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The Apostolic Nuncio to the Philippines His Excellency Most Rev. Charles J. Brown, D.D., presides over the Eucharistic Celebration.

UST, Focolare Movement commemorate 25th anniversary of Chiara Lubich’s honorary doctorate conferment

Twenty-five years ago, Focolare Movement Founder and Servant of God, Chiara Lubich, was conferred with an honorary doctoral degree in Sacred Theology by the Pontifical and Royal University of Santo Tomas upon the unanimous petition of the Catholic Bishops’ Conference of the Philippines. Being the only woman and layperson to receive this honor in the 411-year history of UST, the conferment of the honorary degree was a recognition of Chiara Lubich’s lifelong work of introducing, living, and spreading a charism of love and unity to help build a more united world.

To commemorate this momentous event, the University of Santo Tomas and the Focolare Movement have lined up a year-long series of events and activities, which began with the program on March 12, 2023. Titled “Chiara: Apostle of Dialogue,” the day’s activities was also held in remembrance of Chiara Lubich’s 15th death anniversary (March 14), and will celebrate the 80th anniversary of her consecration to God, which also serves as the 80th founding anniversary of the Focolare Movement.

In his message, UST Rector Very Rev. Fr. Richard G. Ang, O.P., Ph.D., highlighted Chiara Lubich’s vision of a

united world and “the bond of partnership and co-responsibility to work together in evangelizing the youth” between UST and the Focolare. The University has student organizations, both in the basic education and tertiary levels, who live out and propagate the charism of unity inspired by Chiara Lubich. There are also collaborations with the Focolare on various levels, especially in the area of dialogue with other Christian churches and world religions.

The day also included messages from the Catholic Bishops’ Conference of the Philippines President His Excellency Most Rev. Pablo Virgilio David, D.D., former UST Rector Rev. Fr. Rolando V. de la Rosa O.P., who originally conferred the degree to Chiara Lubich in 1997, and Focolare Movement President Margaret Karam. Focolare Zone Delegates of the Indian Subcontinent and the Philippines, Fr. Andrew Camilleri and Cherrylane Menezes, reflected on the theme.

[A Eucharistic Celebration was presided over by His Excellency Most Rev. Charles J. Brown, D.D., the Apostolic Nuncio to the Philippines, at the UST Medicine](#)

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FOCOLARE MOVEMENT FROM PAGE 1



Focolare Zone Delegates of the Indian Subcontinent and the Philippines Fr. Andrew Camilleri and Cherrylane Menezes

[Auditorium, the same place where Chiara Lubich received her honoris causa degree.](#) It was live streamed through the official Facebook page of Focolare Movement Philippines.

“Here we are, 25 years later, to reflect on that moment and to give thanks in a special way for the amazing charisma that Chiara Lubich has given to the Church. We honor her this afternoon as an apostle of dialogue,” said Archbishop Brown.

“The manner in which [Chiara Lubich’s] holy light has impacted the world, including the Philippines through the Focolare Movement, is something I can personally attest to. She can serve as one of the best sources of inspiration for what Pope Francis calls “the need for greater synodality in the Church,” Bishop David said, adding that “As a woman and as a layperson, she lived out the synodal principles of participation and mission, grounded in communion of mind, heart, and soul, in the God, who is Love made known to us in Jesus Christ.”

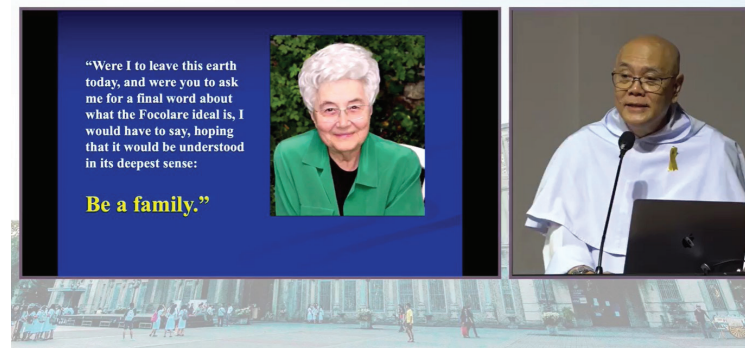
Archbishop Jose Palma of Cebu, Bishop Gerardo Alminaza of San Carlos, Bishop Leopoldo Jaucian of Bangued, Bishop Roberto Mallari of San Jose, and

Bishop-Emeritus Deogracias Iñiguez of Kalookan, were among those who concelebrated the Mass. There were also delegations from various Christian churches and representatives from the different world religions, whose presence embodied Chiara Lubich’s call to universal love.

Fr. de la Rosa discussed what the faithful can do to continue Chiara Lubich’s legacy, particularly in the Philippine context.

Among the lessons shared was that “Numerical visibility does not necessarily translate into presence, for many of us are like ostriches, hiding our heads in the sand when there are challenges confronting us,” said Fr. de la Rosa about the 86 million Catholics who comprise over 82% of the Filipino population, emphasizing that the faithful should be “Upstanders - one who stands up for what is true and good, one who stands up to create the necessary

CHIARA: APOSTLE OF DIALOGUE
25th Anniversary of Chiara Lubich’s Honoris Causa



Former UST Rector Rev. Fr. Rolando V. de la Rosa O.P., who originally conferred the degree to Chiara Lubich in 1997, discusses Chiara Lubich’s legacy

changes in himself and others. When God changes something in you, it is because he wants you to change others also, so make your presence felt.”

An exhibit on Chiara Lubich’s life and the works of the Focolare, as well as a *barrio fiesta* program, followed at the Practice Gymnasium. The whole day event marks the start of a year-long string of activities celebrating the bond between the University and the Focolare. Next in line is an international conference organized by the UST Institute of Religion in partnership with Sophia University and LUMSA University with the theme “On Catholic Education, Cultures and Religions: A Post-Pandemic Conversation”, which will be held from April 28 to 29, 2023. ■

Representatives from the different world religions joined the celebration



ACUP National Conference 2023 highlights multi-disciplinary discussions on education, synodality, community engagement

The Association of Catholic Universities of the Philippines (ACUP) held its National Conference from February 23 to 25, 2023, at Saint Louis University in Baguio City. With the theme, “Embracing the Spirit of Synodality: Communion, Participation, and Mission,” the conference coincided with ACUP’s 50th year of establishment and had the Apostolic Nuncio, His Excellency Most Rev. Charles John Brown, D.D., as the keynote speaker.

The conference theme was a response to Pope Francis’ invitation to dialogue about shaping the future of our planet through an educational process aimed at developing a new universal solidarity and a more welcoming society.

“I think we need to challenge ourselves to think about creating innovative ways to bring more young people from [socio-economic] sectors D and E into Catholic universities in an effort to inclusivize our university ecology [...] to give them a place at the table, and to include them in our synodal process,” said the Apostolic Nuncio.

Rooting this idea in the context of higher education, the Undersecretary of Vatican’s Dicastery for Culture and Education Prof. Antonella Sciarone Alibrandi, discussed “Contextualizing Synodality: Mission of The Catholic Universities towards the Formation of Educational Alliance in Global Compact.”

“Our hope is that our Catholic education can provide more, to be more

culturally creative, more tuned to society, more open and inclusive, capable of patient listening, constructive dialogue, and better, mutual understanding,” emphasized Alibrandi.

In turn, the Adamson University Center for Research and Development Director Rev. Fr. Daniel Franklin E. Pilario, C.M., highlighted applications of synodality in the local context during his lecture on “Localizing Synodality: Mission of the Catholic Universities in the Philippines towards Humanization in Education through Research.”

“True education for our times should be social, dialogical, and synodal. Its process is conversational, privileging the specific location and voices of each student, especially the most vulnerable. In short, education can only be done in the spirit of synodality, of patient listening, constructive dialogue and open understanding,” shared Fr. Pilario.

As an emerging area of study, research on synodality was presented in the segment “Sailing Across the Regions: Perspectives and Practices from ACUP Member Universities on Synodality” by University of the Assumption Director for Research and Planning Dr. Arnel Sicat and Saint Louis University Religious Department faculty member Dr. Rico Jacoba.

Panel discussions on multidisciplinary topics were held on the first day, such as, “Advancing Beyond the Glass Ceiling:



Grade School students of St. Louis University Baguio, with SLU and ACUP President Rev. Fr. Gilbert Sales, CICM, (standing, leftmost) and Baguio Bishop Most Rev. Victor Bendico (standing with zucchetto cap, rightmost) as witnesses, welcome the Apostolic Nuncio His Excellency Most Rev. Charles John Brown, D.D.



ACUP Vice President and UST Rector Very Rev. Fr. Richard G. Ang, O.P., Ph.D., introduces the keynote speaker.

ACUP NATIONAL CONFERENCE TO PAGE 4



ACUP President Rev. Fr. Gilbert Sales, C.I.C.M. (front row, fifteenth from left), Apostolic Nuncio His Excellency Most Rev. Charles John Brown, D.D. (sixteenth from left), ACUP University Presidents, and conference participants at Saint Louis University, Baguio City

ACUP NATIONAL CONFERENCE FROM PAGE 3



Prof. Antonella Sciarrone Alibrandi
Undersecretary, Dicastery for Culture and Education

Undersecretary of the Roman Curia's Dicastery for Culture and Education Prof. Antonella Sciarrone Alibrandi, the second speaker, contextualizes synodality in higher education.

Equal and Equitable Standing for Women in Education" with St. Paul University Quezon City Vice President for Academics Dr. Helen Rigor, Holy Trinity University Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Loreta Homo, and University of the Immaculate Conception researcher Ms. Kristine Mae Adlaon; "A Church in Synergy: The Dynamics of the Youth and Family in a Synodal Church" with Angeles University Foundation Assistant Director for Christian Praxis Mr. Brent Braganza and Holy Name University Center for Religious Education and Mission academic staff Prof. Josefina Cemine; and "Weaving Culture and Religion, Its Implications for a Listening Church" with Holy Angel University Officer-in-Charge - President Mr. Leopoldo Valdes, Jr., and Xavier University Executive Assistant to the President Ms. Libby Josephine Abesamis, DPA.

For Day 2, Commission on Higher Education Office of Student Development and Services Director IV Dr. Edna Imelda Legazpi, Catholic Educational Association of Caceres and Libmanan President Rev. Fr. Wilmer Joseph Tria, and Philippine Association of Practitioners of Student Affairs and Services (PAPSAS, Inc.) National President Dr. Renelyn B. Salcedo discussed "National Initiatives in the Humanization of Education: A Philippine Setting."

In another session, Climate Change Commissioner Atty. Rachel Anne Herrera and Worldwide Fund for Nature Philippines - Education for Sustainable Development Unit Environmental Education Officer, Ms. Ruthie Maye Padilla tackled "Multi-Sectoral Initiatives on the Care of our Common Home and Environment."

As with the past ACUP National Conferences, a community engagement activity happened on Day 2 with the Sablan women of Barangay Banangan, Benguet.



ACUP President Rev. Fr. Gilbert Sales, CICM (seventh from left) and ACUP University Presidents present the plaque of appreciation to the keynote speaker, the Apostolic Nuncio His Excellency Most Rev. Charles John Brown, D.D. (eighth from left)

This came after the panel discussion titled "Journeying Together as One Community: Sustainable Practices to Care for our Common Home" with Saint Mary's University Associate Dean of Student Affairs and Services for Men Dr. Felipe Nantes, Jr., University of San Agustin Center for Religious Studies Director Fr. Rodel Magin, O.S.A., and Notre Dame of Dadiangas University Community Development Coordinator Mr. Rabindranath Porsuelo.

Capping off the second day was the ACUP Presidents' Forum on Synodality, which was led by the University of Santo Tomas Central Seminary Rector Rev. Fr. Quirico T. Pedregosa, Jr., O.P., with the special participation of Hon. Mark Go, District Representative of Baguio and Chairperson of the Committee on Technical Education.

For Day 3, parallel sessions of workshops on Teaching, Research, Community Engagement, and Youth Empowerment were held. Included in the closing ceremonies was a memorial tribute video played for former ACUP Secretary-General (1990 to 2020) and former UST Office of Public Affairs Director Assoc. Prof. Giovanna V. Fontanilla, Ph.D., and ACUP Board Member (2017 to 2021) and former Holy Angel University President Dr. Luis María Calingo.

CBCP Episcopal Commission on Catechesis and Catholic Education Chairman His Excellency Most Rev. Jose Elmer I. Mangalinao, D.D., in a message read by ACUP Board Member and Adamson University President Fr. Marcelo Manimtim, C.M., shared that "As we gather for the 2023 ACUP National Conference, we respond to the call of Pope Francis to rediscover the synodal nature of our Church by our communion, participation and mission. During these days of reflections, prayers and trainings, let us allow the Holy



Adamson University Center for Research and Development Director Rev. Fr. Daniel Franklin E. Pilario, C.M., discusses synodality and how it can be applied in local academic contexts.

Spirit to direct us to unearth the hidden blessings in us and in our universities. We allow ourselves to be moved so that we may be open to be in communion with God and with one another. We allow the Spirit to empower us with his gifts so that we may wholeheartedly give our participation and cooperation. And we allow Christ to permeate our entire being to be committed to carry out the mission of Christ, the mission to be blessings to one another."

Baguio Bishop Most Rev. Victor Bendico, D.D., San Beda University Rector-President Rev. Fr. Aloysius Maranan, O.S.B., and Adamson University President Rev. Fr. Marcelo Manimtim, C.M., served as mass presidents in the Eucharistic Celebrations for days one to three. Catholic Social Media Awards 2022 Male Influencer winner Fr. Fiel Pareja served as the Master of Ceremonies for Days 1 and 2, while

ACUP NATIONAL CONFERENCE TO PAGE 5

Arriola is elected NRCPC Division 11-Humanities Chair



Prof. Arriola

Prof. Joyce L. Arriola, Ph.D., a Professor of Literature and Communication at the Faculty of Arts and Letters and Program Lead of Literature, Communication and Marketing Communication at the UST Graduate School, has been elected Chair of Division 11-Humanities of the National Research Council of the Philippines (NRCPC).

As Member of the Governing Board of the NRCPC, Arriola will participate in the crafting of policy directions affecting the country in general and the disciplines in the Humanities in particular. The Humanities Division is one of the 13 scientific divisions in the NRCPC representing the different disciplines of study. A Division Chair serves for two years per term, and she will serve from April 1, 2023 up to March 31,

2025. The disciplines represented in the Division of Humanities include literature, language, visual arts, architecture, music, performance studies, media arts, film, cultural heritage, among others.

Arriola has outlined her vision for the NRCPC Division of the Humanities in the campaign material posted at the NRCPC Facebook page. To quote the said material, Arriola said that she envisions "to spearhead an institutional self-assessment of the Humanities Division in order to take stock of its potentials and trajectories. This shall hopefully assist in pursuing the following proposed flagship domains for improvement:

1. To re-appreciate the nature and characteristics of research in Philippine humanities, arts and culture as these are viewed in relation to and in harmony with the other disciplines in the Council;
2. To craft a Research Excellence Framework for the Division that will be the basis of its indicators for research productivity and assessment;
3. To review its current assessment criteria in relation with the international metrics and their implications on the discipline;
4. To align current performance indicators and assessment criteria with the Division's prospective Research Excellence Framework;
5. To harness the concepts of New

Humanities as a starting point for charting the directions of pure and applied research in the field;

6. To harmonize the Division's efforts with those of the Social Sciences;
7. To align the research agenda of the Division with that of the NRCPC's National Integrated Basic Research Agenda 2022-2028, particularly the Inclusive Nation-Building ATIN Agenda;
8. To update efforts to re-codify research ethics in the humanities, particularly in matters pertaining to Intellectual Property, Freedom of Information and Data Privacy;
9. To identify niche areas for relevant research and publication; and
10. To influence cultural policy-making, particularly in the areas of regional culture, creative arts, design industry and cultural mapping."

Arriola was awarded the NRCPC Distinctive Achievement Award in the Humanities in 2018. Her book titled *Pelikulang Komiks: Toward a Theory of Filipino Film Adaptation* (University of the Philippines Press, 2019) was awarded an Outstanding Book Award by the National Academy of Science and Technology in 2021.

She will be succeeding Dr. Hope S. Yu of the University of San Carlos who served as Chair of the Division of Humanities from 2019 to 2023. ■

ACUP NATIONAL CONFERENCE FROM PAGE 4



ACUP President and SLU President Rev. Fr. Gilbert Sales, C.I.C.M., delivers the closing remarks and announces the Board for 2023 to 2025

for Day 3 it was Saint Louis University Registrar Andrew Macalma.

As part of the conference, a general assembly was held to elect the ACUP Board of Directors and Members for 2023 to 2025. SLU President Rev. Fr. Gilbert Sales, C.I.C.M., is the President, UST Rector Very Rev. Fr. Richard G. Ang, O.P., Ph.D., is the Vice President, University of the Immaculate Conception President Sr. Marissa Viri, R.V.M., is the Corporate Secretary, De La Salle University President Br. Bernard Oca, FSC, is the Treasurer, and UST Office of Public Affairs Director Asst. Prof. Joreen

T. Rocamora, Ph.D., is the Secretary-General. Members of the Board include Adamson University President Rev. Fr. Marcelo Manimtim, C.M., Notre Dame of Dadiangas University President Br. Manuel De Leon, F.M.S., Notre Dame of Marbel University President Br. Paterno Corpus, F.M.S., San Beda University President Rev. Fr. Aloysius Maranan, O.S.B., and University of Saint Louis - Tuguegarao President Rev. Fr. Macwayne Maniwang, C.I.C.M.

The ACUP Secretariat remains under the care of the UST Office of Public Affairs. ■

UST ranks 5th in AppliedHE's Private University Ranking: ASEAN+ 2023, first in Philippines



The University of Santo Tomas ranked 5th among several universities from ASEAN countries (Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Thailand, and Vietnam) and beyond ASEAN (Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Hong Kong, Kazakhstan, and Taiwan) and maintained first place in the Philippines in the 2nd edition of the AppliedHE Private University Ranking: ASEAN+ 2023. The second edition of the AppliedHE Private University Ranking ASEAN+ 2023 includes 24

universities from Southeast Asia and Asia Pacific. UST was able to rank fifth among participating universities from the Philippines, Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, Bangladesh, Hongkong, Azerbaijan, Vietnam, Kazakhstan, and Taiwan based on the overall ranking results in a press release signed by AppliedHE. There are only six participating universities in the Philippines, with UST emerging as the top university in the country. UST scored highly in employability, and performed well in institutional reputation and community engagement. Universities from Indonesia (3), Malaysia (2), Philippines (1), Bangladesh (1), Hongkong (1), Azerbaijan (1) and Thailand (1) were among the top 10.

The AppliedHE Private University Ranking: ASEAN+ 2023 is the "first international university ranking that includes only private institutions of higher learning." The ranking consists of the following criteria: Teaching and Learning (40%), Employability (15%), Research (15%), Community Engagement (10%), Internationalization (10%), and Institutional Reputation (10%). Data for calculating the respective indicators is collected from: AppliedHE Student Survey (49%), Institutional self-submitted data (28%), Bibliometric data, Google Scholar and Google News (13%), and Institutional reputation nominations (10%). The certificate was signed by Founder and CEO Mandy Mok and Chief Analyst Pieter Stek. ■

BA Communication, Journalism programs awarded AUN-QA certifications

The Department of Communication and Media Studies has become the first in the UST Faculty of Arts and Letters to obtain international quality seals, with its two programs now certified by the ASEAN University Network-Quality Assurance (AUN-QA). The B.A. Communication and B.A. Journalism programs received the coveted AUN-QA certifications on November 29, 2022, in an official communication from Dr. Choltis Dhirathiti, executive director of the ASEAN University Network. "We take this opportunity to congratulate UST for achieving the requirements of the AUN-QA standards and completing the program assessment," Dhirathiti said in his letter to UST Rector Fr. Richard G. Ang, O.P., Ph.D. Formed by the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) to raise educational standards in the region, the AUN "recognizes the importance of quality in higher education, and the need to develop a holistic quality assurance system to raise academic standards and enhance education, research, and service among its member universities." The Communication and Journalism programs were assessed based on eight criteria: expected learning outcomes, program structure and content, teaching and learning approach, student assessment, academic staff, student support services, facilities and infrastructure, and output and outcomes.



Journalism Program Coordinator Felipe F. Salvosa (left) and Department of Communication and Media Studies Chair Jose Arsenio J. Salandanan hold the certificates for their headed programs after obtaining international quality seals from the ASEAN University Network-Quality Assurance (AUN QA)

The team of AUN-QA assessors was composed of Asst. Prof. Dr. Sharul Tazrajiman Hj Tajuddin (University Teknologi Brunei) and Dr. Le Thi Giao Chi (University of Danang - Vietnam), lead assessor and assessor, respectively, for B.A. Communication; and Assoc. Prof. Dr. Pham Van Tuan (University of Danang - Vietnam) and Assoc. Prof. Dr. Pornpun Prajaknate (National Institute of Development Administration), lead assessor and assessor, respectively, for B.A. Journalism.

The assessors conducted a remote visit and interviewed college administrators, faculty, students, alumni, and industry

representatives from July 4 to 8, 2022, using videoconferencing facilities.

Asst. Prof. Jose Arsenio J. Salandanan, the department chair, noted that the AUN-QA certifications were obtained despite the challenges posed by the Covid-19 pandemic.

AUN-QA CERTIFICATIONS TO PAGE 8

Abugan of AB lauded as Best Faculty Advisor at New York conference

Faculty of Arts and Letters Department of Communication and Media Studies academic staff Asst. Prof. Faye Martel-Abugan, the Adviser of Tiger Media Network (TMN) that operates Tiger TV and Tiger Radio, was awarded as "Best Faculty Advisor for College Television" at the Intercollegiate Broadcasting System (IBS) College Media Conference on February 25, in Metropolitan West Ballroom, New York City.

In addition to Abugan's win, UST, through the Tiger Media Network, the University's official broadcasting arm, was a finalist in 16 categories bringing home the distinction in five categories namely: (1) Best Streaming/ Online Only Radio Station (more than 10,000 students) for UST Tiger Radio, (2) Best Social Media Account for UST Tiger TV & UST Tiger Radio, (3) Best Creatives Services Director-Television, Charlene Beatrice Go (College of Fine Arts and Design), (4) Best Student Station Manager-Television, Janis Andriella Santiago (Faculty of Arts and Letters), and (5) Best Promotions Director-Television, Angelica Cherie Mendoza (College of Commerce and Business Administration). The last two awards fall under the Len Mailloux Management Awards category.

Abugan also presented Tiger Media Network operations and called for international collaboration in content production during the two-day conference attended by campus broadcasters mostly in the US. Joining her in attendance to the conference are TMN student volunteers from the Faculty of Arts and Letters Janis Santiago, Gabriel Alvarez, and Dwayne Arceno and from the College of Science Phillene Nicole Sadang.



Asst. Prof. Faye Martel-Abugan

Since 2019, Abugan has been a member of the Intercollegiate Broadcasting System, a Washington, DC-based organization that provides educational opportunities and recognizes the efforts of students and campus broadcasting stations all over the world. She currently serves as the Assistant Director of the UST Communications Bureau. ■

UST, Cut Unlimited sign MOA for Filipino culinary heritage promotion



(From left:) PhilFoodEx Inc. Project Manager Ms. Aprille Robles, PhilFoodEx Inc. Director Ms. Mayose G. Bautista, Vice Rector for Academic Affairs Prof. Cheryl R. Peralta, DrPH, and CTHM Dean Assoc. Prof. Gezzez Giezi G. Granado, DCL

A Memorandum of Agreement was signed between the University of Santo Tomas and Cut Unlimited on February 6, 2023 at the Buenaventura Garcia Paredes, O.P. Building. The MOA signing was organized by Kromatiko Productions, a group of culinary students handled by Mr. Wyatt White Lee, CTHM academic staff, and led by Ms. Frances Dawn Sarmiento, Overall Chairperson. The partnership is for the upcoming 15th Philippine Food Exposition 2023.

Cut Unlimited, with over 22 years of experience in trade shows and agribusiness, was represented by Ms. Mayose G. Bautista, Director of PhilFoodEx Inc., and Ms. Aprille Robles, Project Manager of PhilFoodEx Inc., who signed the MOA along with the UST Vice Rector for Academic Affairs Prof. Cheryl R. Peralta, DrPH, and the College of Tourism and Hospitality Management Dean Assoc. Prof. Gezzez Giezi G. Granado, DCL. This partnership represents a significant step forward for both organizations and will provide opportunities for them to collaborate on various initiatives aimed at promoting Filipino culture, heritage, and culinary traditions.

FILIPINO CULINARY HERITAGE TO PAGE 8

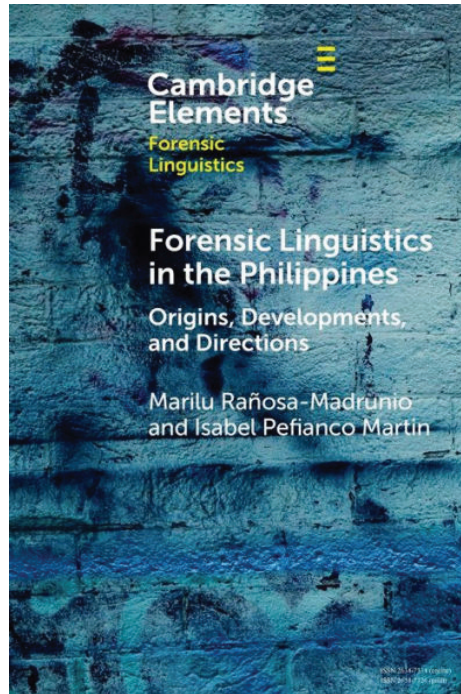
Madrunio of AB's collaborative research on Forensic Linguistics is published by Cambridge University Press

Dr. Marilu Rañosa-Madrunio, full professor in the UST Department of English, recently had her collaborative research in the Cambridge Element Series published by the Cambridge University Press (CUP) in Cambridge, England.

Titled "Forensic Linguistics in the Philippines: Origins, Developments, and Directions," the book offers a critical review of forensic linguistic (FL) studies in the Philippines with articles published over a period of eight to nine years. Madrunio, who pioneered forensic linguistics research in the country, started conducting FL research in 2012. She had previously trained under Prof. Malcolm Coulthard, the founder of what is now the International Association for Forensic and Legal Linguistics (IAFL).

Upon the invitation by Prof. Tim Grant, Director of the Aston Institute for Forensic Linguistics (AIFL) at Aston University, Birmingham, UK, Madrunio worked on the project in 2021, together with Dr. Isabel Martin of the Ateneo de Manila University, another proponent of Language and Law studies.

The book includes a description of the language policy in the country particularly focusing on the legal domain. After the critical review of the studies done in a span of nine years, the book underscores the trajectory of FL research in the country which may pave the way for the conduct of studies in other areas or aspects of forensic linguistics. ■



AUN-QA CERTIFICATIONS FROM PAGE 7

"Preparing the documents during a pandemic was never easy. Add to this the fact that we did not also formally train in Bangkok, Thailand for the SAR (Self-Assessment Report) writing. All we had was a firm resolve to do our best in gathering the necessary documents that will make a decent and impressive assessment report," he said.

Journalism Program Coordinator Felipe Salvosa II said the assessors recognized that the two programs were among the top in their respective fields and possessed qualified and competent faculty, and were able to adapt quickly to the demands of the virtual learning setup.

"Obtaining these certifications however is only the beginning of a continuous cycle of improvement. Both programs commit to work on the recommendations made by the team of assessors, which are very helpful and constructive," he said.

Communication and Journalism were assessed along with the University's Tourism and Hospitality Management programs, which also received the AUN-QA quality seal. The latest certifications brought the total number of AUN-QA certified UST programs to 18. UST obtained institutional-level certification from AUN-QA in 2019.

The two high-flying programs are both Centers of Development as declared by the Commission on Higher Education (CHED).

In 2021, Communication and Journalism were re-accredited at Level III by the Philippine Association of Colleges and Universities – Commission on Accreditation (PACUCOA).

Communication and Journalism have also been instrumental to UST's seven straight "School of the Year" Award from the Philippine Student Quill Awards. ■

UST BEATS Group, NYCU conduct collaborative research visit to address antimicrobial resistance in PH, Taiwan



Members of the UST BEATS Research Group and the KaoLab in National Yang Ming Chiao Tung University, Taiwan.

For the past year, the University of Santo Tomas – Bacteriophage Ecology, Aquaculture, Therapy and Systematics (UST-BEATS) and the Laboratory of Bacteriology (Pathogenesis, Antibiotic Resistance, Bacterial Community, Drug Development) and Applied Microbiology (KaoLab) of the National Yang Ming Chiao Tung University (NYCU), Taiwan have been collaborating and exchanging methods and laboratory techniques, as well as expertise, specifically in bacterial pathogenesis and bacteriophage studies. The two teams

recently met in a research visit held from February 6 to 11, 2023 at NYCU.

The research visit is part of the DOST-PCHRD funded project, spearheaded by the group, focusing on biocontrol application of bacteriophages against foodborne pathogens. This project is part of a program headed by Dr. Jose Bergantin, Jr. of the Chemistry Department of the College of Science.

Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) has been and is a common concern in many fields of studies, most especially in

infectious diseases. This silent pandemic has threatened our generation in so many ways that some scientists claim that we have arrived in the post-antibiotic era. The UST BEATS research group has been actively working since 2014 on bacterial viruses as alternatives to antibiotics to address such a concern, while the KaoLab in Taiwan has in depth knowledge and has been studying many aspects of bacterial pathogenesis and resistance. This

ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE TO PAGE 11

FILIPINO CULINARY HERITAGE FROM PAGE 7

Dean Granado highlighted the significance of the partnership between the two parties, stating in his opening remarks that "it is not just about competing, but about hosting prestigious culinary events." He also emphasized the importance of promoting the culinary arts and showcasing the best of Filipino cuisine to the world.

At the previous Philippine Food Exposition, 21 booths representing Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao were present, showcasing a variety of Filipino cuisine. The occasion served as a symbol of the Filipino cuisine movement's rising popularity, which promotes regional foods and raises crucial issues like the country's food security.

The 15th Philippine Food Exposition

2023 will be held from the 28th to 30th of April. It will feature an exhibition and competition at the SMX Convention Center that will include the following categories: Food Styling and Photography, Philippines Regional Table Setting, Mother's Specialty Dish, Kitchen Masters, PINASarap Breakfast, Healthy Pasta, Modern Filipino Dessert and Mystery Ingredient. Registration and details for culinary challenges along with the screening of exhibitors can be found on the Philippine Food Expo's Facebook page.

The upcoming exposition will provide a platform for local farmers to showcase their products and connect with foreign buyers who are interested in purchasing them. This can lead to increased demand and better prices for their crops or products. ■

Reyes-Tolosa of GS presents research on COVID environmental contamination

Thomasian graduate student Ms. Karen G. Reyes-Tolosa (MS Microbiology candidate) presented her research at the 6th Global Public Health Conference (GLOBEHEAL) held in Colombo, Sri Lanka, from February 23 to 24, 2023, through a hybrid platform.

As one of the successful researchers accepted to join the roster of 106 oral presentations, Reyes-Tolosa virtually presented her work on "The Detection of SARS-CoV-2 Contamination on Cellphones of Asymptomatic Healthcare workers from a COVID-19 Testing Facility in the Philippines" in Session 28: Infectious Diseases and Prevention. The paper

tackles the impact of environmental contamination of SARS-CoV-2.

With the theme "Building Bridges for Future Public Health Preparedness and Response", the two-day conference had 28 sessions that were organized according to topics that included: 1) Women, gender studies and gender-based violence; 2) Women, maternal, infant and child health; 3) Psychological well-being and mental health; 4) Miscellaneous Health and Safety; 5) Nutrition, Food Security; 6) Environmental Health; 7) Occupational Health; 8)

COVID ENVIRONMENTAL CONTAMINATION TO PAGE 11

UST AB inks MoU with Spanish Embassy languages advisors, explores partnership with Thammasat University



(Standing from left:) Faculty of Arts and Letters Regent Rev. Fr. George Phe Mang, O.P.; academic staff from the Department of Modern Languages Mr. Brian Erick Benbinuto and Mr. Royce Randall Lim; Education Advisor from the Embassy of Spain in Australia Mr. David Ferrán; AB Acting Dean Atty. Jacqueline Lopez-Kaw, DCL; Education Advisor from the Embassy of Spain in the Philippines Ms. Beatriz Jimeno; AB International Relations and Programs Coordinator Asst. Prof. Michelle Desierto; AB Assistant Dean Dr. Melanie Turingan; AB Faculty Secretary Asst. Prof. Ma. Zenia Rodriguez; and Ms. Ruth Torres of the Department of Modern Languages.

Two education advisors from the Embassy of Spain paid the Faculty of Arts and Letters a courtesy visit on February 10, 2023. Mr. David Ferrán, Education Advisor from the Embassy of Spain in Australia, and Ms. Beatriz Jimeno, Education Advisor from the Embassy of Spain in the Philippines, were warmly received by the Acting Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Letters, Atty. Jacqueline Lopez-Kaw and Rev. Fr. George Phe Mang, O.P., AB Regent.

Also present in the meeting were Assistant Dean Dr. Melanie Turingan, Faculty Secretary Asst. Prof. Ma. Zenia Rodriguez, Coordinator for International Relations and Programs Asst. Prof. Michelle Desierto, and academic staff from the Department of Modern Languages Mr. Royce Randall Lim, Mr. Brian Erick Benbinuto, and Ms. Ruth Torres.

The following likewise attended the meeting via Zoom: Department of Modern Languages Chair Asst. Prof. Abigail Pagalilauan, with academic staff Fr. Nestor Abog, Ms. Jana Isabela Hayao, and Mr. Dennis Maturan.

Ferrán acknowledged the necessity for Spanish courses in the College of Education and in the College of Tourism

and Hospitality Management, with the possibility of an internship in Spain. He also considered offering Spanish classes to high school students at UST.

Pagalilauan also discussed the Language Assistantship Program in Spain, which many Thomasian students and graduates have joined. She said that the participants are hoping to renew their contracts with their respective language centers in Spain. Ferrán believes that participants in the Language Assistantship Program should have a basic knowledge of Spanish (at least A1 level).

The DELE (*Diploma de Español como Lengua Extranjera* or Diploma of Spanish as a Foreign Language) requirement for prospective language assistants will be implemented starting 2024-2025. For them to participate in the Language Assistantship Program, the participants need to have at least a DELE A1 diploma. DELE is a Spanish proficiency exam with six different levels ranging from A1 to C2 based on the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR), which are learning, teaching, and assessment.

Discussion on collaboration included giving opportunities for Spanish teachers in UST to participate in the language assistantship program and the free webinars organized by the *Ministerio de Educación*

de España (Spanish Ministry of Education), promotion of the immersion program in the College of Education and in AB for History majors as part of creative ways to promote Spanish to Thomasian students. There was also a discussion about a possible partnership with Universidad de Alcalá.

The meeting concluded with the formal signing of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the University of Santo Tomas and the Ministry of Education and Vocational Training of the Government of Spain, as represented by Mr. David Ferrán.

The objectives of the said MOU were to contribute to the promotion and development of the teaching of the Spanish language and culture in the Philippine education system, and the English language and culture in Spain; promote the relations between the citizens of the Philippines and those of Spain, enhancing the understanding and the appreciation of the shared culture by both communities; provide students and alumni with a multicultural and international experience which will prepare them for their future success personally, academically, and professionally; and to facilitate opportunities of professional development

LANGUAGE ADVISORS TO PAGE 11

LANGUAGE ADVISORS FROM PAGE 10



and academic exchange of the students, teachers, and professionals of education and the development of joint activities.

Exploring joint ventures with Thammasat University

Along similar lines, administrators and professors from the Faculty of Liberal Arts in Thammasat University visited the Faculty of Arts and Letters of the University of Santo Tomas to explore possible academic collaborations in the fields of modern languages, history, and Asian studies. This marks the beginning of a productive partnership that will improve the academic

ties between the two institutions.

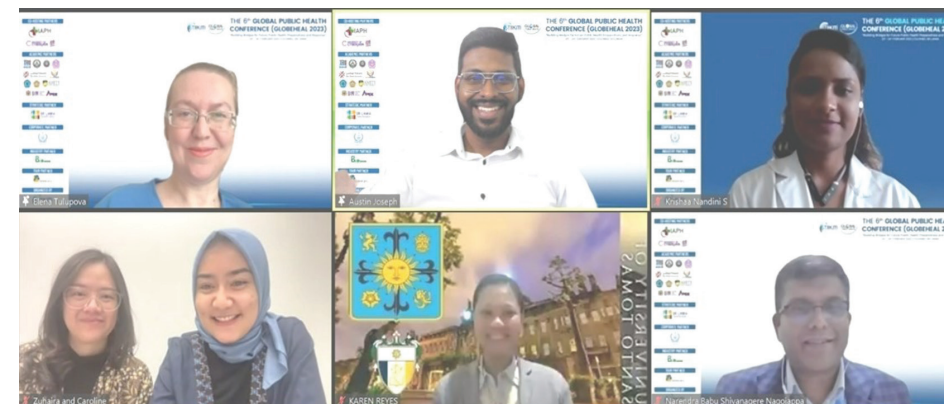
The visit was made possible as a result of the nomination of the Faculty of Liberal Arts in Thammasat University to receive a donation from Senator Loren Legarda in order to execute the Philippine Studies Program in Thailand. This allows them to initiate activities including academic exchanges, lecture series, research grants, enhancement of the Filipiniana collection, and other projects relating to the history, cultures, and society of the Philippines.

During the meeting, the participants discussed the most important aspects of their academic partnership, which

(Standing, from left:) TU Hispanic and Latin American Studies Lecturer Dr. Piemsak Hongjamrassilp; TU Faculty of Liberal Arts Dean Asst. Prof. Dr. Passapong Sripicharn; UST AB International Relations and Programs Coordinator Asst. Prof. Michelle Desierto; former Dean Prof. Marilu Rañosa-Madrugno, Ph.D.; TU Administrative and International Affairs Associate Dean Asst. Prof. Dr. Sirirat Na Ranong; TU Hispanic and Latin American Studies Head Asst. Prof. Pongpun Krainara; TU Southeast Asian Studies Program Lecturer Dr. Suwannarat Meesomboonpoonsuk; and TU International Affairs Officer Ms. Orawan Changklungmoh

include student exchange between the two institutions, research collaboration, organizing a short summer course (including Filipino language, Spanish language, and other aspects of culture), academic talks, and visiting scholars. ■

COVID ENVIRONMENTAL CONTAMINATION FROM PAGE 9



Ms. Karen Reyes-Tolosa (second row, center) during her presentation

Infectious Diseases and Prevention; 9) Other Disciplines; 10) Non-communicable Disease; 11) Social Determinants of Health, Healthcare services and education; (12) Primary Healthcare; and (13) Occupational and Environmental Health.

The annual conference is organized by The International Institute of Knowledge Management (TIKM) partnered with University of Malaya in Malaysia.

TIKM Managing Director Mr. Isanka P. Gamage welcomed both physical and virtual participants. In his message, he emphasized that the true value of knowledge acquisition will only be realized when this knowledge will reach more people and related his message to this year's conference theme focusing on the need to build bridges and networks among the participants. ■

ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE FROM PAGE 9

collaboration is crucial to help find solutions and address AMR in both countries.

The UST-BEATS research group, headed by Asst. Prof. Donna May D. Papa, Ph.D., of the Department of Biological Sciences and the RCNAS, including her team members– Ms. Tracey Guterrez and Mr. Richard Raneses, both Science Research Specialists, assisted in bacteriophage methods while training on various laboratory protocols. The training, which was also organized by the KaoLab team, headed by Dr. Cheng-Yen Kao, included processing of samples for viewing on Transmission Electron Microscope (TEM), and *Galleria melonella* larvae handling and infection. The one-week research visit concluded with a grand research meeting wherein bacteriophage methods were presented and discussed.

Additionally, the KaoLab served as a venue for planning future collaborations between the two research groups – starting off with a potential joint research project focusing on characterization of multi-drug resistant bacteria and assessment of phage-antibiotic combinations against bacterial species.

The work and results garnered during the past year and the potential collaborative project between the two laboratories shows importance in exchange of expertise and merging various fields in order to address a common problem – in this case, antimicrobial resistance. ■

UST, KKP host International Conference on Chemistry

The International Conference on Chemistry (IC²) was held at the University of Santo Tomas from February 15 to 17, 2023. Organized by the Kapisanang Kimika ng Pilipinas (KKP) and the University of Santo Tomas, through the Office of the Vice Rector for Research and Innovation and the Research Center for Natural and Applied Sciences.

The event, which marked the culmination of KKP's 85th anniversary celebrations, aimed to emphasize the vital role of chemistry in achieving the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs).

With the theme, "Chemistry Innovations for World Needs", the conference had six keynote lectures and 30 oral presentations grouped into parallel sessions, covering six different themes related to the UN SDGs: chemistry and food, chemistry and health, chemistry and education, chemistry and environment, chemistry and energy, and chemistry and innovation.

The four keynote speakers included Academician and National Scientist Dr. Lourdes J. Cruz, who discussed the importance of prioritizing research and development in chemistry for sustainable development and economic growth in the Philippines. University of Cambridge Professor of Analytical Biotechnology Dr. Lisa Hall, CBE, CChem, FRSC, presented an overview of integrating new genetic and molecular diagnostic technologies in low-resource nations, while Philippine Nuclear Research Institute Atomic Research Division Chief Dr. Lucille V. Abad talked about the role of nuclear science and technology in addressing global concerns. National Tsing Hua University Institute of Analytical and Environmental Sciences Chair Professor Dr. Ruey-An Doong shared insights into the potential of using agro-derived carbon nanocomposites for a range of applications.

Attendees also had the opportunity to participate in various workshops, walk through the poster sessions, and

interact with presenters. Included among the workshops was "Smartphone-Based Colorimetry: Analytical Measurements Using Smartphones and Paper-Based Sensors" facilitated by UST Department of Chemistry Chair Assoc. Prof. Alan Rodelle M. Salcedo, Ph.D., and Henley F. Galiga, Ph.D., from Romblon State University.

The conference concluded with the presentation of the first-ever 2023 KKP Emerging Researcher Award to Dr. Jordan F. Madrid of the Philippine Nuclear Research Institute for his outstanding contributions to the development of functional composite polymeric materials from Philippine natural fibers using radiation-induced graft polymerization. The IC² conference highlighted the importance of chemistry in addressing the challenges of sustainable development and brought together experts from different countries to share their research and expertise in various areas of chemistry. ■



Participants, organizers, and speakers of IC²

UST hosts chemistry workshop for PH high school students led by Cambridge research team

Thirty high school students from various high schools in the Philippines learned from a team of world-renowned scientists about how to bring low-cost virus detection to their communities. Prof. Lisa Hall, Ph.D., CBE, CChem, FRSC, and her research team from the University of Cambridge conducted the workshop held on February 21, 2023 at the UST Thomas Aquinas Research Complex.

Titled "Bringing Low-Cost Virus Detection to Your Community," Hall and her team discussed the use of simple, affordable technologies to detect the presence of viruses in the environment and how such technologies can be used to monitor the spread of viruses in communities, which can aid in the early detection and prevention of outbreaks. The students were also

CHEMISTRY WORKSHOP TO PAGE 13

CHEMISTRY WORKSHOP FROM PAGE 12

given hands-on experience in using these technologies, with the research team guiding them through the process of setting up and using low-cost virus detection kits.

Hall leads the Cambridge Analytical Biotechnology (CAB) group. She is a recipient of the Gold Medal from the Royal Society of Chemistry (Analytical Division) in 2005 and the Alec Hough-Grassby Memorial Award from the Institute of Measurement and Control in 2009. In 2019 she was awarded the SNU-Dongjin Distinguished Lectureship and in 2020 she received the Oxburgh Medal for outstanding contribution to measurement, instrumentation and control in the field of environmental science and engineering.

The workshop was well-received by the students, who found it both informative and engaging. It was a collaborative effort between the University of Santo Tomas and the University of Cambridge, with the aim of empowering young Filipinos to take an active role in addressing the ongoing global pandemic. The co-sponsors for the workshop are the UST Research Center for the Natural and Applied Sciences, the Department of Chemistry, and the Graduate School. ■



Prof. Hall (standing) leads the discussion.



Participants and organizers with Hall (standing, in white dress) and her research team



A participant is guided through the process of using a detection kit.

YNU joins UST Graduate School for colloquium on social welfare, agrarian reform

A delegation of graduate students from Yokohama National University (YNU) visited the UST Graduate School for a joint colloquium session on February 28, 2023. The event was attended by UST GS students and academic staff headed by the Graduate School Dean Prof. Michael Anthony C. Vasco, Ph.D.

The 2023 YNU Philippine Field Trip delegation was composed of five graduate students, namely, Sou Yaly, the student leader of the delegation from Cambodia; Maria Hachigo; Huslen Battluga from Mongolia; Ryushin Tanaka; and Shota Koseki, led by Dean Ichiro Araki, together with Dr. Takaaki Kobayashi and Dr. Kotaro Yonemura. They arrived in Manila on February 15 and stayed in the Philippines until March 1, 2023.

The theme of the joint session lecture was "Researches on Philippine Social Welfare and

Agrarian Reform Development Agenda, Land Registration, and Community Development".

There were five speakers, namely, Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) Undersecretary Atty. Adonis P. Sulit; Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR) Assistant Director Elizabeth Zambrano-Villapando, CESO VI, OIC-Director III, Bureau of Land Tenure Improvement; DAR Director Garland Leila A. Cuarteros, OIC-Director for Policy and Research Service (PRS), Policy Planning and Research Office (PPRO), Provincial Agrarian Reform Officer II (ARPO II); Land Registration Authority (LRA) Atty. Raymond

Ramos, Register of Deeds, Parañaque City; and YNU Master of International Business Law student Maria Hachigo.

The Honorable DSWD USEC Atty. Sulit talked about the DSWD Programs and Services, while DAR OIC-Director Cuarteros lectured on an Overview of the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program (CARP) Extension with Reforms, Parañaque City Register of Deeds Atty. Ramos spoke about identifying real and fake Certificate of Titles, and Ms. Hachigo discussed her lessons from her various field trips undertaken to various remote communities in Japan.

GRADUATE SCHOOL COLLOQUIUM TO PAGE 14

UST Singers successfully conclude 35th International Concert Tour in ROK



UST Singers at the 7th Jeju International Choir Festival & Symposium [Photo courtesy of the UST Singers Facebook page]

The University of Santo Tomas Singers, two-time winners of the Luciano Pavarotti Choir of the World Trophy, conducted their 35th International Tour in the Republic of South Korea, held from February 18 to 27, 2023.

Beginning with a performance at the “Rejoice Choir Concert” at the Jeju Arts Center, the UST Singers performed alongside international choral groups, such as the Voice of Bali, the Riverside City College Chamber Singers, and the Jeju Ladies’ Choir on February 19.

From February 21 to 24, they performed at the 7th Jeju International Choir Festival and Symposium (JICF). In the same event, the UST Singers Founder Fidel Gener Calalang, Jr., delivered a lecture on his choral works at the Jeju Oriental Hotel on February 22. Some of the works presented were his original work, “Adoramus

Te Christe,” which won 3rd Prize at the 2021 Academia Musica 2nd International Music Competition, and other arrangements such as “Paru-Parong Bukid,” “Ikaw,” “Kailangan Kita,” “The Prayer,” and “Plink Plank Plunk.”

Ambassador of the Philippines to the Republic of Korea Her Excellency Ma. Theresa Dizon-De Vega and the Third Secretary and Vice Consul Jilliane Joyce De Dumo-Cornista graced the event with their presence and support for the group during the UST Singers’ performance at the First Incheon World Choir Festival at the Incheon Art Hall on February 24, 2023.

At the Daegu Concert Hall in Daegu, South Korea, the UST Singers performed with the Pilgrim Children’s Choir on February 25.

For their final stop, the UST Singers had a short concert and church service at the First Presbyterian Church in Daegu. ■



UST Singers Founder Fidel Calalang, Jr., during his lecture [Photo courtesy of the UST Singers Facebook page]

GRADUATE SCHOOL COLLOQUIUM FROM PAGE 13

(Standing, from left:) Dr. Tomas Tiu, Dr. Rosemarie Opis, GS Business Lead Dr. Elizabeth Recio, representative of DAR OIC-Director Garland Leila A. Cuarteros, speaker and YNU Ph.D. student Sou Yaly, DAR OIC-Director Elizabeth Zambrano-Villapando, speaker and YNU masteral student Maria Hachigo, Parañaque City Register of Deeds Atty. Raymond Ramos, DSWD USEC. Atty. Adonis P. Sulit, YNU Dean Ichiro Araki, GS Dean Prof. Michael Anthony Vasco, Ph.D., GS Faculty Secretary Dr. Elizabeth Arenas, with YNU students



Also present during the colloquium were Faculty Secretary Assoc. Prof. Elizabeth Arenas and academic staff members Dr. Elizabeth Recio, Dr. Ernesto Dimaculangan, Dr. Patricia Empleo, Dr. Antonio Dayag. Dr. Tomas Tiu served as the Master of Ceremonies and Dr. Rosemarie Opis introduced the speakers. ■

Cultural Heritage Studies Graduate students meet prominent Philippine weavers in Likha Masterclass

UST Graduate School students under the Master of Arts (MA) in Cultural Heritage Studies (CHS) Program, led by Assoc. Prof. Eric Zerrudo, Ph.D., had an artistic encounter with weavers from Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao during the “Likha Masterclass” held on February 20, 2023, at the Philippine International Convention Center (PICC).

Zerrudo provided an opening message where he underscored the significance of the environment to the viability of Philippine weaving. The students were introduced to the ingenuity of traditional weavers and the diversity of techniques such as the *binakol* of Ilocos region, the *pina* weaving of Aklan and the *Inaul* of Maguindanao Region.

The *Likha* program was a convergence of three weaving industry prime movers - Al Valenciano of Ilocos, Lesly Mobo of Visayas, and Charisse Tugade (Thomasian CHS Alumna) for Mindanao. Approximately 21 weavers engaged in a conversation relative to their practice, its significance, threats to its viability, and its survival in relation to the government assistance they need. After validation from the weavers, the results of the discussions were later forwarded to Philippine First Lady Atty. Liza Araneta Marcos, who spearheaded the initiative. ■



Assoc. Prof. Zerrudo (front row, seated, second from right) with UST MACHS students and Filipino weavers.

Rector’s Cup resumes with large turnout of golfers; Team Medicine & Surgery makes a comeback



The Rector’s Cup 5 Champions, Team Medicine & Surgery

The fifth edition of the Rector’s Cup: Thomasian Alumni Golf Tournament drew in 211 alumni golfers and guests to join the advocacy of funding the University’s student-athletes, who compete in national and international sports events. The tournament, organized by the Office of Alumni Relations (OAR), was held at the Forest Hills Golf & Country Club in Antipolo, Rizal, on February 6, 2023.

This year’s tourney reinvigorated the solidarity and loyalty of the alumni to the University after the two-year hiatus due to the pandemic. Sponsors such as Wilcon Depot, DivinaLaw, DATEM, Inc., and Shinagawa Lasik & Aesthetics also rejoined and guaranteed their commitment to the cause. The full day event saw the dedication of the community that brought in the largest turnout of golfers since the tournament’s inception.

Tournament Chairman Dr. Ian Laurel highlighted the series’ distinction from others where different college teams host the competition every year, saying that “This fosters the engagement and participation of all alumni, making it more exciting, bigger, more vibrant, and more relevant each and every year.” He also admired the Rector’s support and leadership, inspiring them to continue with the advocacy.

RECTOR’S CUP TO PAGE 16



The University of Notre Dame Australia

The University of Notre Dame Australia Vice Chancellor Prof. Francis Campbell (fifth from left), Deputy Vice Chancellor for International and Partnerships Prof. Michelle Campbell (sixth from left), and Senior Director for Industry Partnerships and Pathways Mr. Tom Ristoski (rightmost) visited the University of Santo Tomas on March 2, 2023. They paid a courtesy call upon UST Rector Very Rev. Fr. Richard G. Ang, O.P., Ph.D., (center). With them are Executive Secretary to the Rector Prof. Marciana Agnes Ponsaran, Ph.D. (leftmost), UST OIRP Director Prof. Lilian J. Sison, Ph.D. (third from left) and Associate Director Prof. Karen Santiago, Ph.D. (second from left).



Samroiody Wittayakhom School

Twenty inbound students and three participating teachers from Samroiody Wittayakhom School, Thailand, visited the University of Santo Tomas on March 2, 2023, for their English Program. The visitors were also welcomed at the Benavides Building by the Junior High School administrators led by its Assistant Principal Master Teacher Maria Victoria L. Torres, Regent Rev. Fr. Orlando C. Aceron, O.P., School Secretary Senior Teacher Anthony C. Castro and academic staff from the English department.



University of Adelaide

Deputy Vice Chancellor External Engagement Dr. Jessica Gallagher (fifth from left), Faculty of Arts, Business, Law, and Economics Executive Dean Professor John Williams (sixth from left), Executive Director for Education Transformation Ms. Lori Hocking (third from left) Associate Director for Global Partnerships Mr. Phillip Fredericks visited the University of Santo Tomas for a meeting on March 2, 2023. The delegation was welcomed by the Vice Rector for Academic Affairs Prof. Cheryl R. Peralta, Ph.D. (center), Executive Assistant Assoc. Prof. Maria Corazon S. Sauz, Ph.D. (leftmost), and UST Office of Public Affairs Director Asst. Prof. Joreen T. Rocamora, Ph.D. (rightmost)

RECTOR'S CUP FROM PAGE 15

A fellowship banquet and awarding ceremonies followed the morning of golf and was graced by the presence of UST Vice Rector Rev. Fr. Isaias D. Tiongco, O.P., and IPEA Director and Regent Rev. Fr. Rodel S. Cansancio, O.P.

Ten teams which consisted of different colleges and a high school department competed over the coveted perpetual championship trophy created by Ar. Ramon Orlina.

The teams of Faculty of Engineering and Faculty of Pharmacy tied at 571 points. However, the Pharmacy team clinched the third runner-up title with nine birdies in Team Event while the Engineering team only birdied two, placing them at the fourth.

The first time podium finisher Faculty of Arts and Letters team unexpectedly sealed its second runner-up finish with 568 points.

A great upset has met the College of Science as their team committed a couple of errors garnering them 562 points, which took them a few steps back from defending the crown. Meanwhile, the Rector's Cup 3 champions Faculty of Medicine & Surgery team made a comeback with only 557 points, which secured the top spot for this year's event.

For the sixth Rector's Cup, the College of Architecture will host the competition headed by Ar. Eduardo Casares as the Tournament Director. Under his helm, he aims to make it bigger in terms of golfer population and funds collected for the beneficiaries. ■

National University of Singapore Professor Dr. Syed Farid Alatas and associates

Dr. Syed Farid Alatas (front row, fifth from left), a respected scholar in Asian Studies and a professor of Sociology at National University of Singapore (NUS), accompanied by lecturers, students and intellectuals from universities and organizations in Malaysia, Singapore and Indonesia, visited the University of Santo Tomas on February 21, 2023. They visited the UST Miguel de Benavides Library and the Faculty of Arts and Letters for academic engagements.



Medical Technologist Licensure Examination

March 2023

UST Passing Rate: 90.57%

National Passing Rate: 76.46%



7th - 91.30%
Jillian Patrice
Wy Bulanadi



THE ACADEMIA

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