



# THE ACADEMIA

Official International Bulletin of the University of Santo Tomas

Vol. LIII No. 2

February 1-28, 2023

ISSN0117-0083



Embassy of Poland Chargé d'affaires Mr. Jarosław Szczepankiewicz (seated, second from left) and NCU Professor Dr. hab. Mirosław Wachowiak (seated, rightmost), with UST Prefect of Libraries Rev. Fr. Ángel Aparicio, O.P. (seated, leftmost), UST OIRP Director Prof. Lilian Sison, Ph.D., (seated third from left), and lecture participants at the UST Rector's Hall.

## UST, NCU collaborate on restoration of rare first edition of Copernicus' seminal work on heliocentricity from 1543

The University of Santo Tomas and Nicolaus Copernicus University/ *Uniwersytet Mikołaja Kopernika* (NCU/ UMK) in Toruń, Poland, will collaborate on restoring the rare first edition copy of Copernicus' book on heliocentrism housed in the UST Archives. Three professional restorers and conservators from NCU visited UST in Manila on February 22, 2023, to assess the original print to prepare for the continuing partnership in restoring the book, which is a Polish cultural treasure.

The visit and partnership commemorates the 550th birth anniversary of the astronomer Nicolaus Copernicus, which was on February 19, 2023.

The collaboration was borne out of the previous visit to UST of Mr. Jarosław Szczepankiewicz, Chargé d'affaires of the Embassy of Poland in Manila, on May 13, 2022, where he was first shown one of the remaining 11 original copies in the world. The UST Miguel de Benavides Library, the UST Research Center for Natural and Applied Sciences (RCNAS), the UST Office of International Relations and Programs (OIRP), and the UST College of Science will work with NCU for this endeavor.

As part of this visit, NCU Professor Dr. hab. Mirosław Wachowiak from the Department of Conservation and Restoration of Modern and Contemporary

Art, Art conservator Dr. Jolanta Czuczko, and researcher Ms. Karolina Komsta-Sławińska from the Department of Paper and Leather Conservation met with UST OIRP Director Prof. Lilian Sison, Ph.D., Associate Director Prof. Karen Santiago, Ph.D., and Chief Librarian Ma. Cecilia D. Lobo.

Later that afternoon, a delegation from the Embassy of Poland in Manila, including Chargé d'affaires Mr. Jarosław Szczepankiewicz, Minister and Counselor, Ms. Anna Krzak-Danel, and Assistant to the Head of Mission Ms. Ella May Arevalo, graced a meeting with the UST Prefect of Libraries Rev. Fr. Ángel Aparicio, O.P., Acting Archivist Rev. Fr. Gaspar Sigaya, O.P., Head Book Restorer Ms. Ginalyn Santiago, Graduate School academic staff and RCNAS researcher Prof. Maria Bernardita Maronilla-Reyes, Ph.D., who is a chemist conservator of paintings, paper and stone-built heritage, and Executive Assistant to the Secretary-General Mr. Emmanuel Batulan, Ph.D. Following the meeting was an introduction by Wachowiak on the advanced book conservation and restoration processes employed by NCU.

Copernicus' historic work, "*De revolutionibus orbium cœlestium*" (On the

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## UST inks partnership with Sarmed, meets with GenSan officials ahead of new campus opening



(From left:) Sarmed Medical Director Dr. Rizaldy Nolasco, Sarmed President Mr. Wilfredo Royeca, UST Rector Very Rev. Fr. Richard Ang, O.P., Ph.D., Assistant to the Rector for UST General Santos Campus Prof. Maribel Nonato, Ph.D., and UST Facilities Management Office Director Rev. Fr. Dexter Austria, O.P.

In preparation for the upcoming opening of its satellite campus in Mindanao, the University of Santo Tomas forged a partnership with the Sarangani Bay Specialists Medical Center (Sarmed) on February 5, 2023, in General Santos City.

The partnership, formalized through a memorandum of agreement, is meant to address the healthcare needs of future employees and students of UST General Santos City.

The Father Rector, Very Rev. Fr. Richard G. Ang, O.P., Ph.D., represented UST while Sarmed was represented by its President Mr. Wilfredo Royeca.

The Assistant to the Rector for UST General Santos Campus Prof. Maribel Nonato, Ph.D., and Sarmed Medical Director Dr. Rizaldy Nolasco were signatories to the contract.

Following this event, the UST team led by Fr. Ang paid courtesy visits to the incumbent General Santos City Mayor Hon. Lorelie Geronimo Pacquiao at the City Hall, and to the immediate past GenSan Mayor Hon. Ronnel Rivera.

### UST INKS PARTNERSHIP TO PAGE 3

Hon. Ronnel Rivera (fourth from left) with (from left:) Mr. Levine Lao, Fr. Gerard Zabala, O.P., Prof. Maribel Nonato, Ph.D., Very Rev. Fr. Richard G. Ang, O.P., and Mr. Cristian Naval



Mayor Pacquiao (fifth from left) with the UST delegation including Rev. Fr. Gerard Zabala, O.P. (second from left) of the Dominican Filial House of San Martin de Porres, General Santos City; Assistant to the Rector for UST General Santos Campus Prof. Maribel Nonato, Ph.D. (third from left); UST Facilities Management Office Director Rev. Fr. Dexter Austria, O.P. (sixth from left), Mr. Levine Andro Lao (eighth from left) of the UST Office for Grants, Endowments and Partnerships in Higher Education; Mr. Cristian Naval (leftmost) of the UST Research and Endowment Foundation, Inc.; and UST alumna Maria Carmela Royeca (front row, ninth from left) and Sarangani Bay Specialists Medical Center President Mr. Wilfredo Royeca (rightmost)



## UST supports World Cancer Day through fora, discussions; lights campus blue and orange



(From left:) Dr. Tapisipan, Asst. Prof. Yambao, Prof. Albano at UST Tiger TV's #Lifeline

The University of Santo Tomas and the UST Hospital marked their support for World Cancer Day by lighting its iconic campus landmarks in blue and orange, the awareness day's official colors, from February 1 to 4, 2023.

The Main Building and the Arch of the Centuries shined blue and orange where Thomasians were encouraged to take photos of the structures and post it on their respective social media accounts using the hashtag #USTWorldCancerDay.

Aside from lighting the campus, an episode of the UST Tiger TV's health and wellness talk show, "Lifeline", did a special episode on Cancer Awareness that featured Dr. Julie Ann Tapisipan, an oncologist from the UST

Hospital; Prof. Pia Marie Albano, Ph.D., a science researcher whose research interests include biomarkers of cancer and cancer genomics; and Asst. Prof. Enrico Yambao, a cancer survivor and Chair of the Department of Mathematics and Physics. The episode was streamed live via the official UST Facebook page and the UST Tiger TV page.

On February 4, the Santísimo Rosario Parish Church (UST Chapel) also held a Eucharistic Celebration for the intention of cancer patients, cancer survivors, and their families. Likewise the UST Hospital held a Cancer Screening and Prevention Lay Forum via Zoom.

For 2022-2024, the World Cancer Day theme is: 'Close the Care Gap'. According to its website, the first year of the campaign tackled understanding and recognizing the inequities in cancer care across the globe, while this current year is about celebrating progress in its many forms that enable more people to seek and receive the care they need and deserve.

World Cancer Day is an international day marked every February 4 to raise awareness of cancer and to encourage its prevention, detection, and treatment. The initiative is led by the Union for International Cancer Control to support the goals of the World Cancer Declaration. ■

### UST, NCU COLLABORATE FROM PAGE 1

Revolutions of the Heavenly Spheres), was originally printed in 1543 in Nuremberg, Holy Roman Empire, and had for its central thesis heliocentrism, or the astronomical model that positioned the Sun at the center of the Universe, with Earth and the other planets orbiting around it in circular paths. The Copernican model, as it would later be named, displaced the geocentric model of Ptolemy that had prevailed for centuries, which had placed Earth at the center of the Universe.

The delegation from Nicolaus Copernicus University stayed in UST until March 1, 2023. ■

### UST INKS PARTNERSHIP FROM PAGE 2

Discussions in the meeting with Mayor Pacquiao included the upcoming opening of the University of Santo Tomas General Santos City and the establishment of scholarship grants through a possible collaboration between UST, the Bobslor Pacquiao Foundation, and the local government.

During the brief meeting held at Rivera's office, the Father Rector personally thanked the former head

of the city for supporting UST during his term. In 2013, the land property of the University of Santo Tomas General Santos City and the establishment of the go-signal for its development into a school campus.

Situated in Barangays Ligaya and Katangawan, UST General Santos will start operations within the year in preparation for its admission of students in Academic Year 2024 to 2025. ■

## UST launches Triennium of St. Thomas, celebrates Triduum for his Feast Day



His Excellency Most Rev. Teodoro C. Bacani, D.D., delivers the homily.

The University of Santo Tomas celebrated a Triduum in honor of its patron, St. Thomas Aquinas from January 24 to 26, 2023, and launched the Triennium of St. Thomas Aquinas 2023 to 2025. With the theme “Saint Thomas: Contemplating the Beauty of God”, the Eucharistic Celebrations were held at the Santísimo Rosario Parish Church (UST Chapel).

His Excellency Most Rev. Teodoro C. Bacani, D.D., Bishop Emeritus of Novaliches, was the main presider for the University Feast Day Mass on January 27, 2023, the day before the Feast Day of St. Thomas.

Bishop Bacani invited the Thomasian community to emulate St. Thomas, who dedicated his life to studying, praying, and

looking at God lovingly through his many written works.

“[St. Thomas] contemplated Christ and God in all their beauty,” the Bishop remarked about St. Thomas, adding that, “Because he had faith, he sought answers. Because he had love, he sought endlessly for those answers, and lovingly presented them to fellow human beings. He received light. Having received the light in love, he passed them to others with great love, preaching and teaching.”

This Mass opened the celebration of three (3) important jubilees of the Angelic Doctor: 2023 marks the 700th anniversary of his canonization (18 July 1323), 2024 is the 750th anniversary of his death (07 March 1274), and 2025 is the 800th anniversary of his birth (28 January 1225).

After the Feast Day Mass, academic staff teaching faith and morals-related courses received the academic *Mandatum* and made their Profession of Faith and Oath of Fidelity. The given *Mandatum* Cross “is a visible manifestation of the abiding commitment, not only of the individual professors but of the University itself, to ensure the delivery of a sound religious education faithful to the Magisterium of the Church as part of its mission to provide a solid Catholic education rooted in the Faith,” explained a circular from the Office of the Secretary-General. ■



Most Rev. Teodoro Bacani, D.D. (center), UST Vice Rector for Religious Affairs Rev. Fr. Pablo T. Tiong, O.P. (front row, leftmost). UST Secretary-General Rev. Fr. Louie R. Coronel, O.P. (front row, rightmost), UST SHS Regent Rev. Fr. Ermito De Sagon, O.P. (second row, sixth from left), with academic staff who have received their Mandatum

## UST ranks No. 1 in THE-ICE i-graduate Student Satisfaction Global Index 2022

The University of Santo Tomas, College of Tourism and Hospitality Management (CTHM) was recognized as the top ranking institution on The International Excellence in Tourism and Hospitality Education (THE-ICE) i-graduate Student Satisfaction Global Index. The award was conferred during THE-ICE 15<sup>th</sup> International Panel of Experts (IPoE) Forum held at The Emirates Academy of Hospitality Management, Dubai, United Arab Emirates in November 2022.

Among the top Tourism and Hospitality member schools in the world, UST CTHM was ranked #1 in the following eight areas: pre-arrival information, social orientation, study sense, introduction to support services, cost of accommodation, financial support, social activities (organized events), and student unions.

The ICE-IPoE Forum was launched to focus on relevant issues related to tourism, hospitality, culinary, events, among others, to provide the academe, government, industry, and professional organizations the opportunities for collaboration and partnerships for growth and development. The attendees of this annual event were leading educators from Asia, Americas, and Europe. It featured a Benchmarking



Dean Granado receives the award during the THE-ICE Recognition Night.



Roundtable Series (BRS) which focused on interesting discussions on “internship, industry advisory boards, governance structure, graduate outcomes, curriculum design & development, and academic

integrity.” This academic gathering allows the participants to share best practices via sharing of alternative and new approaches in providing solutions to common issues and concerns. ■

## Relic of martyr St. Titus Brandsma visits Santísimo Rosario Parish, UST

The University of Santo Tomas and the Santísimo Rosario Parish Church (UST Chapel) welcomed on January 27, 2023, the relic of journalist-martyr St. Titus Brandsma, who was canonized by Pope Francis in May 2022.

As part of the nationwide pilgrimage for St. Titus Brandsma, the relic was previously in the Carmel of St. Joseph in Lucena City, Quezon Province, and was transported to the Immaculate Conception Cathedral of Cubao on January 29, 2023, after its UST visit.

Aside from being a priest, St. Titus Brandsma was a Carmelite media practitioner during his lifetime and campaigned during World War II for the government and the people against Nazi propaganda. He was beatified in November 1985. ■



Santísimo Rosario Parish Priest Rev. Fr. Paul Reagan Talavera, O.P., officiates the rite of reception for the Relic of St. Titus Brandsma [Photos courtesy of the Santísimo Rosario Parish Church Facebook Page]



## Albano of Science, RCNAS wins Julian Banzon medal for outstanding applied research

Prof. Pia Marie S. Albano, Ph.D., received the Julian Banzon medal for winning the Applied Research category of the Outstanding Research and Development Award as part of the National Science and Technology Week celebration held at the World Trade Center in Pasay City.

Albano, a College of Science - Department of Biological Sciences academic staff and Molecular Diagnostics and Therapeutics cluster researcher from the Research Center for the Natural Sciences and Applied Sciences (RCNAS), won the award for her work titled "AI-

enhanced cancer diagnostics using Fourier Transformed Infrared (FTIR) spectroscopy."

An alumna and academic staff of the UST Graduate School, Albano obtained her Doctor of Philosophy degree in Biological Sciences from UST in 2014, through a sandwich program with the German Cancer Research Center. Previous works of hers include research in cancer genomics and biomarker discovery. She now joins her fellow College of Science academic staff and RCNAS researcher Prof. Mary Beth B. Maningas, Ph.D., as a recipient of the Julian Banzon medal. ■



Prof. Albano

## Tarrayo of AB, RCSSED brings home research plum from APCoRE



Dr. Tarrayo

Faculty of Arts and Letters academic staff Assoc. Prof. Veronico N. Tarrayo, Ph.D., of the Department of English, received the 2022 Dr. Matthew A. Eichler Memorial Fellowship Award for Excellence in Research, from the Asia-Pacific Consortium of Researchers and Educators, Inc. (APCoRE). The award was conferred virtually during the closing ceremonies of APCoRE's 2022 international virtual conference.

The awardees received a trophy, citation for accomplishments, a lifetime honorary membership in APCoRE, and research grants, subject to the approval of submitted proposals. The award was named after the Founding Chairman of APCoRE and recognizes the outstanding accomplishments of individuals in the

areas of Education and Research.

Tarrayo, who is also a researcher of the Research Center for Social Sciences and Education, has published studies on English language teaching and has also authored works on stylistics and gender-related issues.

APCoRE is a membership-based organization of individuals, institutions, and organizations that are committed and focused on the development of research, knowledge, and academic values in the Asia-Pacific region. Established in 2013, it provides a place for academic and research professionals in the Asia Pacific Region and around the world to gather, share experiences, and enrich their knowledge on research and education. ■

## CTHM students present culinary heritage research at SEAMEO CHAT Symposium



CTHM students, under the mentorship of Mr. Mercado (topmost window), present their study.

Two teams from the College of Tourism and Hospitality Management (CTHM) under the Hospitality Management - Culinary Entrepreneurship Program presented their culinary heritage research during the international virtual symposium titled, "Traditions of Food in Southeast Asia: In Trace of Southeast Asia's Food Culture," organized by the Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization Regional Centre for History and Tradition (SEAMEO CHAT). It was held from January 26 to 27 via Zoom.

The event's objective concentrated on the awareness and significance of food culture in the

SEAMEO CHAT SYMPOSIUM TO PAGE 8

## UST hosts Catholic University of St. Augustine of Hippo's benchmarking visit

Officials from the *Universitas Katolik Santo Agustinus Hippo* (Catholic University of St. Augustine of Hippo or USA) in Indonesia, led by its Rector Fr. Mingdry Hanafi Tjipto, O.P., had their benchmarking visit and business meeting at the University of Santo Tomas from January 31 to February 1, 2023.

They were welcomed by UST administrative officials including Secretary-General Rev. Fr. Louie Coronel, O.P., EHL; Vice Rector for Academic Affairs Prof. Cheryl Peralta, DrPH; Office of International Relations and Programs (OIRP) Director Prof. Lilian J. Sison, Ph.D.; and Office of Public Affairs Director Asst. Prof. Joreen T. Rocamora, Ph.D., assisted by the team from the Office of Public Affairs.

The officials paid a courtesy call upon UST Rector Very Rev. Richard G. Ang, O.P., Ph.D., and proceeded to the business meeting proper, which was held at Frassati Pre-Function Area.

The meeting and parallel sessions were attended by representatives from different academic units of the University of Santo Tomas and participants from the Catholic University of Saint Augustine of Hippo. Included among the agenda was the presentation of OIRP Prof. Karen S. Santiago, Ph.D. where she gave an overview and updates on the previous Memorandum of Agreement with the USA.

Following the parallel sessions, Fr. Tjipto presented certificates of appreciation to UST Graduate School Assistant Dean Professor Camilla D.J. Vizconde, Ph.D., Assoc. Prof. Andres Julio V. Santiago,



(From left:) Rev. Fr. Johannes Robini Marianto, O.P., Executive Secretary to the Rector Prof. Marciana Agnes Ponsaran, Ph.D., OIRP Director Prof. Lilian Sison, Ph.D., USA Rector Fr. Mingdry Hanafi Tjipto, O.P., UST Rector Very Rev. Fr. Richard G. Ang, O.P., Ph.D., Secretary-General Rev. Fr. Louie R. Coronel, O.P., EHL, Vice Rector for Academic Affairs Prof. Cheryl R. Peralta, DrPH

Jr., Ph.D., and Communications Bureau Director Asst. Prof. Philippe Jose S. Hernandez for serving as guest lecturers in English specialization courses of the USA Education Department.

As part of their benchmarking visit, the delegation was given a comprehensive tour of the campus, including the interior, facilities, and offices of different faculties and colleges in the campus, assisted by the Office of Public Affairs. ■



OIRP Associate Director Prof. Karen Santiago, Ph.D., presents updates on the MoA with the USA.

USA Rector Fr. Mingdry Hanafi Tjipto, O.P., (front row, center) and officials from the USA including Vice Rector for General Affairs Kunto Nurcahyoko (second row, sixth from left) are welcomed at the Main Building by UST officials.



## English Dept. is set to assist US State Department for workplace communication program



(From left:) English Department Chair Dr. Rachelle Lintao, Asia-Pacific RELO Officer Dr. Carleen Velez, US Department of State English Language Specialist Dr. Donna Bain Butler, AB International Relations and Programs Coordinator Asst. Prof. Michelle Desierto, former AB Dean Dr. Marilu Rañosa-Madrugno, US Department of State English Language Specialist Dr. Akiva Weiss, US Embassy Cultural Affairs Officer Ms. Connie Chico

The Department of English of the Faculty of Arts and Letters met with Dr. Akiva Weiss and Dr. Donna Bain Butler, English Language Specialists from the US Department of State with expertise in Language and Law, on January 13, 2023.

Weiss and Butler were in the country to perform a needs analysis that would help them in the development of a training program designed to hone the grammatical competence, presentational speaking and workplace writing skills of key officials and rank and file employees from the Philippine National Police (PNP). They were accompanied by Embassy of the United States of America Cultural Affairs Officer Ms. Connie Chico and Regional English Language Officer for Asia and the Pacific Dr. Carleen Velez.

The Department of English will be assisting the US Department of State, through the two specialists, in the language training of PNP professionals, particularly on the development of their legal communication skills.

The roll-out is scheduled for April or May 2023, with approximately 25,000 rank and file personnel and officers involved.

Also present in the meeting were forensic linguistics researcher and former Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Letters Prof. Marilu Rañosa-Madrugno, Ph.D., Department of English Chair Prof. Rachelle B. Lintao, Ph.D., and AB International Relations and Programs Coordinator Asst. Prof. Michelle Desierto. ■

### SEAMEO CHAT SYMPOSIUM FROM PAGE 6

region, highlighting its similarities and diversities.

The first research, titled "Amputi Balitok (White Gold): Explicating the Culinary Significance and Safeguarding Dimensions of Puto Calasiao in Pangasinan, Philippines," was presented by Dylan M. Cariño, Victor Ian P. Cera, Ma. Sophia J. Medina, Louise Orlane R. Reyes, Arrian Karl A. Zaldivar, and Thomas Dominic M. Zambrano. The research was in partnership with the Municipal Government of Calasiao, Pangasinan. It was co-authored by Ms. Tammy Marie C. Fernandez (Municipal Tourism Officer) and Mr. Gerald L. Quinit (Municipal Agriculturist).

Karen Grace V. Aster, Jaime Ramir B. Castillo, Shekaina R. Cheng, John Paulo L. Trillana, and Ysabella Marie B. Varlez presented the second research. They shared their study titled "Sawsawan: Explicating the Culinary Heritage Significance of Philippine Condiments using Bibliometrics (1972 – 2018)".

Both teams were mentored and co-authored by Mr. Jame Monren T. Mercado from the CTHM-Department of Tourism Management. ■

## Ph.D. ELS cohort organizes international webinar on Grammars of PHL Languages; UST professor emphasizes importance of linguistic, cultural diversity



(Top row, from left:) Ms. Ryn Jean Fe Gonzales (speaker), Joram Kim Corcuera, Prof. Yukinori Kimoto, Ph.D (speaker) and Mark Paulo Tanjente; Second row, from left: Prof. Hsiu-Chuan, Liao, Ph.D. (speaker), Judith Ma. Angelica Claustro, Jean Reintegrado-Celino and Jose Karlo Principe Bottom row, from left: Dr. Marvin Abreu (professor), Michael John Tagadiad, Sellenne Anne Leynes and Cherie Ann Luna

The University of Santo Tomas Graduate School (USTGS), in partnership with the UST English Department, organized an international webinar that featured three renowned speakers who are known for describing lesser-known languages in the Philippines. The webinar, geared towards the promotion of languages in the Philippines and the importance of learning the features of Philippine-type languages, had speakers that shared their experience and knowledge in the Northern Luzon language family during the virtual event titled "Grammars of the Philippine Languages" via Zoom.

Prof. Hsiu-Chuan Liao, Ph.D., an associate professor at the Institute of Linguistics, National Tsing Hua University in Taiwan, talked about personal pronouns and transitivity in Northern Luzon languages where she discussed the interaction between personal pronouns and transitivity in Northern Luzon languages.

During her discussion, Liao said, "Northern Luzon languages are also known as 'Cordilleran' in literature, and they contain some 50 Austronesian languages spoken widely through the mountains, valleys, and coastal strips of the northern portion of Luzon." She also added that this set of languages have four sets of personal pronouns, namely: genitive, nominative, independent neutral, and locative.

Prof. Yukinori Kimoto, Ph.D., a senior lecturer in linguistics at the University

of Hyogo in Japan, talked about verbal morphology and voice phenomena in Arta (Edilod), a Philippine Negrito language that is currently being spoken by around ten native speakers in Quirino province in Luzon.

During his discussion, Kimoto emphasized that Arta has three major intransitive verb affixes (maN-, maC-, and <um>), and three major transitive verb affixes (-ən, -an, and i-) and that it has plural reduplications that indicate repetitive action and participant multiplicity,

"Arta exhibits so-called pluractional reduplications, pluractional means, plural actions, like repetitive or action by many participants, to indicate repetitive action and participant multiplicity," added Kimoto.

Meanwhile, Ms. Ryn Jean Fe Gonzales, a language assessment consultant of Summer Institute of Linguistics-Philippines, discussed about co-referencing in Meso-Cordilleran languages, where she shared that even if many experts consider the existence of co-referencing pronouns or person markers (PMS) in Philippine languages to be an interesting area of research, it still remains to be unexplored.

Gonzales shared her study about the existence and nature of co-referencing pronoun/s in 12 Meso-Cordilleran languages where she adapted Himmelman's 'agreement marker' to refer to what is commonly called co-referential pronoun and compared the forms and

syntactic properties of these person markers with those of Kapampangan and Ilokano

"In this study, I use Himmelman's definition of 'agreement marker' as something that requires a coreferential noun phrase. I looked at the case alignment pattern ERG-ABS with the awareness that some Meso-Cordilleran languages have an asymmetrical pronominal case marking system," said Gonzales.

### Call for the Future

During his opening remarks, Dr. Marvin Abreu, a professor from the USTGS, encouraged the academic community and other sectors of the society to value linguistic and cultural diversity and uphold mother tongue-based education to help in attaining the Sustainable Development Goals of UNESCO.

"I and my graduate students in Grammars of Philippine Languages are hoping that this kind of academic event will eventually turn into a strong and vigorous advocacy that will create ripples of this kind to all academic institutions alike as well as to other sectors of the society," Abreu stated.

Under the guidance of Abreu, graduate students from the University's English Language Studies Doctorate Program spearheaded the webinar.

The international webinar was held in support of UNESCO's call for a decade-long celebration of the International Decade of Indigenous Languages (2023-2032). ■

## JHS' Aquinian spearheads nat'l journalism webinar series

To emphasize the role of campus press in raising awareness on various social issues, The Aquinian, the official student publication of the UST Junior High School (UST JHS), organized a series of online seminars on January 29 and February 5.

Resource speakers GMA News and Public Affairs Senior Correspondent Bam Alegre, ABS-CBN Senior Reporter Adrian Ayalin, Executive Assistant IV-Office of the Executive Director at the Philippine Science High School System Aries Oliveros, INQUIRER.net Social Media Specialist Chris Gamoso, School Publication Coordinator of Mintal Comprehensive High School Leonardo Cabural, Special Science Teacher V at the Philippine Science High School-Cagayan Valley Campus Dr. Harold Gallo, Journalism teacher at New Era University Meden Fadriqela, and Head of the Knowledge Management Office at Philippine Normal University Mindanao Assoc. Prof. June Dumanhug delivered talks about different journalistic fields during the publication's seven nationwide events.

During the keynote webinar titled "Vanguard 2023," Ayalin, a senior reporter from ABS-CBN, stressed how journalism helps in providing more media coverage and exposure on issues faced by less privileged people.

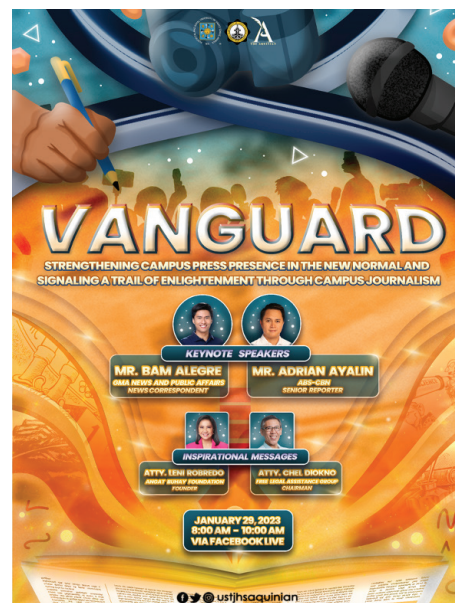
"Lahat ng ito na ginagawa natin ay para sa kanila, those who are less privileged. Those who have less in life should have more in law. Sa TV reports ko, those who have less in life should have more airtime. Mas bigyan natin ng halaga 'yung mga nasa laylayan," said Ayalin.

Meanwhile, Alegre, a GMA News and Public Affairs senior correspondent, also served as a keynote speaker for Vanguard, emphasizing that journalists must aid the public in forming deliberated opinions rather than promoting certain agendas and beliefs.

"Ang papel natin bilang mga journalist ay hindi para sabihin sa mga tao kung ano ang dapat nilang paniwalaan, that's not our role. People have the right to decide on what they want to believe in. Now, our role is to give them correct facts, double-checked facts, fair information; give them that to help them decide on what they want to believe in," said Alegre.

The series's six other sub-events, focused on features writing, news writing, opinion writing, sports writing, copyreading and headline writing, and editorial cartooning, respectively.

The event, which was streamed live via Facebook, was viewed by publication advisers and student writers from all over the Philippines. During the previous publication years, The Aquinian also



organized multiple national events on different topics in the field of campus journalism, including Myriad, Beacon, and Illuminate, while also featuring notable speakers, such as Mr. Jeff Canoy, the late Mr. Rene Aranda, and Assoc. Prof. Inez Ponce de Leon, Ph.D. ■

ST. THOMAS AQUINAS DAY FROM PAGE 10



Organizers, participants, and FCCAI staff

various product demonstrations started, an opening ritual was held to symbolize the vital role of the earth, water, wind, and fire in the balance of our ecosystem.

The midyear activity was a follow-through on the Community Service Day: Tree Planting and Growing Activity held on October 22, 2022. The participants included various internal stakeholders from different academic and administrative offices. ■



Participants during the earth house demonstration

## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

### Thomasians celebrate St. Thomas Aquinas day with community service



FCCAI staff with the participants as they put molasses in the mixture of organic fertilizer

The UST Simbahayan Community Development Office, in collaboration with the Office of the Vice-Rector for Religious Affairs, Human Resource Department, UST Alumni Association Inc., Thomasian Employees' Credit Cooperative, and Fellowship for the Care of Creation Association, Inc. (FCCAI) held the Midyear Community Service Day on January 28, 2023, the feast day of the University's patron saint, Saint Thomas Aquinas.

Thomasian administrators and academic officials, academic staff, support staff, and alumni were invited to engage in sustainable ways to care for the environment through organic agriculture. The participants visited the *Laudato Si'* Farm of FCCAI in Portiuncula Retreat House, Paenaan, Brgy. Pinugay, Baras, Rizal. Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, the *Laudato Si'* Farm was often visited by the National Service Training Program (CWTS) students to make organic fertilizers and for tree planting activities.

Director Mrs. Mylene Saluta and her staff, Mr. Gerry Placio and Sir Dodong, warmly welcomed the 54 participants. Before

ST. THOMAS AQUINAS DAY TO PAGE 11

## UNIVERSITY VISITORS



### Prof. Motonari Uesugi, Ph.D.

Kyoto University Associate Executive Vice President of Research and Deputy Director of the Institute for Chemical Research (ICR) Prof. Motonari Uesugi, Ph.D. (second from left), visited the University of Santo Tomas on January 30, 2023, to deliver a lecture on "Chemical Biology of Self-Assemblies" for the students and academic staff of the Faculty of Pharmacy. With him are: (from left:) Prof. Agnes L. Castillo, Ph.D., Biochemistry Department Chair Assoc. Prof. Minerva L. Daya, Ph.D., and UST Office of Public Affairs Director Asst. Prof. Joreen T. Rocamora, Ph.D.



### Academic Cohort from University of South Australia

A cohort of fourteen inbound students from the University of South Australia, led by Associate Professor Matthew James Sykes, Ph.D. (front row, third from left) and Mr. Jack Janetzki (front row, fifth from left), visited the University of Santo Tomas on February 6, 2023 for their mobility program with the UST Faculty of Pharmacy, which ran until February 22. The Office of Public Affairs assisted academic officials from the Faculty of Pharmacy, led by its Dean Prof. Aleth Therese Dacanay, Ph.D. (front row, fourth from left) in welcoming the guests and giving them a campus tour.

### Delegation from University of Saint Joseph, Macau and Saint Paul Institute, Cambodia

Officials from the University of Saint Joseph, Macau (USJ), led by the Rector Rev'd. Prof. Stephen Morgan (leftmost), and the Saint Paul Institute, Cambodia (SPI) Director Prof. Phon Sophal (fifth from left), visited the University of Santo Tomas on February 8, 2023. They were welcomed by UST Office of Public Affairs Director Asst. Prof. Joreen T Rocamora, Ph.D. (rightmost) and Assistant to the Director Ms. Michaella O. Lagniton.



### NICHE administrators and Philippine Consulate General Consul Ms. Consuelo Lacson

A delegation of administrators from the Nova Scotia International Community of Health Care Workers Engagement (NICHE) in Canada, including the Consul at the Philippine Consulate General in Halifax, Nova Scotia Ms. Consuelo Lacson (front row, seventh from left), visited the University of Santo Tomas on February 15, 2023 for their partnership meeting with the UST College of Nursing. The Office of Public Affairs, with its Director Asst. Prof. Joreen T. Rocamora, Ph.D. (front row, rightmost) conducted the guided tour and assisted officials from the College of Nursing, led by its Dean, Prof. Rowena Escolar Chua, Ph.D. (front row, fifth from left) and Regent Rev. Fr. Julius Paul Factora, O.P. (front row, sixth from left), in welcoming the guests at the Main Building.

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### Architect Licensure Examination

January 2023

UST Passing Rate: 57.03%  
National Passing Rate: 81.38%



1st - 84.50%  
Bhing-Bhing  
Panagsagan Ko



3rd - 83.30%  
Aliana Jasmine  
Alcantara Cadiang



# THE ACADEMIA

Official International Bulletin of the University of Santo Tomas

Vol. LIII No. 2

February 1-28, 2023

ISSN0117-0083

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