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COMIUCAP President Prof. João Vila-Chã

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

# UST hosts global philosophy congress on faith, reason, & dialogue

he University of Santo Tomas hosted the Conférence Mondiale des Institutions Universitaires Catholiques de Philosophie (COMIUCAP) World Congress from November 16 to 18, 2022. The Congress was convened via hybrid modality to commemorate the 500th year Jubilee of the Christianization of the Philippines at the Bl. Buenaventura García Paredes, O.P. Building.

With the theme "Faith, Reason, & Dialogue: Listening to Asia", the threeday conference had the following plenary speakers: Prof. Philippe Capelle-Dumont, Ph.D. (Université catholique de Paris), who discussed "The anthropological question in interreligious dialogue"; Prof. Salomón Lerner Febres, Ph.D. (Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú), who tackled "Longing for transcendence around the significant connection between faith and reason"; Prof. Benedict Kanakappally, O.C.D., Ph.D. (Pontifical Council for Interreligious Dialogue), who focused on "Asia's Role in the Evolution of Interreligious Dialogue as a Concept and Practice"; and Prof. Kurian Kachapilly, C.M.I., Ph.D. (Dharmaram Vidya Kshetram Pontifical Athenaeum, India), who highlighted "Fides et Ratio: An Interface of Model and Modal Logic".

Also serving as key speakers were: Prof. Kai Man Kwan, Ph.D. (Hong Kong

Baptist University), who discussed "The Subjective Way of Knowing God: Comparison of Kierkegaard and the Chinese Culture"; Prof. Jānis Tālivaldis Ozolinš, Ph.D. (University of Notre Dame, Australia), who tackled "The Relation between Theology and Philosophy"; Rev. Fr. Hermel Pama, O.P., Ph.D. (University of Santo Tomas, Philippines), who focused on "Paths from Angst to Redemption: Southeast-Asian Root Metaphors and Key Scenarios"; and Prof. Brendan Sweetman, Ph.D. (Rockhurst University, USA), who highlighted "Democracy in Crisis?: Relativism, Public Reason, and the Exclusion of Religion".

UST Rector Very Rev. Fr. Richard G. Ang, O.P., Ph.D., in his welcome remarks, said "We are grateful to COMIUCAP for entrusting to our University the privilege of hosting and organizing this local meeting of philosophers."

Fr. Ang also highlighted the concept of synodality, or journeying together toward communion, participation, and mission, saying that it is "an opportunity for the entire people of God to discern together how to move forward on the path toward being a more synodal Church in the long term. COMIUCAP was grounded on the Catholic identity and tradition. It is the framework of our discernment toward becoming more

**GLOBAL PHILOSOPHY CONGRESS TO PAGE 2** 

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NEWS RESEARCH

#### Science alumni group wins BPI-DOST Innovation Award for Al-based colorectal cancer predictor



(From left:) BPI Foundation Executive Director Owen L. Cammayo, Project Adviser and UST College of Science academic staff Prof. Pia Marie Albano, Ph.D., UST team members Aaron Austin R. De Asa, Tesah Mae C. Guimbangunan, and Aamer T. Sultan, and DOST-SEI Director Dr. Josette Biyo [Photo courtesy of BPI Foundation]

group of alumni from the Biological Science Class 2022, namely Aaron Austin R. De Asa, Tesah Mae C. Guimbangunan, and Aamer Sultan, under the supervision of their adviser Prof. Pia Marie Albano, Ph.D., won the BPI-DOST Innovation Award for their project titled "Artificial intelligence-based prediction of colorectal cancer using micro ribonucleic acid (miRNA) expression". The award was presented on October 28, 2022, at the Holiday Inn, Makati City.

To find a less-invasive and cost-efficient method to identify colorectal cancer (CRC), their study designs, trains, and tests artificial neural network models in detecting CRC in patients using levels of expression of specific miRNAs found in blood plasma and tissue samples obtained from CRC patients and healthy controls.

The UST team, with seven other groups representing different schools, presented their innovation projects to a board of judges composed of BPI Foundation Executive Director, Owen Cammayo, representative from the Business Sector, Martin Gomez, representative from the academe. Dr. Eric Punzalan, and a Filipino Scientist. Dr. Pia Bagamasbad. Three winning groups, including the UST Team, received trophies and a cash prize of PhP 100,000.

The BPI-DOST Innovation Awards are spearheaded by the BPI Foundation, the social development arm of the Bank of the Philippine Islands (BPI), in partnership with the Department of Science and Technology - Science Education Institute (DOST - SEI). It provides an opportunity for college students of basic and applied sciences to work on projects that aim to solve prevailing challenges faced by society.

## Argao of GS is first Filipino appointed to WHO advisory group

sst. Prof. Renz Christian Argao, Ph.D., of the UST Graduate School was appointed as a Member of the World Health Organization - Strategic and Technical Advisory Group on Infectious Hazards with Pandemic and Epidemic Potential (STAG-IH).

According to its website, the WHO STAG-IH is a high-level advisory group composed of various experts from around the world that provides independent advice and analysis to WHO on the infectious hazards that may pose a potential threat to global health security. Established by the WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebrevesus in 2018, the WHO STAG-IH has an umbrella function as the overarching group advising WHO on relevant infectious hazards.

The functions of the WHO STAG-IH include, among others, providing independent assessment of the global context and horizon scanning of infectious diseases with pandemic and epidemic potential, including newly emerging and reemerging zoonosis. It also advises the WHO on the prioritization of WHO's strategies and activities in prevention, preparedness and response related to infectious hazards with pandemic and epidemic potential.

Argao is the first Filipino and the first Psychologist to be appointed to the STAG-IH. He joins the other members of the advisory group who are composed of epidemiologists, immunologists, infectious disease experts, and public health experts. According to Argao, his application statement focused on the mental health and psychosocial support aspects of pandemic prevention and response. He said that he will contribute on strategies and guidelines on how communities can deal with future pandemics or epidemics especially through behavioral and transformational change.

Apart from his expertise in psychology and mental health, Argao aims to provide insight on the role of the youth and intergenerational perspectives, as well as lobby for the integration of the important role of religious institutions, leaders, and organizations on pandemic preparedness and response.

The interreligious aspect of pandemic responses is brought about by Argao's involvement in global interreligious work and faith-based diplomacy. He is a member of the World Council of Religious Leaders of Religions for Peace, a body composed



Asst. Prof. Argao

of the world's senior-most religious leaders representing various religions and faith traditions.

Prior to his appointment to the WHO STAG-IH, Argao contributed to a WHO Roundtable discussion on exploring the future of the COVID-19 pandemic and other infectious threats where he provided recommendations on how we can prepare to face the four plausible scenarios regarding the COVID-19 Pandemic.

#### **GLOBAL PHILOSOPHY CONGRESS FROM PAGE 1**



Prof. Emeritus Alfredo P. Co. Ph.D.

relevant and more responsive to the call of the times. Both as an institution and as individual Catholics. Let this threeday conference serve as a vehicle for understanding and unity among diverse people of Asia and the whole world.'

As a network of Catholic Institutions of Higher Education dedicated to teaching and research in the different fields of Philosophy, COMIUCAP was founded in Rome in April 1999. The creation of this network was a direct consequence of the publication of Fides et Ratio, the Encyclical of Saint Pope John Paul II dedicated to Philosophy. It is the Sectorial Group for Philosophy of the International Federation



The roster of speakers and topics

of Catholic Universities (IFCU/FIUC). This year's COMIUCAP World

Congress had the Faculty of Philosophy Dean Rev. Fr. Herminio V. Dagohoy, O.P., as the Executive Convenor and Prof. Emeritus Alfredo P. Co. Ph.D., as Executive Convenor. It is the second time it has been hosted in the Philippines. The first was in September 2008, when UST and Ateneo de Manila University served as co-hosts.

## Former Sociology chair receives posthumous freeway namesake in California



Alice Peña Bulos [Photo courtesy of the Filipino American Democratic Caucus]

or her remarkable contributions to the Filipino-American community, alumna and former Sociology department chair Alice Peña Bulos received the posthumous honor of having a section of California State Route 35 named in her honor. The road signs for the "Alice Peña Bulos Memorial Freeway" were unveiled in Daly, California on July 16, 2022.

California State Assembly Member Phil Ting originally sponsored the resolution to rename a portion of State Route 35 in Bulos' honor in 2020, which was approved during Asian and Pacific Islander Heritage Month in May.

The resolution states, "It is my honor to recognize Alice Peña Bulos, who is considered the Godmother of Filipino American politics and empowerment. Her career in community organizing epitomizes leadership not just in the Filipino community, but also throughout the state of California."

Alice Peña Bulos, born on March 31, 1936, in Nueva Ecija, Philippines, received her bachelor's and master's degree in social and behavioral science at the University of Santo Tomas, where she later served as chair of the Department of Sociology from 1967 to 1972. Thereafter, she and her family moved to California. Over the span of four decades, Bulos dedicated herself to empowering generations of Filipino Americans to amplify their voices through civic participation. Her influence includes serving on the Filipino American Caucus for the California Democratic Party, the National Filipino Women's Network, and the National Asian Pacific Democratic Council.

Bulos was an active member for various community organizations, she was a Charter President of the Fil-Am Democratic Club in San Mateo County and the regional chair of the National Filipino American Women's Network. In 1993, she was an appointee of the Former US President Bill Clinton to the Federal Council on Aging, and was a delegate to the White

**FORMER SOCIOLOGY CHAIR TO PAGE 4** 

Lectures and Conferences

## NASA Goddard's scientist emeritus discusses Physics of Climate Change at Science seminar





Dr. Comiso during the discussion [Photo courtesy of Roschean Junio from the Applied Physics Society]

Dr. Comiso (center) [Photo courtesy of Justin Cortes from the Applied Physics Society]

Cientist Emeritus Josefino C. Comiso, Ph.D., from the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Goddard Space Flight Center (GSFC), highlighted the urgency of climate change and his environmental research at the hyflex seminar of the UST College of Science at the Central Lab Auditorium on October 28, 2022.

In his lecture titled "The Physical Science Basis of Climate Change and Mitigation Strategies", Comiso explained both natural and anthropogenic causes of climate change, including orbital eccentricity and human activities like fossil fuel consumption, among others. He detailed the technicalities of climate change and its worsening effects over the years through his studies involving polar oceanography and satellite algorithms.

He also presented most of his findings and major contributions to environmental change and polar research including the usage of satellites for the modeling of sea

ice sheets and covers, and how it exhibited warming in certain areas in the Arctic regions.

A renowned physicist and senior research scientist, Comiso's extensive experience included direct involvement in several climate change and environmental studies. According to the GSFC website, his work at the Center's Cryospheric Sciences Laboratory led to new insights

NASA GODDARD'S SCIENTIST TO PAGE 5

#### NEWS



Members of the Daly City Fil-Am community, including Bulos family members, near a road sign for the Alice Peña Bulos Memorial Freeway on its unveiling day [Photo courtesy of the Daly City Government Facebook page]

#### FORMER SOCIOLOGY CHAIR FROM PAGE 3

House Conference on Aging in 1995. As part of her advocacy, she stood for the rights and benefits of Filipino veterans of World War II. She also actively pushed for the need to address of social issues such as health care, domestic violence, and also the US residency application process. She was honored as one of the 2006 Woman of the Year for California's 19th Assembly District for her remarkable contributions to society and her accomplishments. After a lifetime of service, she died at the age of 86 in 2016.

# Pharmacy Dean delivers Clinical Pharmacy lecture at 2022 ACCP Global Conference

he UST Faculty of Pharmacy Dean Prof. Aleth Therese Dacanay, Ph.D., served as a plenary speaker during the 2022 American College of Clinical Pharmacy (ACCP) Global Conference. The conference was held at the Hilton San Francisco Union Square, San Francisco, California, from October 15 to 18, 2022.

Dean Dacanay delivered her lecture titled "Clinical Pharmacy Education in the Philippines: Past, Present, Future". She shared a brief history of clinical pharmacy education and training in the Philippines, highlighting the University's significant role in the field, being the first and the only Commission on Higher Education (CHED)-recognized Center of Excellence for Pharmacy Education. She also discussed

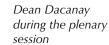
the Faculty and the clinical resources required to deliver the kind of high-quality education and training in clinical pharmacy.

During the conference, Dean Dacanay was also invited to attend the Dean's Luncheon Meeting for Schools of Pharmacy in the United States. Brief updates about ACCP, lessons learned during the pandemic, among others, were discussed during the meeting.

Along with Dean Dacanay, world-renowned clinical pharmacists such as Dr. Alan H. Lau from the University of Illinois Chicago, Dr. Lilian M. Azzopardi from the University of Malta, and Dr. Hsiang-Yin Chen from Taipei Medical University were also invited to deliver lectures.



Dean Dacanay





#### NASA GODDARD'S SCIENTIST FROM PAGE 4

into polar region processes that include deep ocean convection and the influence of polynyas and Odden on bottom water formation; phytoplankton blooms and relationships with the sea ice cover; and climate change signals as revealed by the changing sea ice cover and accelerated warming in the Arctic region.

The event was organized by the College of Science International Relations Committee, in cooperation with the Department of Math and Physics and the Applied Physics Society.

Comiso was initially welcomed by the UST Office of Public Affairs Assistant Director for Publication Ms. Katherine Patrice B. Sibug, along with the UST College of Science Dean Prof. Rey Donne Papa, Ph.D., and the Chair of the Department of Math and Physics Asst. Prof. Enrico Yambao at the UST Main Building.



Dr. Comiso (center) signs the guestbook witnessed by Dean Papa (left) and Ms. Sibug

Lectures and Conferences

# Mendoza of AB presents paper on trust in news production at German hybrid conference



Mendoza's presentation

aculty of Arts and Letters academic staff Mr. Karl Patrick R. Mendoza, a Ph.D. candidate at the University of Canterbury in New Zealand, presented his paper exploring the role of trust in the news production of the Dengvaxia vaccine scandal during the 4<sup>th</sup> International Conference in Scandalogy held from September 29 to October 1, 2022, at the University of Bamberg, Germany.

The paper presented by Mr. Mendoza was just one of the three case studies making up his Ph.D. thesis. Nonetheless, he is optimistic that the findings of the entire thesis will stimulate further academic discourse on vaccine scandals both in the

Philippines and abroad as he believes that these events can teach us more than just lessons for vaccine hesitancy and health communication.

His presentation discussed "how a Western journalism trust culture finds itself expressed in the way journalists align themselves with the competitive model of democracy that facilitates their internalization of a contradiction between how they understand and perform their role as challengers of the dominant narrative."

Mendoza found that, "Far from being moments of professional disruption then, the news coverage of the Dengvaxia scandal was an occasion where 'more of

the same' got reproduced. Yet, rather than being legitimized from the practical, local, or organic contexts of their application, this 'more of the same' got justified 'from without' by journalists."

The conference was first organized in 2016 by the Scandalogy Research Initiative led by Dr. Hendrik Michael and Prof. Dr. André Haller. The Scandalogy Research Initiative aims to foster a network of international academics from a variety of disciplines, including political communication, journalism studies, public relations, digital communication research, and cultural studies. Most of its scientific output is presented at bi-annual conferences and collected volumes.

As stated on its website, the range of academic fields that study scandals as social phenomena justifies designating "Scandalogy" as a separate area of study. In this regard, Scandalogy seeks to deepen our comprehension of the connections between scandals and the media while examining their effects on society.

Mr. Mendoza, currently teaching in UST under the Department of Communication and Media Studies, is in his last year of Ph.D. studies. Upon finishing, he intends to continue working for UST in the hopes of cultivating a new generation of social scientists who will work with him in studying Filipino political culture and communication.

The full video recording of his paper presentation can be accessed at: <a href="https://www.academia.edu/video/kVRBJk">https://www.academia.edu/video/kVRBJk</a>

## Memory studies scholar Leong featured in GS int'l lecture

he Literature, Communication, and Marketing Communication Cluster of the UST Graduate School recently held an International Lecture by Dr. Kar-Yen Leong of the Department of Global Politics and Economics of Tamkang University, Taipei, Taiwan on October 8, 2022, via Zoom.

The lecture titled "Between steel and a soft beating heart: Comparing and contrasting visions of the nation through literary Indonesia" explores Indonesian vision of a modern nation beginning with the final years of the Suharto regime and as she becomes the object of the construction of two worldviews of nationalism: the integralist view by the state and the imaginative – albeit non-official and oppositional- views by the poets. The interdisciplinary approach used by Leong

MEMORY STUDIES SCHOLAR TO PAGE 7



#### **UST hosts PAASE symposium**



Organizers and participants

The University of Santo Tomas hosted the 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual Philippine-American Academy of Science and Engineering (PAASE) Meeting and Symposium (APAMS) from October 11 to 14, 2022, via Zoom.

The theme for this year was "Engaging Next Generation Science and Engineering". The four-day event strengthened the continuing interaction between Filipino and Filipino-American scientists and engineers at various stages of their research careers. Academic researchers, graduate and undergraduate students of science and engineering programs of Philippine and foreign-based institutions, presented their research findings through plenary lectures, research posters, and parallel lecture sessions organized into 15 research expertise clusters (RECs).

Among this year's plenary speakers were National Scientist Fr. Bienvenido Nebres, S.J., a renowned mathematician and former President of the Ateneo de Manila University; Ms. Victoria Tauli-Corpuz of the Indigenous Peoples' International Center for Policy Research and Education; and Thomasian alumni including Prof. Edralin Lucas, Ph.D. (Oklahoma State University), Prof. Pedro Jose, M.D., Ph.D. (George Washington University), and Carmela Centeno, Ph.D. (United Nations Industrial Development Organization based in Vienna, Austria).

These alumni were joined by Prof. Grecebio Jonathan Alejandro, Dr.rer. nat. (Director of the Office for Graduate Research of the Graduate School and a Professor at the College of Science and the Graduate School), who also delivered one of the plenary lectures. Other notable Thomasian lecturers included College of

Science alumnus Dr. Warren Vidar of the University of North Carolina at Greensboro and Asst. Prof. Karen Katrina Trinidad, Ph.D., (Chair of the UST Department of Psychology) who delivered lectures in their respective RECs.

PAASE also presented the winners of the Severino and Paz Koh Lectureship Award, namely, Dr. Rosalia C.M. Simmen and Dr. Elmer P. Dadios.

PAASE likewise recognized the best poster papers submitted for this year's



Prof. Sevilla

conference. The winners are Cristel Joyce Mallari of the Pampanga State Agricultural University (1st Place), Janelle Anne C. Gonzales of the Philippine Textile Research Institute (2nd Place) and Hidenori Tomimatsu of the University of Santo Tomas (3rd Place).

The 42<sup>nd</sup> iteration of the annual meeting of PAASE was made possible by the collaboration between the PAASE Board of Directors led by its president, Dr. Mariano Sto. Domingo of the University of Maryland in Baltimore County and the local organizing committee led by Academician Prof. Emeritus Fortunato Sevilla III, Ph.D. of the University of Santo Tomas.

#### MEMORY STUDIES SCHOLAR FROM PAGE 6

elicited quite a number of questions from students of Literature, Communication and Marketing Communication and from academic staff and guests as they sought to establish connections and comparisons between the Suharto regime of Indonesia and the Martial Law regime in the Philippines. Leong concludes that there have been quite a number of disparate constructions of nations sponsored by the statist-integralist sectors and by the culturalist-performative group of poets.

Leong finished his degree from the National University of Singapore and has been previously educated in the United States and the United Kingdom. A researcher interested in human rights and how people cope with the trauma of violence, Leong deploys memory studies as his key framework in his publication projects. His bionotes make an emphatic claim, namely: "With a keen interest in the burgeoning field of memory studies, Dr.

Leong's research is prompted by how it intersects with the history and culture of the region." He recently visited the Philippines in order to investigate how victims of extrajudicial killings during the Duterte era cope with trauma and how this could be externalized through rituals connected to the dead and their memorialization. Corollary to that, his bionotes further state that "trained in Southeast Asian Studies and political science, he has an abiding interest in the linkages between the region and human rights."

The Literature, Communication, and Marketing Communication cluster has been consistently holding international lectures in recent years, attentively covering the disciplines and sub-fields in its program of studies. The October 8 lecture also featured the Welcome Remarks of GS Dean Prof. Michael Anthony C. Vasco, Ph.D., and the Closing Remarks of Program Lead Prof. Joyce Arriola, Ph.D. The lecture was hosted and moderated by Dr. Jennifer Ortuoste.

LECTURES AND CONFERENCES LECTURES AND CONFERENCES

### Research data management in health research highlighted in GS lecture

(DOST). It was attended by the current

students of the Ph.D. in Health Research

tudents and academic staff under the Ph.D. in Health Research program of the UST Graduate School conducted an online special lecture on Research Data Management. The lecture was delivered by Mr. Alvin Atlas, Ph.D., a senior research officer at the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons - Australian Safety and Efficacy Register of New Interventional Procedures - Surgical under the Health Economics and Statistics team.

Atlas, who was a former biostatistician of the University of South Australia School of Health Sciences and the International Centre for Allied Health Evidence, emphasized that research data management encompasses the organization, storage, preservation, and sharing of data collected and used in a research project. Good management helps prevent errors and increases the quality of analyses. He also shared professional and personal experiences on how to deal with data management. He also underscored the development of a living data management plan to support successful research projects.



This special lecture was supported by the Philippine Council for Health Research and Development (PCHRD) of the Department of Science and Technology

Atlas (top row, leftmost) with graduate students and academic staff

program, as well as the team of Prof. Consuelo G. Suarez, M.D., Ph.D., program

#### **HIGH-IMPACT PUBLICATIONS FROM PAGE 8**

by the Journal Citation Reports (or JCR) of the Clarivate Analytics to promote quality in academic publications. The JCR is also the basis for the "Best Published Paper" awarded each academic year to 4 different clusters.

GS Science cluster academic staff Prof. Allan Patrick G. Macabeo. Ph.D., discussed information and perspectives on how to prepare manuscripts for submission to high impact journals indexed in Thomson Reuter's Web of Science and Scopus. He emphasized that one particular talent critical to the success of a graduate student is the ability to publish, especially if the career goal is to become an academic or research scientist. Publishing topnotch research not only allow academics to propel and advance new scientific knowledge, but also forms the basis of a future research program and a groundwork

research scientist. Further, he pointed out that submitting and publishing manuscripts in a high impact journal entails many considerations such as relevance, reputation, indexing, peer review service, cost and scope. Therefore, focused preparation and technical soundness and completeness are gateways toward

high impact publication. Edward H. Puzon, Head Librarian the UST Miguel de Benavides Library's Graduate School Section provided instructions on how to access and navigate the Library's electronic Web of Science (WoS), particularly Journal Citation Reports (JCR), where the Journal Impact Factor (JIF) and the Quartile Ranking were discussed. Mr. Puzon also presented a useful feature of another WoS product, the Master Journal List, which is the Match Manuscript, where upon inputting for a successful profession as a one's research title and abstract, one

would be able to generate a list of journal titles as options for potential publication submission.

Prof. Michael Anthony C. Vasco, Ph.D., Dean of the Graduate School, delivered the closing remarks. He stated that a successful publication in a high impact journal is a mark of quality acceptance of a research output and it will attract other researchers to cite the contribution of your research. With the publication requirement instituted by the Commission on Higher Education to both the masters and doctorate students beginning AY 2023-2024, it resources. The presentation moved is imperative that graduate students along with the steps for accessing and faculty advisers should ensure that research works are published only in high quality academic research iournals

> The webinar was attended by administrators led by Dean Michael Anthony C. Vasco, academic staff, and more than 140 graduate students across disciplines enrolled in thesis and dissertation writing this term.

## **OGR holds webinar on high**impact publications

**UST Graduate School** OFFICE FOR GRADUATE RESEARCH

invites you to a webinar entitled:

#### **Towards a High Impact Publication**

05 Nov. 2022 (Saturday) 10AM to 12PM

via UST-Zoom: https://ust-eduph.zoom.us/i/88555818569?pwd=bi9TYWc4c1plN2E3N EdzZWpFTU9ydz09

> Meeting ID: 885 5581 8569 Passcode: 356291

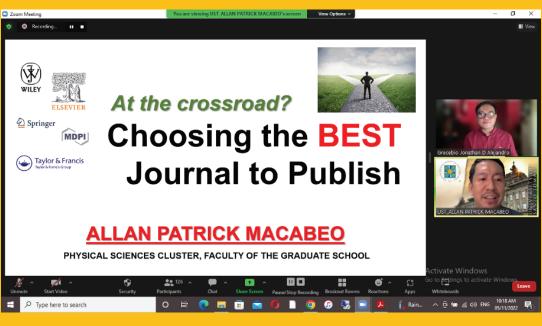


Assoc. Prof. Emmanuel D. Batoon, Ph.D. Social Science Cluster, UST Graduate Scho

Office for Graduate Research (OGR), University of Santo Tomas Graduate School, headed by its Director Prof. Dr. Grecebio Jonathan D. Alejandro, organized a webinar titled "Towards a High Impact Publication" on November 5, 2022. The OGR offers webinars every term to enhance graduate students' knowledge, skills, and competence in research. The OGR continues to search for an appropriate platform to advance the research productivity of all students, given the current situation.

In his welcome remarks, Prof. Alejandro emphasized that OGR sponsors seminars/ webinars for graduate students to widen their perspective on the research process and increase research outputs through journal publications as this is an important thrust that OGR hopes to strengthen. The webinar was offered to help students understand the dynamics and importance of the Journal Citation Reports (JCR) of the Clarivate Analytics. Prof. Alejandro also highlighted that the research work must not only be published in journals with high impact factors, but must also be categorized under Quartiles 1 or 2 rank set

**HIGH-IMPACT PUBLICATIONS TO PAGE 9** 



Prof. Macabeo delivers his talk

November 1-30, 2022 • ACADEMIA ACADEMIA • November 1-30, 2022

Arts and Culture

# Visual Olympian Joe Datuin mounts exhibit at Manila Clock Tower Museum



(From left:) CAFA Class of 1981 alumnus and fashion designer Edgar San Diego, CFAD Dean Asst. Prof. Mary Christie Que, Joe Datuin, Office of Public Affairs Assistant to the Director for Publication Ms. Katherine Patrice B. Sibug, exhibit curator Asst. Prof. Mary Ann V. Bulanadi, Ph.D., and Office of Public Affairs former Acting Director Asst. Prof. Virginia A. Sembrano in front of Datuin's works

nown for his metal sculptures in the form of rings, world renowned Filipino international contemporary visual Olympian and monumentalist Joe Datuin opened his historic exhibit on October 25, 2022 at the newly inaugurated Manila Clock Tower Museum located at the Level 3, Gallery 2 of the Manila City Hall.

Twenty-nine pieces of Datuin's artwork covering the years 2010 to 2021 comprise the exhibit. The artworks include the artist's signature sculptural pieces of rings depicting various themes such as his Mother and Child, Mother and Child Fusion, M & M Series, Dancing Rings, and Olympic series. Also featured were two pieces of his attempt at origami, the Japanese art of paper folding, but using stainless steel with fish as his inspiration. Datuin, whose artistic journey started as a painter, likewise exhibited paintings in acrylic on canvas with a stainless ring and sphere.

Datuin, who is also known as a monumentalist, has created large sculptures such as the Dancing Rings found at the Rizal Park, which is a replica of the sculpture that won him the grand award in 2008, and his artwork titled "No.1" which he donated to the House of Congress in 2019. The huge artwork in stainless steel measures 120 inches x 72 inches x 24 inches, installed at the House of Representatives in Quezon City.

Although the exhibit formally opened on October 25, a soft opening was held on September 28, attended by Leyte

Representative Richard Gomez and local government unit (LGU) representatives. Also at hand for the Exhibit's Ribbon Cutting event were the City of Manila Mayor Hon. Honey Lacuna-Pangan and Manila Vice Mayor Hon. Yul Servo Nieto. Present at the October 25 opening of the solo exhibit were International Chess grandmaster Eugene Torre, art critic Cid Reyes, UST College of Fine Arts and Design Dean Marv Christie Que, exhibit curator Asst. Prof. Mary Ann Bulanadi, Ph.D., art educators and art enthusiasts, among others. The historic exhibit will be open to the public until December 30, 2022. The art pieces are available for sale.

A graduate of the University of Santo Tomas College of Architecture and Fine Arts (CAFA) in 1977, Datuin is recognized as a Visual Olympian for his artworks that have won awards in competitions held adjunct to Olympic games. In 1980, he won a special award at the Moscow Olympic Games International Poster Design Competition. His sculpture "Dancing Rings," considered as the artwork that brought him international recognition, won the Grand Prize in the 2008 International Olympic Committee Sport and Art Contest (Sculpture Category) held at Lausanne, Switzerland. The competition was held in celebration of the 2008 Beijing Olympics.

After graduating from college, Joe Datuin taught at UST while working at the

Design Center of the Philippines. Considered as one of the country's most recognized artists now, his art works have been showcased not only in the Philippines, but also in various countries around the world. He had an exhibit of environmental abstract works in New York in 2005. In 2008, he held an exhibit titled 'Dance of the Rings' where he further amazed the art community and his patrons with his already famous rings in stainless steel in various sizes.

In 2015, in an exhibit held at the Podium Mall in Mandaluyong, titled 'Metal Abstractions.' Datuin presented his version of origami in stainless steel. Although origami is the art of paper folding, the artist used his signature stainless steel as material, mimicking folded paper. One of his artworks titled 'The Leader' depicted a big fish apparently chasing a much smaller fish. The artwork which is a departure from his worldfamous rings, measures 13.5 inches by 15.5 inches by 2 inches. Immediately taking place after his exhibit at the Podium, Datuin exhibited in the New York main stream at Agora Gallery, Chelsea District. The collective exhibition was titled "In Reverie of Form." For two years, in 2015 and 2016, he was a Philippine representative to the prestigious X and XI Florence Biennale, held at Fortezza da Basso, Florence, Italy. In 2017, He exhibited in the Anima Mundi International Artfest held at the Palazzo Ca' Zarnadi in Venice, Italy during the 57th Venice Biennale. In 2019. Datuin created his artwork "D'Txter," a sixfoot high sculpture in mixed media using e-waste materials, an acknowledgment of technology's influence on man's life, and a testament to Datuin's versatility and timeliness.



"Mother & Child Fusion" by Joe Datuin

#### **Thomasians plant 700 seedlings in Rizal**



Thomasian administrators, faculty, support staff, and alumni during the Community Service Day

he UST Simbahayan Community Development Office (SIMBAHAYAN) recommenced the in-person tree planting activity on October 12, 2022. A total of 50 volunteers from academic staff, support staff, administrators, and partner institutions participated in planting 700 guyabano and langka seedlings at Brgy. Sto Niño, Tanay, Rizal.

This activity served as the biannual Community Service Day of SIMBAHAYAN and was held in coordination with the Office of the Vice-Rector for Religious Affairs, National Service Training Program (NSTP), Human Resource Department (HRD), UST Alumni Association Inc. (UST AAI), and Thomasian Employees' Credit Cooperative (ThomECC).

SIMBAHAYAN Director Asst. Prof. Froilan A. Alipao highlighted in his opening remarks that tree planting is comparable to building a statue of charity, heroism, and piety because it is a manifestation of the contributions to Mother Earth. He also emphasized the interconnectedness of the environment and the indigenous people, as well as the connection of the environment to development.

Before the actual planting, an orientation of the program was given by the SIMBAHAYAN Assistant Director Assoc. Prof. Evalyn B. Abiog, Ph.D. It was followed by an overview of the community and a demonstration of the proper method of planting seedlings, given by the NSTP Facilitator Christian Joseph J. Revil and the President of Samahan ng Manggugulay sa Sto. Niño, Inc. Mr. Bino Rellama. Ms. Emily Rellama and Mr. Jerome Magana also

served as guides in navigating the treeplanting site.

This event is part of the series of activities conducted by the UST SIMBAHAYAN for the celebration of the Season of Creation 2022 with the theme, "Listen to the Voice of Creation." The participants were from the Office of the Vice-Rector for Academic Affairs, Health Service, HRD, NSTP, ThomECC, UST AAI, Tomasino Innovation Center, Educational Technology Center, Miguel de Benavides Library, Faculty of Arts and Letters, College

of Fine Arts and Design, Senior High School, College of Commerce and Business Administration, UST AMV-College of Accountancy, College of Tourism and Hospitality Management, College of Information and Computing Sciences, Graduate School, Institute of Physical Education and Athletics, Institute of Religion, College of Nursing, College of Science, Faculty of Pharmacy, and Holy Family Social and Education Center-Religious of Mary Immaculate.





Participants with their planted seedling



Tatay Bino demonstrates the proper way of planting the seedlings.

10 November 1-30, 2022 November 1-30, 2022 • STACADEMIA 1

Community Development

# **UST GS Business Cluster aids PWDs in Boac, Marinduque**



Graduate student Suyen Chi (standing, fifth from left) during a courtesy call with officials of Boac, including Mayor Armi DC. Carrion (seated)



he UST Graduate School Business Cluster donated to the Persons with Disabilities Affairs Office (PDAO) of Boac, a unit managed and supervised by the Municipal Social Welfare and Development Office (MSWD). The donation by the Good Governance and Corporate Social Responsibility (GG-CSR) classes of Dr. Elizabeth Recio, Dr. Jose Benedicto, and Dr. Esmeraldo Dimaculangan was coursed through Ms. Suyen Chi, a UST graduate school student (M.A. in Clinical Psychology), who is concurrently the PDAO program coordinator.

Various pieces of assistive equipment for PWDs were purchased and distributed onsite by Dr. Robert Montaña, community development coordinator of the UST Graduate School, in coordination with PDAO and barangay officials.

This activity is in accord with the service-learning component of GG-CSR and the community development commitments of the UST Graduate School. Further coordination and dialogue with the Municipal Mayor of Boac Hon. Armi DC. Carrion were also made to formalize the inclusion of the PWDs and farmers of the municipality as a community development program beneficiary of UST Graduate School through a forthcoming Memorandum of Understanding.

Information sharing session by the stakeholders of the donation drive including SIMBAHAYAN Director Asst. Prof. Froilan Alipao (third row, center), GS Business Cluster Program Lead Dr. Elizabeth Recio (top row, leftmost), and GS Community Development Coordinator Dr. Robert Montaña (second row, second from left).

# UST SIMBAHAYAN celebrates Season of Creation 2022

n solidarity and in response to the call to care for our common home, the UST Simbahayan Community Development Office (SIMBAHAYAN), in collaboration with the Office of the Vice-Rector for Religious Affairs (OVRRA), AlerTomas Cluster, and National Service Training Program (NSTP), Dominican Family for Justice, Peace, and Care for Creation-Philippines (DFJPCC-Phils.), and Fellowship for the Care of Creation Association, Inc. (FCCAI), virtually opened the Season of Creation at UST on September 5, 2022.

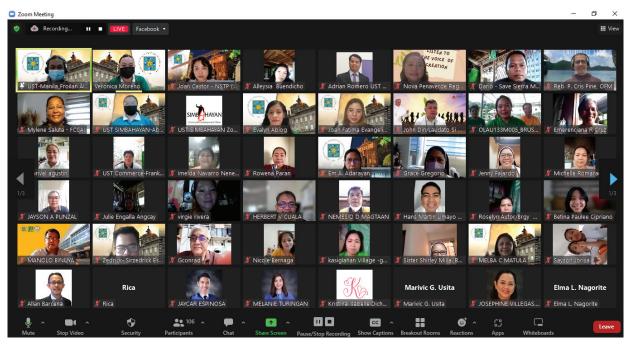
"Listen to the Voice of Creation (Makinig sa Tinig ng Sangnilikha)" is the theme for this year's celebration of the Season of Creation (Panahon ng Paglikha). As defined by the Season of Creation Organization,

it "is the annual Christian celebration to listen and respond together to the cry of Creation: the ecumenical family around the world unites to pray and protect our common home, the Oikos of God." It was in 2015 when Pope Francis first declared September 1, World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation, as the start of the Season of Creation. This year, the Season ended on October 4 which coincides with the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of animals and environment.

Rev. Fr. Victor Calvo, O.P., the Promoter for Justice and Peace for the Province and for the Asia Pacific, delivered the opening remarks.

**SEASON OF CREATION 2022 TO PAGE 13** 

#### SEASON OF CREATION 2022 FROM PAGE 12



SIMBAHAYAN Director Asst. Prof. Alipao (first row, rightmost), SIMBAHAYAN Asst. Director Abiog (second row, fourth from right), speakers, organizers, and participants pose during the photo opportunity



Rev. Fr. Cris Pine, O.F.M., during his talk



Kuya Dario from Save Sierra Madre during his talk

During the talk, Rev. Fr. Cris Pine, O.F.M., highlighted the worsening condition of the environment, which is validated by the report of scientists from the World Meteorological Organization and the various natural hazards currently experienced in different parts of the world. As Earth's keepers, humans should be caretaking for nature and respecting the symbiotic relationship because it is God's instrument of salvation. He ended his talk with a quote from Pope Francis, "Many things have to change course, but it is we human beings above all who need to change."

Furthermore, representatives from the Save Sierra Madre Network Alliance, Inc., stressed the importance of the Sierra Madre Mountain Range to them as Agta-Dumagat-Remontado. Their discussion tackled the adverse effects of the construction of Kaliwa Dam. Negative effects in biodiversity will critically affect the communal and sacred ancestral lands, as well as migratory fish. It could also weaken the protective barrier of Luzon against tropical cyclones, just to name a few.

Ms. Joan Castor of NSTP (CWTS/LTS), as the third speaker, presented their initiative with NSTP students and FCCAI. The students were engaged in planting trees, formulating organic pesticides and fertilizers, and urban gardening. These showed that even simple acts have a long-term impact on the environment.

Aside from the talks, BA Sociology student Ms. Joan Evangelista, College of Science academic staff Mr. Elfritzson M. Peralta, and the Center for Campus Ministry Director Assoc. Prof. Ma. Sanita A. Quilatan, Ph.D., shared their reactions and personal endeavors to commit to a more eco-friendly lifestyle. This was followed by the invitation of AlerTomas Cluster Head Asst. Prof. Juliano S. Pereña, Jr. and Mr. John Din of the *Laudato Si'* Movement Pilipinas for their separate upcoming activities.

# The UNIVERSITY OF SANTO TOMAS MAIN BUILDING

The Academia celebrates the 95th anniversary of the Main Building, which was inaugurated on November 12, 1927. (Photos by: Paul Quiambao)



OH fortress of knowledge,







a tower of faith,









an edifice of unending grace.



#### **Pharmacist Licensure Examination**

November 2022

UST Passing Rate: 91.83% National Passing Rate: 62.43%



2nd - 92.55% Honey Lynn Magtoto Isip



3rd - 92.20% Reign Walther Matthew Rodriguez Cirineo



6th - 92.13% Alyanna Pearl Concepcion Alterado



8th - 91.88% Rendzborg Cabias Bautista



9th - 91.83% Shane Audrey Bahala Lim



#### **Nutritionist-Dietitian Licensure Examination**

October 2022

UST Passing Rate: 97.87% National Passing Rate: 64.54%



1st - 90.1% Margaret Therese Romero Laurel



6th - 89.4% Kohleen Rose Caballero

10th - 89.05%

Bea Roselle

Camacho Romulo



6th - 89.4% Ren Christian De Chavez Panganiban



# **Certified Public Accountant Licensure Examination**

October 2022

UST Passing Rate: 63.90% National Passing Rate: 25.84%



1st - 91% Francis Matthew Nunez Obligacion



5th - 88.67% Marion Jasper Tapalla Tagle



## **Chemist Licensure Examination**

9th - 89.1%

Chelsea Vida

Carpio Rosal

October 2022

UST Passing Rate: 48.53% National Passing Rate: 38.85%



2nd - 90.60% Ryan Joseph Ycoy Magsipoc



7th - 87.65% Lorie Jean Merced Bernardo



8th - 87.45% Sean Angel Luna Del Rosario



## **Physician Licensure Examination**

October 2022

UST Passing Rate: 90.43% National Passing Rate:



4th - 87.67% Kim Zapatos Sia



7th - 87.42% Neill Steven Cainglet Cachuela



9th - 87.17% Christian Jerell Salvacion Cosme

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