chapter and Managing Partner of Cerezo, Malasig, Samonte, Cajigal and Associates Law Office.

Engr. Alfante was President of USTEAAI from 2016 to 2018. He received various awards including Awards of Excellence in Entrepreneurship and Outstanding Man of the Year among others. At present, he is the treasurer of PMA Maharlika Class of 1984 and the Chairman of OFW Partylist. Before he became President and CEO of Macro Wiring Technologies Co. Inc., he was the General Manager of JBA Builders, President of Superstar Packaging Corporation, and Chairman of Saint John Bosco Faith Training Center.

Engr. Cabrera was President of USTEAAI from 2009 to 2012. He started and relentlessly grew many companies under his leadership. He was the President and CEO of Cabres Builders, Inc. (Manila) which later expanded offshore to South Carolina, California, Guam, and Papua New Guinea. He also built several other businesses such as a food processing facility in Naga and is currently working on the management of Papua New Guinea's agricultural program which is for implementation soon.

Engr. Braga-Magat is the Chairman and President of Dreamhauz Management and Development Corporation and the Vice Chairman and Chief Operating Officer of MB Prime Landholdings and Development Corporation. She was a consultant at NJR Realty and Development Corporation, Meridian Properties Inc. and Drydock Corporation and worked with the Special Projects of the Technical Services Group of the Office of the Vice President of Home Guaranty Corporation.

Engr. Estrada is a registered ASEAN engineer and a member of the ASEAN Academy of Engineering Technology. His 38-year career in the telecommunications industry included stints in the engineering academe, government and the private sector. He devoted eight years as a faculty member in the UST ECE Department, nine years as a telecommunication regulator at the National Telecommunications Commission. In 1995, he joined Globe Telecom and held various positions.



(From left:) Assistant Dean Bautista, Fr. Luanzon, Dean dela Cruz, Engr. Parayno and Engr. Ong

In 2019 he took on the role of Sr. Vice President for Technology Strategy & Service Integration focusing on emerging technologies & services. He is at present head of Regulatory Development and Strategy Group of Globe, Telecom, Inc.

Engr. Orillos is the President of the newly established UST Chemical Engineering Alumni Association (USTChEAA). He was conferred the Outstanding Aklanon Award in the field of Science and Technology during the 55th Founding Anniversary of the Province of Aklan and Outstanding Chemical Engineer Award at the 73rd PICHE National Convention. He started his career as a Process Engineer and rose from the ranks to be the Assistant Vice President of Petron Bataan Refinery until his retirement in 2019.

Engr. Nombrefia-Arceo was president of the UST Engineering Alumni Association from 1998 to 2001. During her term, she organized projects and activities for the welfare of the Faculty of Engineering, and to promote unity among Thomasian Engineers. Over the last decade, she has dedicated herself in promoting the history & culture of her hometown, Baler, Aurora, helping organize a civil society group for this purpose. She is currently involved in a community of indigenous people - the Agtas of Casiguran - bringing education to their children

Engr. Lopez is a Professional Electrical

Engineer, ASEAN Chartered Professional Engineer, ASEAN Engineer and Fellow at the Institute of Integrated Electrical Engineers (IIEE). He was awarded as IIEE Most Outstanding Electrical Engineer for Construction and Project Management in 2010 and Most Outstanding Alumnus of Don Bosco College in 2011. He was an electrical engineer for 48 years working in the field of industrial, commercial, institutional and residential construction and project management. He designed and constructed the electrical system of numerous commercial, factory, institution buildings and residential houses. He was a consultant for Special Projects of the City of Manila and the Department of Environment and Natural Resources

The Thomasian Engineer Award recognizes UST Faculty of Engineering alumni who have shown exemplary achievements in their area of practice in the field of Engineering and the Thomasian values of competence, commitment, and compassion in the practice of their profession.

Present during the award ceremonies were Rev. Fr. Roberto L. Luanzon Jr., O.P., S.Th.D., DL, Regent of the Faculty of Engineering and UST Vice Rector for Finance, Prof. Angelo R. dela Cruz, Ph.D., Acting Dean of the Faculty of Engineering and the president of USTEAAI, Engr. Jason Ong.

UST GS faculty members recognized for outstanding contributions in Medical Physics



The Luciano Niguidula Service awardees and guests (from left:) Ramon Carlo Cruzpero (current SMPRP vice-president), Delmar Arzabal (immediate SMPRP past president), Manuel Ramirez (awardee), Bayani San Juan (awardee), Lina Niguidula Gison, Agnette Peralta (awardee), Lilian Rodriguez (awardee), Nathaniel de Vera (awardee), Joy Kristel Lobrigitto Orzales (representing awardee Aida Lobrigitto), Marlon Raul Tecson (awardee), and Deonne Rosales (Elekta regional sales marketing manager).

The Society of Medical Physicists in the Republic of the Philippines (SMPRP) awarded the 1st Luciano N. Niguidula Service Award to ten medical physicists on September 3, 2022. Of the ten, four—Agnette dP. Peralta, Bayani C. San Juan, Marlon Raul Z. Tecson, and Nathaniel B. de Vera are current faculty members and two—Lilian V. Rodriguez and Aida M. Lobrigitto are former faculty members in the Master of Science in Applied Physics major in Medical Physics program of the UST Graduate School. The awarding ceremony was held in Seda Hotel in Makati City.

During the same ceremony, the 2nd Dr. Celia T. Anatalio Lifetime Achievement Award was also given to Agnette dP. Peralta and Lilian V. Rodriguez. The same award was also received by Eulinia M. Valdezco in 2017. She was also an academic staff under the Medical Physics program of the Graduate School.

The two awards were established to honor the two most important persons in the birth of medical physics in the country - Engr. Luciano Niguidula and Dr. Celia Anatalio. The late Luciano N. Niguidula, affectionately known as *Tatang*, was originally an x-ray engineer who underwent specialized training and eventually became the first Filipino medical physicist. He worked continuously for 75 years and died at the age of 98. *Tatang* was the first mentor in medical physics of Ms. Peralta and Ms. Rodriguez. On the other hand, Dr. Celia T. Anatalio is the Mother of Medical Physics in the Philippines. As a radiologist and a radiation oncologist, she knew of the important role of the physicist in medicine. She was instrumental in the establishment in 1981 of the Medical Physics Master's Program in the UST Graduate School as a joint project of the Department of Health, the then Philippine Atomic Energy Commission, and UST, with technical assistance for ten years from the International Atomic Energy Agency.



The Celia Anatalio Lifetime Achievement Awardees (from left:) Ramon Carlo Cruzpero, Delmar Arzabal, Gregorio Martin Guevarra (SMPRP treasurer), Agnette Peralta, Lilian Rodriguez, and Lina Niguidula Gison.



1ST CALOOCAN WRITERS WORKSHOP

Fil. Dept.'s Angeles, UST alumni lead Caloocan historical, cultural org

Mark Anthony Angeles, full-time instructor from the Departamento ng Filipino, College of Education, was elected Director of Literature and Arts of Caloocan Historical and Cultural Studies Association, Inc. (CHCSA, Inc.).

CHCSA, Inc. is a SEC-registered Caloocan-based non-governmental organization, which focuses on the history, culture, and heritage of the Historic City of Caloocan.

Thomasian alumni were also elevated into the organization's Executive Board in an election conducted on July 23.

CHCSA, Inc. President Wogie T. Pacala and Executive Secretary Jose Alberto L. Jimenez III earned their Bachelor of Arts in History from UST in 2018, Vice President and Director of Research and Publication Ruben Jeffrey A. Asuncion, graduated with a degree in AB Journalism in 2008, and Director of Library and Archives Julie Ann Dominique DL San Esteban, took Bachelor in Library and Information Science from the University in 2012.

As experts in their fields, officers and members of CHCSA, Inc. regularly give lectures in national and international conferences.

Asuncion was recently elected as the Director of Internal Affairs of Lipunang Pangkasaysayan ng Unibersidad ng Pilipinas Diliman (UP LIKAS).

1st Caloocan Writers Workshop

Angeles was the Founding Director of the first Caloocan Writers Workshop, organized by CHCSA, Inc., in cooperation with Rotary and Rotaract Clubs of Caloocan, JCI Northgate Caloocan, National Commission for Culture and the Arts, Cultural Center of the Philippines, and UP Sentro ng Wikang Filipino.

Department of Literature Assoc. Prof. Chuckberry J. Pascual, Ph.D., was one of the panelists of the workshop, held from April 23 to 24.

Both Angeles and Pascual are Resident Fellows of the UST Center for Creative Writing and Literary Studies.

Workshop fellow Nicolas Gaba, Jr. teaches at the Senior High School Department while co-fellow Nell B. Buenaventura taught at the Departamento ng Filipino.

Angeles, a senior member of the UST Sentro sa Salin at Araling Salin, also serves as an Independent Member of the Board of Trustees of CHCSA, Inc.

The Board will serve until 2024.



LUPONG TAGAPAGPAGANAP (EXECUTIVE BOARD) 2022-2024



WOGIE T. PACALA
Pangulo



RUBEN JEFFREY A. ASUNCION
Pangalawang Pangulo at Direktor ng Pananaliksik at Palimbagan



JOSE ALBERTO L. JIMENEZ III
Kalihim Tagapagpaganap

Caloocan Historical and Cultural Studies Association



JEREMIAH J. MONTEJO
Ingat-Yaman



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TEE JEI N. LEI
Tagaunay Pangmadla



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CHARLES DARWIN F. TALAVERA
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Caloocan Historical and Cultural Studies Association

Santísimo Rosario Parish Church celebrates 80th anniversary



Parish Priest Rev. Fr. Paul Reagan O. Talavera, O.P. (rightmost) leads the Enthronement Rites. [Photo courtesy of the UST Santísimo Rosario Parish Church Facebook page]



The image of the Nuestra Señora del Santísimo Rosario de la Universidad de Santo Tomás [Photo courtesy of the UST Santísimo Rosario Parish Church Facebook page]

The Santísimo Rosario Parish Church (UST Chapel) celebrated its 80th Patronal Fiesta from September 3 to October 2, 2022. The month-long festivities culminated with a *Misa Mayor* presided over by the Archbishop of Manila, His Eminence José F. Cardinal Advincula, D.D.

Defining faith as ‘the strength that comes from God’, Cardinal Advincula urged the community to bolster their faith in the Lord.

“God is never late and His acts are always right on time. To be able to believe that is faith. We need faith, because through faith, God gives us the courage to face the challenges of our mission. Without faith, we may easily give up when difficulties come our way. Faith enables us to endure the sufferings of this world. A person with faith will always persevere,” emphasized the Cardinal.

Parish Priest Rev. Fr. Paul Reagan O. Talavera, O.P., in his message, said, “*Panginoon, dagdagan mo pa ang aming pananalig. Lahat ng ating ginawa ngayong ika-walumpung anibersaryo ay punong-puno ng pananampalataya sa Diyos. Maraming salamat sa Panginoon at sa mahal na Birhen. Happy Fiesta sa ating lahat!*”

The roster of activities included a Mass Baptism on September 3 and a Mass Confirmation on September 18. Another highlight of the month-long festivities was the *Dalaw Patrona*, where the original image of the *Nuestra Señora del Santísimo Rosario de la Universidad de Santo Tomás* visited



The Archbishop of Manila, His Eminence José F. Cardinal Advincula, D.D., presides over the *Misa Mayor*. [Photo courtesy of the UST Santísimo Rosario Parish Church Facebook page]

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Winners and winning works from the Painting Contest with Cardinal Advincula, Fr. Tinoko, and Fr. Talavera [Photo courtesy of the UST Santísimo Rosario Parish Church Facebook page]

the Mother Church of the Archdiocese of Manila, the Manila Cathedral. Manila City Mayor and Thomasian alumna, Hon. Ma. Sheilah “Honey” Lacuna-Pangan, M.D., attended the wreath laying ceremony, while the Welcoming Rites were led by Fr. Reginald Malicdem, Rector of the Manila Cathedral.

The Enthronement and the recitation of the Holy Rosary were held on September 22, while novena masses were held on September 23, 26, to 30, 2022.

The *Misa Mayor*, the announcement of winners for the painting contest, Procession, and Closing Rites were held on the final day, October 2, 2022.



Fr. Talavera presents a token of appreciation to Mayor Lacuna. [Photo courtesy of the UST Santísimo Rosario Parish Church Facebook page]

3 EHS students bag awards in global math contest



A Grade 10 student from the UST Education High School, Nash Camurungan, won a bronze medal in the Level M contest of the 2022 World MathFusion Olympiad (WMO) International Tournament.

Grade 9 students Myles Jillianne Althea Kate Frances Sophia Summers Alfonso and Grade 8 student Daphne Maeve Domingo also represented the university.

The UST-EHS Team was supervised by Asst. Prof. Vincent V. Caparas. They also underwent coaching and training facilitated by the Math Pre-Service Teachers under the UST College of Education.

Civil Law alumnus Firme is appointed as Academe representative of JBC



Atty. Firme gives his message of thanks. [Photo courtesy of Colorpoint Classic through Faculty of Civil Law]



Dean Divina delivers his testimonial speech. [Photo courtesy of Colorpoint Classic through Faculty of Civil Law]

Faculty of Civil Law alumnus, Hon. Nesauro H. Firme, was appointed as a regular member of the Judicial and Bar Council (JBC) representing the Academe. He was honored with a testimonial dinner on September 26, 2022, at the Civil Law lobby of the Main Building.

The JBC has the mandate of recommending appointees to the Judiciary and the Office of the Ombudsman for the President's perusal, which includes creating a list of nominees for the position of Chief Justice of the Supreme Court.

Faculty of Civil Law Dean Atty. Nilo Divina, in his testimonial speech, said that, "As one Thomasian community, we express our support and appreciation to Atty. Firme as he embarks on this important role."

"We hope the JBC, through you as its academic representative, will give voice and stay true to judicial independence – a cherished principle we endeavor so much to instill in our law students. We enjoin that with every vetting, every search, and every recommendation becomes a reflection of a Thomasian lawyer and educator's conviction, and most of all, we pray that you carry with you the fortitude to always do what is right," said Dean Divina.

Atty. Maria Elena Francisco and Atty. Isaiiah Asuncion also delivered testimonial speeches.

Firme, who came from a family of educators in Balayan, Batangas, earned his Legal Management degree in 1999, and his Bachelor of Laws degree in 2003, both from the University of Santo Tomas.

An educator himself, he started teaching business law subjects at the Department of Accountancy, De La Salle University – Dasmariñas Campus in 2005, and at the Polytechnic University of the Philippines and Jose Rizal University College of Law in 2013 where he also took the great opportunity of shaping the latter's Clinical Legal Education Program.

Aside from teaching, Firme has also served in various capacities within the government. In 2017, Atty. Firme became the Chairman

of Mandaluyong City's People's Law Enforcement Board (PLEB). In 2018, he was tagged as a Legal Specialist for the Implementing Rules and Regulation of the Traditional and Alternative Medicine Act of 1997, under the Philippine Institute of Traditional and Alternative Health Care of the Department of Health. He also served as Chief of Staff of the MMDA Chairperson from 2021 until February 2022.

The Commission on Appointments confirmed Firme's appointment on September 28, 2022. At the age of 44, he is one of the youngest members of the Judicial and Bar Council in its history.



Faculty of Civil Law Regent Rev. Fr. Isidro Abañón, O.P., presides over the Eucharistic Celebration.

UST, NCKU explore linkage points during collaborative discussion



NCKU Associate Vice President for International Affairs Prof. Li Yueh-Heng signs the University guestbook, witnessed by UST Secretary-General Rev. Fr. Louie R. Coronel, O.P., EHL

In its effort to build more international collaborations, administrators from the University of Santo Tomas met with officials from the National Cheng Kung University (NCKU) of Taiwan to explore possible partnerships and form collaborations related to selected programs under the Faculty of Medicine and Surgery, Faculty of Engineering, and the College of Science. This encounter happened on October 11, 2022, at the fourth floor of the BI. Buenaventura Garcia Paredes, O.P. Building.

In his welcome remarks, Rev. Fr. Louie R. Coronel, O.P., EHL, Secretary-General emphasized the importance of such endeavors to address the need to advance internationalization efforts as part of directional areas of the University and the seven-point agenda of the Father Rector.

Fr. Coronel also highlighted internationalization efforts with Taiwan, particularly with NCKU. He made mention of the inbound and outbound faculty mobility and transnational research efforts through the Office of International Relations and Programs (OIRP) where academic staff from the College of Science and the Graduate School were featured.

The Taiwan delegation, led by the Associate Vice President for International Affairs Prof. Li Yueh-Heng, was divided into groups where they had an opportunity to interact with academic or administrative officials from the Office of International Relations and Programs with its Director Prof. Lilian J. Sison, Ph.D., and the Office for Admissions led by its Director Assoc. Prof. Imelda A. Dakis,



(From left:) OIRP Director Dr. Sison, College of Science Dean Prof. Papa, and Assistant to the Rector for UST Santa Rosa Prof. Marcelo welcome an official from NCKU.

UST, NCKU EXPLORE LINKAGE POINTS
TO PAGE 14

UST, NCKU EXPLORE LINKAGE POINTS
FROM PAGE 13



UST and NCKU officials are grouped together to discuss potential collaboration points.

M.D. Representing the academic units were the Faculty of Medicine and Surgery Dean Assoc. Prof. Ma. Lourdes D. Maglinao, M.D., Faculty of Engineering Dean Prof. Angelo dela Cruz, Ph.D., and the College of Science Dean Prof. Rey Donne S. Papa, Ph.D. The research cluster was also represented through the Research Center for Health Sciences Supervisor Prof. Consuelo G. Suarez, M.D., Ph.D.

Also present during the interaction were Prof. Philipina A. Marcelo, Ph.D., Assistant to the Rector for UST Santa Rosa; Assoc. Prof. Ryan Cayubit, Ph.D., Assistant Director for the Office of Admissions; Mr. Reuel M. Bennet, Dr.rer.nat, Microbiology Coordinator; Asst. Prof. Nelson M. Pasamonte, PME, ASEAN Eng, Chairperson of Mechanical Engineering; Prof. Maria Natalia Dimaano, Ph.D., Program Lead for the Engineering Cluster UST Graduate School; Dr. Julie Li Yu, Academic Staff, Master in Public Health International; and Asst. Prof. Anthony James Bautista, DT, Faculty of Engineering Assistant Dean.

The interaction culminated with a report from each group where points of possible collaboration were presented.



Officials from NCKU, led by Associate Vice President for International Affairs Prof. Li Yueh-Heng, meet with UST officials, including Assistant to the Rector for UST Santa Rosa Prof. Philipina Marcelo, Ph.D. (leftmost), UST Secretary-General Rev. Fr. Louie R. Coronel, O.P., EHL (eighth from left), Office for International Relations and Programs Director Prof. Lilian Sison, Ph.D. (ninth from left).

Basic sciences, sustainable development emphasized at IYBSSD launch at UST

INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF BASIC SCIENCES FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
PHILIPPINE LAUNCH
October 7, 2022, 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM
University of Santo Tomas, Manila
Ballroom (2nd floor), Blessed Buenaventura Garcia Paredes OP Building and via Zoom

ORGANIZERS

PANELISTS

				
Dr. Marc Eric Reyes UST	Dr. Jaime C. Montoya DOST-Philippine Council for Health Research and Development	Dr. Lourdes J. Cruz University of the Philippines (UP) Diliman	Dr. Ephrime B. Metillo Mindanao State University-Iligan Institute of Technology	Dr. Rosalie Arcala Hall UP Visayas

The roster of panelists

Strengthening foundational knowledge and highlighting the importance of basic sciences in our daily lives are vital now more than ever. To aid this endeavor, the University of Santo Tomas, through its College of Science, partnered with the Department of Science and Technology-National Research Council of the Philippines (DOST-NRCP) to celebrate the Philippine launch of the International Year of Basic Sciences & Sustainable Development (IYBSSD) on October 7, 2022, at the UST Paredes Building.

IYBSSD emphasizes that the basic sciences provide means to meet crucial challenges of survival and learning, like universal access to food, energy, health coverage, and communication technologies, and can help limit or reduce climate change, depletion of natural resources, and extinction of living species. With such a scope, it is no wonder that the basic sciences are key to the United Nations' Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development.

DOST Secretary Hon. Dr. Renato U. Solidum, in his message, expressed that by constantly trying solutions generated from basic science research, alleviating the existing and anticipated problems in the Philippines is possible. He explained that, "We need to tackle health, energy, transport, water and environment, climate and disaster resilience, and these need to be supported by human resources development through scholarships until Ph.D., and training. We also need to focus on upgrading our laboratories not only at the national level, but most importantly,

also at the regional and provincial levels. All of these need to be integrated through transformed governance, through data transformation."

Solidum added that, "I hope that as we launch IYBSSD Philippines today, we also start to strengthen our plans to create more research-based and science-based solutions to achieve the sustainable development goal (SDG) targets."

The UST Vice Rector for Research and Innovation Rev. Fr. Jannel Abogado, O.P., in his opening remarks, said that the IYBSSD wished to "emphasize the orientation of basic science. With it, we can affirm that scientific knowledge sought in basic research is undertaken not just for the sake of generating knowledge, but also to ensure that those concerned with the applied sciences will have a robust foundation in understanding reality to ground their innovative technologies that will ensure the preservation and sustainability of the ecosystem that makes human flourishing possible."

DOST-NRCP President Dr. Cristine Villagonzalo echoed this sentiment, saying, "We need to emphasize that the level of technologies that we enjoy today, such as in communication and transport, are not due to just one decade, but many decades of groundwork in basic science. An individual fundamental scientific discovery may have no immediate application or commercial impact, but from our panel discussion, we will learn how long lineages of basic scientific research will eventually lead to something useful and add value to our daily lives."

IYBSSD Chair and renowned particle physicist Prof. Dr. Michel Spiro clarified this by highlighting that many key developments, such as the vaccines and treatments against COVID-19 were borne out of basic biology; the internet that society relies upon was originally invented at *Conseil européen pour la recherche nucléaire* (CERN/European Organization for Nuclear Research) due to the need to share information among scientists; and cellular phones function due to its internal transistors, circuits, and codes—all of which were developed through basic sciences.

Spiro, who is president of the International Union of Pure and Applied Physics (IUPAP) and was involved in the discovery of the intermediate W and Z bosons at CERN, said that "Basic sciences are curiosity- and inquiry-driven. They are the foundations of education and the sources of discoveries, which turn into applications. They can then serve an inclusive sustainable development (improving global equity and well-being together with a healthy and lively planet). All together, these elements can boost collaborative and open basic sciences. This is the virtuous circle we want to promote during IYBSSD and after. To achieve this goal, we shall need you, teachers, scientists, the private sector, decision makers, and society at large to share this vision and act accordingly."

The interdisciplinary panel discussants were: National Scientist and biochemist

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SalinTomas 2022 convenes Thomasian field experts on Int'l Translation Day

UST *Sentro sa Salin at Araling Salin* gathered experts from various fields in the University in *SalinTomas 2022* to mark the celebration of International Translation Day on September 30, 2022.

The United Nations-sanctioned holiday coincides with the feast day of St. Jerome, the patron saint of translators.

SalinTomas 2022 with the theme, “*Online Forum sa Mga Hamon, Oportunidad, at Direksiyon ng Pagsasalín at Araling Salin sa Unibersidad ng Santo Tomas*”, mapped the fields of translation as an academic discipline and professional industry.

The online forum also aimed to document the Thomasian experiences as translators and researchers of the subject of translation towards more effective translation professionalization programs at the University.

UST *Sentro sa Salin* Chair Assoc. Prof. Wennielyn F. Fajilan, Ph.D., led the panel of authorities in their fields, composed of Dr. Minerva Calimag (Medicine), Dr. Chuckberry Pascual (Literature), Mr. Leo Martin Angelo R. Ocampo (Religion), Prof. Kathleen Cruzada (Nutrition), Prof. Anthony James Bautista (Engineering), and Mr. Adrian Romero (Simbahayan).

The international theme this year is “A World Without Barriers.”

Researchers in the field of Translation Studies, instructors and students of *Pagsasalín*, and advocates of language and translation attended the event.

UST *Sentro sa Salin at Araling Salin* is known as the first university-hosted translation studies institution in the country.

UNIBERSIDAD NG SANTO TOMAS
KOLEHIYO NG EDUKASYON
SENTRO SA SALIN AT ARALING SALIN

SALINTOMAS 2022

ONLINE FORUM SA MGA HAMON, OPORTUNIDAD, AT DIREKSIYON NG PAGSASALIN
AT ARALING SALIN SA UNIBERSIDAD NG SANTO TOMAS
SETEMBRE 30, 2022, BIYERNES, 8:00 N.U. – 12:00 N.T.,
VIA UST SENTRO SA SALIN FACEBOOK PAGE

MGA TAGAPANAYAM:

 Medisina Dr. Minerva Calimag	 Panitikan Dr. Chuckberry Pascual	 Relihiyon G. Leo Martin Angelo R. Ocampo
 Nutrisyon Prof. Kathleen Cruzada	 Inhinyeriya Prof. Anthony James Bautista	 Simbahayan G. Adrian Romero

UST *Sentro sa Salin at Araling Salin*
Dr. Wennielyn Fajilan

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Prof. Lourdes J. Cruz, Ph.D., infectious disease expert and Academician Jaime C. Montoya, M.D., Ph.D., social scientist Prof. Rosalie Alcala-Hall, Ph.D., marine scientist Prof. Ephrime B. Metillo, Ph.D., and Psychological Association of the Philippines President and UST academic staff Prof. Marc Eric Reyes, Ph.D. They were joined by the discussion moderator Dr. Nikki Hersherson A. Dagamac from the UST College of Science.

The discussants were united in agreement when it came to the point that strengthening education initiatives and support systems would be a strong

force for sustainability practices to become systemic. Montoya, in particular, emphasized that, “the problems SDGs address are already existing, so we have to transcend the boundaries between science and society. The poor appreciation of science and how it affects our everyday lives is still there. Communication is essential; tell people how science impacts their lives.”

The IYBSSD launch proceedings remain available for public viewing through the official Facebook page of the UST College of Science (ustgalingscience). The year-long celebration, which was proclaimed by consensus of the 76th United Nations General Assembly, will last until June 2023.

Valdepenas of University of Illinois delivers lecture on Solid Organ Transplantation

The UST Faculty of Pharmacy in collaboration with the Graduate School Pharmacy and Medical Technology Cluster organized a symposium on the “Pharmacy Services in Solid Organ Transplantation” at the Central Laboratory Auditorium last September 14, 2022. The symposium was led by Prof. Aleth Therese L. Dacanay, Ph.D., Dean of the Faculty of Pharmacy.

Asst. Prof. Benito T. Valdepeñas III, PharmD, BCTXP, RN shared the current pharmacy practices and trends in the Solid Organ Transplantation service at the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC) Hospital and his experiences as a clinical preceptor and a faculty member at the University of Illinois at Chicago College of Pharmacy.

The event was attended by faculty members and students from the Pharm D, BS Pharmacy, and MS/Ph.D. Pharmacy programs.

UNIVERSITY OF SANTO TOMAS
FACULTY OF PHARMACY
Department of Pharmacy
in collaboration with
The Graduate School
Pharmacy and Medical Technology Cluster

Pharmacy Services IN SOLID ORGAN TRANSPLANTATION

SEPTEMBER 14, 2022 | 1:00-4:00 PM | CENTRAL LABORATORY AUDITORIUM

SPEAKER:
Benito T. Valdepeñas III, PharmD, BCTXP, RN
Clinical Assistant Professor
Department of Pharmacy Practice
University of Illinois at Chicago College of Pharmacy

PROGRAM

Invocation	Prof. Aleth Therese L. Dacanay, PhD Dean, Faculty of Pharmacy
National Anthem	
Faculty of Pharmacy Hymn	
Welcome Remarks	
Introduction of Speaker	Prof. Agnes L. Castillo, PhD Intermed. Relations Coordinator, Faculty of Pharmacy
Resource Speaker	Benito T. Valdepeñas III, PharmD, BCTXP, RN
Open Forum	
Closing Remarks	Mr. Marlon C. Mallibit III University of Santo Tomas Hymn

Science, GS hold first hy-flex lecture on mosquito-borne infections



Dr. Paul's hy-flex discussion

The Department of Biological Sciences of the UST College of Science, in cooperation with the UST Graduate School Natural Sciences Cluster, recently hosted a hy-flex lecture by Prof. Richard Paul, Ph.D., of the Ecology and Emergence of Arthropod-borne Pathogens Unit, Department of Global Health, Institut Pasteur, Paris, France, on September 21, 2022, at the Central Laboratory Auditorium.

Paul's talk, “Disentangling risk for mosquito-borne infections in the urban environment,” focused on the ecology of mosquito-borne diseases such as Dengue, Zika, and Japanese encephalitis, as a result of the interplay of various environmental factors present in the urban environments of cities and large towns. The unique physical characteristics of urban environments, including increased mean temperatures (as a result of concrete structures and resultant heat-island effects), constant availability of water, and pockets of green spaces, provide suitable microhabitats for the entry of mosquitoes and allow for the spread of the insects and their associated diseases into areas where they are not usually found.

His study stresses the importance in understanding the urban ecology of mosquitoes, since effective control of these factors will provide better, cheaper and more effective control of the spread of mosquito-borne diseases compared to standard control methodologies such as fogging which are time consuming, expensive, and provide only short-term effects.

The hy-flex lecture was attended by administrators, faculty and students from the Department of Biological Sciences both onsite and online, marking the first true Hy-flex lecture in the College of Science and is a testament to the Department's commitment to providing opportunities for students to learn and appreciate current trends in science in the new normal.

The welcome and closing remarks were delivered by the Dean of the College of Science Prof. Rey Donne S. Papa, Ph.D., and the chair of the Department of Biological Sciences Assoc. Prof. Richard Thomas B. Pavia, Jr., Ph.D., respectively.



Prof. Richard Paul, Ph.D. (second from left), receives a certificate of appreciation from Department of Biological Sciences Chair Assoc. Prof. Richard Thomas B. Pavia, Jr., Ph.D. (rightmost) and College of Science academic staff.

UST, University of Fribourg Switzerland collaborate Comparative Theology Symposium



The UST Faculty of Sacred Theology, UST Institute of Religion, and UST Center for Theology, Religious Studies and Ethics, and the Faculty of Theology, University of Fribourg, Switzerland held a hy-flex Symposium on Comparative Theology under the project on 'Global Catholicism' at the George S.K. Ty Function Hall, 4th Floor, Buenaventura G. Paredes, O.P. Building, University of Santo Tomas, Manila on August 17, 2022.

The event featured three in-person lectures from Rev. Fr. Cecilio Vladimir Magboo, O.P., S.Th.D. (Comparative Ecclesiology: Discovering a Way for Different Churches to Exchange Gifts), Assoc. Prof. Allan Basas, S.Th.D. (Synodality as the 'Mission-Now' of the Church in the Philippines: A Post-Colonial Engagement of the Church in the Struggles of the People of the Margins), and Prof. Dr. Helmut Zander (Comparative Theology. Reflections on the [New] Role of Religious Studies for the Interreligious Dialogue).

The lectures underlined the reality of religious pluralism and the diversity not only among various religious traditions but even among members of one tradition that is contextualized by different cultures, hence the project of Global Catholicism which intends to investigate the expressions and engagements of the Catholic Church in the many parts of the world.

The activity is also intended as the first of a series of academic collaborations between these two Institutions. The second is projected to happen between March to May of 2023.

Dean Papa of Science shares UST's Taal post-eruption ecological research on *Sardinella tawilis* at policy forum

UST College of Science Dean Prof. Rey Donne S. Papa, Ph.D., who is one of the lead researchers of UST's National Research Council of the Philippines (NRCP)-funded Taal Post-Eruption Ecological Research (PEER) Program, shared the current findings of their research group during the "Science and Policy Forum for Sustainable *Sardinella tawilis* Production and Livelihood in Lake Taal". The event, held from September 27-28, 2022, via Zoom, was organized by the School of Environmental Science and Management of the University of the Philippines Los Baños (SESAM-UPLB) together with the Protected Areas Management Board of the Taal Volcano Protected Landscape (PAMO-TVPL) and the National Fisheries Research and Development Institute (NFRDI).

Papa, who is also the chairperson of the Research Council of the TVPL, talked about the status of research knowledge on Lake Taal pre- and post-eruption. From there, Papa shared the current research efforts being done by the Taal PEER research team to better understand the



Dean Papa (left) answers questions

ecology and biodiversity of Lake Taal, with a focus on the feeding ecology of the endangered and endemic *Sardinella tawilis* after Taal volcano's recent eruption in 2020, which included an analysis of the trophic dynamics of Lake Taal's pelagic zones and a pre- and post-eruption comparison of the prey preferences of the fish.

The limnologist also highlighted the importance of studying feeding ecology to any efforts looking into the potential recovery of its status as an endangered species, and talked about other initiatives studying the ecology of Lake Taal's littoral zone after the volcanic eruption.

Lastly, he highlighted the need for further collaboration between academe, national government agencies (NGAs), non-government organizations (NGOs), local government units (LGUs), private organizations, people's organizations, and fisherfolk to restore the entire watershed to hinder any further decline in its biodiversity and to have continuous monitoring, assessment, and conservation efforts in the lake.

The NRCP Taal PEER program is expected to end on March 31, 2023.

The lecture remains available for public viewing through the [NFRDI Facebook page](#).

Batan, Valientes of AB present paper at int'l conference on culture-based education

University of Santo Tomas (UST) Faculty of Arts and Letters, Department of Sociology academic staff and former coordinator Prof. Clarence M. Batan, Ph.D., and his thesis advisee Vincent Reuben E. Valientes presented their paper titled, "Creative Forms of Living and Learning Spaces in Doing Catechetical Ministry (CM) in the Philippines: A Visual Sociological Analysis" on September 10, 2022. The presentation was held during the 9th *Malikhaing Guro* International Conference on Culture-based Education, with the theme "Cultural Education in the Reconstruction, Transformation, and Convergence of Living and Learning Spaces" organized by the Arts Research and Training Institute in Southern Tagalog, Incorporated (ARTIST, Inc.).

The paper examined the living and learning spaces of the CM in the Philippines through visual sociological analysis. The paper highlighted three salient dimensions of CM, namely, (1) the lives of catechists as creative creators, (2) the creative spaces for catechesis, and (3) the visual creative process in catechetical ministry. The research paper argues that living and learning CM spaces in the Philippines, as visually analyzed, direct attention to forms of creativity that informs, surprise, and signifies how catechetical processes are effectively and meaningfully experienced even with limited structures and available resources. Finally, the paper contributed to reimagining and rethinking a combination of culture and pastoral-



Batan

Valientes

based education in the context of the Sociology of Catholicism in the Philippines.

Along with various participants and moderators in the open forum, Dr. Batan highlighted the role of the conference in giving a platform for these types of creative, innovative, sociological research. Moreover, Valientes pondered on the creative opportunities in the Catholic Church to encourage the youth to participate in CM engagements.

Lontoc of Educ, USTGS discusses UST, UNESCO Chair partnership in BAICE 2022 International Conference



Lontoc

Dr. Gina Lontoc of the College of Education and UST Graduate School joined the British Association for International and Comparative Education (BAICE) 2022 International Conference, which was held in the University of Edinburgh, Scotland from September 13 to 15, 2022. Due to travel restrictions, she opted to participate online.

As the Country Project Lead of Family Literacy Projects under the UNESCO Chair in Adult Literacy and Social Transformation based at the University of East Anglia, United Kingdom, she discussed the roles and responsibilities of researchers, participants, partner organizations, and local government units involved in the family literacy projects of the UST team.

Interestingly, she also talked about the wider impact of the UNESCO Chair partnership and initiatives on the research culture in the University. This includes

producing high impact research outputs that inform policy and practice; organizing e-fora that raise debates on the changing landscapes of adult literacy, the drivers of change and its challenges; and conceptualizing new research projects in the field of Sustainable Development. These projects are within the fields of family literacy, indigenous and local knowledge systems, and intergenerational learning, with the recent one on health literacy.

Along with other Country Project Leads, Lontoc shared how UST has experienced the partnership including interactions among academics and students, new connections and networks with institutions from various parts of the world, funding opportunities, collaborative bids, and wider reputational impact. She also discussed the institutional support provided by UST to the UNESCO Chair activities.

Aguas of CTRSE, AB presents paper on religious diversity in Thailand

Prof. Jove Jim Aguas, Ph.D. of the Faculty of Arts and Letters and the Center for Theology, Religious Studies and Ethics participated in the culminating conference of the Global Philosophy of Religion Project: Philosophies of Appropriated Religions in Southeast Asia. The Conference was held in Pathumwan Princess Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand from September 5 to 7, 2022, and was attended by researchers in the area of philosophy of religion from Southeast Asia.

Aguas' paper with the title, "A Critical Look at Religious Diversity and Responding to its Challenges," was delivered on the afternoon of the last day of the conference. He talked about the phenomenon of religious pluralism, particularly in the context of Asia including the Philippines, and he expounded the three fundamental epistemological positions on religious diversity namely *exclusivism* as proposed by Alvin Plantinga, *inclusivism* as proposed by Karl Rahner, and *pluralism* as proposed by John Hick.

He ended his presentation with a discussion on the potential responses to the

challenges brought by religious diversity, and he affirmed the promise offered by the pluralistic framework because of its openness to accommodate various religious positions, which is the present context of Asia. Aguas also reiterated that "Inter-religious dialogue is an open relation and interaction among religions or religious people based on respect, understanding, and hospitality. Inter-religious dialogue is a mechanism that can counter violence due to religious conflicts. It can serve as a mechanism for the promotion of harmony and peace for it fosters mutual knowledge and enrichment, lessens tensions and misunderstanding, and promotes common goals and collaborations among followers of different religions."

The paper will eventually be published as a chapter of a much-anticipated anthology of the Global Philosophy of Religion Project supervised by De La Salle University's Southeast Asia Research Center and HUB (SEARCH) and is funded by the University of Birmingham and John Templeton Foundation.



Aguas during his presentation

UST GS, National Chengchi University hold joint webinar on geopolitical research



The University of Santo Tomas (UST) Graduate School and the National Chengchi University (NCCU) International Doctoral Program in Asia Pacific Studies (IDAS) held a joint webinar on "Geopolitical Field Researches: Peace Study Series", a Political Science Forum on October 1, 2022, via Zoom.

The invocation and welcome remarks were delivered by the Regent of the UST Graduate School, Rev. Fr. Rodel E. Aligan, O.P., S.Th.D, while IDAS Director Prof. Dr. Chung-Min Tsai gave the opening message, which was followed by the opening remarks of UST Graduate School Program Lead of Political Science, Prof. Belén L. Tangco, O.P., Ph.D.

The event featured the following research presentations - Evolving the Networks of Socio-Political Advocacy by Asst. Prof. Ronald Castillo; ASEAN's Governance Context and the Prospect of a Participatory Regional Climate Change Cooperation by Ms. Virge Salazar; Old and Frail: Identifying Villages with Primary Care Shortages in an Aging Society by Mr. Tsanyu Kuo; My Journey into the Social Sciences by Mr. Andrew Timothy Yi; and Libraries as Agents of Defense and Peace: Responses to 2022 Russia-Ukraine Geopolitical Conflict by Ms. Jennylyn Cabbuag.

The Panel of Reactors was composed of Assoc. Prof. Dennis C. Coronacion, Ph.D., Mr. Patrick Dave Q. Bugarin, O.P., Ph.D., Ms. Clare Fevidal, and Mr. Frederick Prevosa.

Prof. Michael Anthony C. Vasco, Ph.D., Dean, UST Graduate School, delivered the closing remarks.

This inaugural webinar marked the partnership between UST and NCCU.

Oandasan of AB presents in 13th Linguistic Landscape Int'l Workshop in Germany



Oandasan and Dr. Elana Shohamy

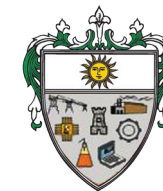
Dr. Richard L. Oandasan, an academic staff of the Department of English, Faculty of Arts and Letters, presented his paper titled "Linguistics schoolscape of a Philippine elementary school: A pedagogical tool for critical language awareness and language attitude" at the recently concluded 13th Linguistic Landscape International Workshop held from September 7 to 9, 2022, at the University of Hamburg, Germany.

The on-site workshop this year focused on the relationship between linguistic landscape (all visible semiotic signs in public spaces), educational spaces, and language teaching and learning. As the only Philippine delegate to the conference, Oandasan provided empirical evidence on

how languages used in signs (linguistic landscape) within educational spaces in the Philippine context can serve as a potent pedagogical tool for language education as gleaned from the results of his project.

The notable scholars in the field of linguistic landscape, who inspired him in his dissertation project, namely, Dr. Elana Shohamy (Tel Aviv University, Israel), Dr. David Malinowski (San Jose State University, USA), and Dr. Durk Gorter (University of Basque Country, Spain), were the keynote speakers and moderator, respectively. In a very rare opportunity, Oandasan was able to meet them in-person and shared his humble scholarly work with them.

BOARD TOPNOTCHERS



Electronics Technician Licensure Examination

October 2022

UST Passing Rate: 92.94%
National Passing Rate: 77.11%



1st - 90%
Jude Nico Dela Cruz Zabala



2nd - 88%
Jon Carlitos Hipolito Liwag



3rd - 87%
Juan Carlo Ramos Latonio

Chemical Engineer Licensure Examination

October 2022

UST Passing Rate: 61.60%
National Passing Rate: 51.25%

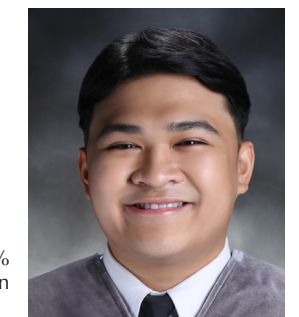


7th - 84.50%
Denver Recayo Pascua

Electrical Engineer Licensure Examination

September 2022

UST Passing Rate: 90.22%
National Passing Rate: 50.21%



10th - 88.55%
Neil Zachary Sargento de Guzman

Namjooning, classical music converge at UST Museum exhibition through Henry Cheng's 'Suite for Army'

The University of Santo Tomas Museum's interactive exhibition titled "UST goes *Namjooning*: Capturing Moments on Campus" intensifies the multi-sensory experience as it unveiled a new section that highlights the musical composition "Suite for ARMY" by award winning conductor-composer Henry Cheng and co-composer Ari Fisher on September 21, 2022.

Open to the public from September 14 to October 23, 2022, the exhibition's photo walls and interactive installations encourage students to showcase their *Namjooning* experiences, which will strengthen their appreciation of what the historic UST campus can offer, all while listening to Cheng's BTS-inspired classical work, or playing interactive "Run BTS!"-featured games, like Halli Galli and Thin Ice, among others.

Henry Cheng's musical analysis of BTS' discography and research into BTS' classical influences are evident in "Suite for Army". While BTS has quoted Chopin's "Farewell" Waltz Op. 69 No.1, Bach's *Mass in B minor - Kyrie*, Debussy's *Claire de Lune*, and Buxtehude's *Passacaglia* in their previous tracks Fake Love, Blood Sweat and Tears, and Euphoria, Cheng's "Suite for Army" takes these direct quotes from Chopin and Bach and uses Debussy and Buxtehude as inspiration for orchestration and color. According to Cheng's website, "the philosophical beliefs, compositional techniques, and personal stories of Wagner, Tchaikovsky, Rachmaninoff, and Stravinsky are the sonic glue that binds BTS and Classical Music."

Guests were encouraged to bring their own earphones/headset for a better immersive experience where they would personally and individually listen to "Suite for Army" at their own pace during the exhibition.

Winner of the Antal Dorati and European Union International Conducting Competition, Henry Cheng is currently the Chief Conductor and Artistic Director of the Klangkraft Orchester in Duisburg, Germany since 2017. Equally comfortable conducting symphonic, contemporary, operatic, and ballet repertoire, Cheng is a regular guest conductor throughout Asia, Europe, and America.

The exhibition, inspired by the social media term popularized by BTS leader Kim Namjoon, re-introduces UST's history, culture, and heritage through the concept of "*Namjooning*" to the Thomasian community and its stakeholders. "*Namjooning*" refers to museum visits, communing with nature, biking, appreciating architecture and public art, reading, and any personal activity for self-care, relaxation, and downtime.

Curated by Assoc. Prof. Anna Marie H. Bautista, an academic staff of the UST College of Fine Arts and Design and a member of the International Society for BTS Studies, the exhibition ran until October 23, 2022 and was open for the general public.



Exhibit curator and College of Fine Arts and Design academic staff Assoc. Prof. Anna Marie Bautista at the *Namjooning* exhibition entrance



UST Museum Director Rev. Fr. Isidro Abaña, O.P., delivers the welcome remarks.


Unlike most museum displays that should only be admired from afar, the *Namjooning* exhibition encourages visitors to actively participate, join the games, and add their own photos.

Students interact with the Penguin on Ice mini game.



Photo wall





THE ACADEMIA

Official International Bulletin of the University of Santo Tomas Vol. LII No. 10 October 1 - 31, 2022 ISSN0117-0083

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