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(From left, top row:) Philippine Communication Society Director and UST Journalism Program Coordinator Mr. Felipe Salvosa II, Philippine Institute for Development Studies Research Information Department Director Dr. Sheila Siar, multidisciplinary journalist and documentarist Mr. Atom Araullo, (from left, bottom row:) Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Manila Office of Communications Director Fr. Roy Bellen, Break the Fake Movement Founder Mr. Gabriel Billones, Jr., and Limitless Lab Chief Executive Officer Ms. Joie Cruz

Multidisciplinary perspectives on PH information disorder featured in UST's Media Leadership Lecture Series

In the hopes of helping us learn more effective ways to dispel the fog of disinformation occluding discourse spaces, both online and offline, experts on combating the information disorder or the problem of 'fake news' from the academe, Church, industry, and civil society discussed the current realities and possible solutions during the 5th installment of the UST Media Leadership Lecture Series. It was held on April 14, 2023, at the UST Paredes Ballroom, and live-streamed via the UST Office of Public Affairs Facebook page, where it remains available for public viewing.

The Philippine Institute for Development Studies Research Information Department Director Dr. Sheila Siar, Philippine Communication Society Director and UST Journalism Program Coordinator Mr. Felipe Salvosa II, Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Manila Office of Communications Director Fr. Roy Bellen, multidisciplinary journalist and documentarist Mr. Atom Araullo, Limitless Lab Chief Executive Officer Ms. Joie Cruz, and Break the Fake Movement Founder Mr. Gabriel Billones, Jr., served as the resource speakers.

Siar discussed "Realities of Information Disorder: Misinformation, Disinformation and Mal-Information," where she differentiated the

key terms misinformation, disinformation, and malinformation; explained cognitive psychology theories as to why people may believe or share false information; examined the state of the current information disorder in the Philippines and the methods employed to mitigate it; and suggested solutions that can improve the situation.

"Two things we can do [to strengthen defenses against the information disorder] are, first, in the area of education. For me education is key. Critical thinking and analytical reasoning should start very early in life in the home and in the school... [Second,] community engagement and capacity building are essential. Train and engage citizens to fact check."

She further emphasized strengthening media literacy in the basic education curriculum as well as capacitating government staff with information functions, such as information, health, DRRM officers, on crisis and risk communication as well as science communication.

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MEDIA LEADERSHIP LECTURE SERIES
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“We can’t stop fake news from being made, but we can stop sharing it,” reminded Siar.

Salvosa talked about “The Academe’s Role in Inculcating Critical Thinking and Analysis among the Youth versus Information Disorder,” where he expressed concern over people’s rising selective news avoidance and low trust in the mainstream news.

“The question of how journalists can raise the public’s trust in the news is something that will occupy or even bedevil practitioners and academics alike, for years to come. Now I think the answer does not lie in the past, we are not returning to the era of Walter Cronkite, Dan Rather, [and other] authoritative voices of the news. Given the technological upheavals and constant emergence of new platforms that have disrupted journalism, journalists need to continuously establish their credibility to the public and slowly but surely earn their trust,” said Salvosa, emphasizing the importance of news literacy and thorough fact-checking that is accessible to the masses through translation into Filipino and other regional languages.

Fr. Bellen presented the social communications ministry of the Church and the various initiatives of the Church against the information disorder. He remarked, “Media and Communications are gifts meant to build communities and raise humanity. It is not a tool to be used to destroy others and lift up one’s self and one’s self-serving interests.”

Araullo, in his discussion, lamented the hostility against journalists amid the vital necessity for journalism to assert free speech and guard fundamental rights.

“[Journalists] don’t only create content for fame or money, we produce news and stories to inform public opinion and policy, to ferret out the truth, and to hold power to account to keep the wheels of democracy turning,” said Araullo

He also emphasized the need for engaging in conversations in good faith, rather than dismissing those who disagree as ignorant or bribed, saying “We can start by listening to our community and involving them in meaningful conversations, not just to gather quotes, but also to gather sentiments and feelings. True, social media can be toxic for engagement, it can be tiring, and it can ruin your day. But a common mistake we commit is to dismiss those we fiercely disagree with as trolls. There is a real person behind every account, fake or verified. Many of them could still be persuaded through constructive interaction. In schools, around dining tables, in our neighborhood, or online chat groups, we can spark engagement behind



UST Secretary-General Rev. Fr. Louie R. Coronel, O.P., EHL, Limitless Lab CEO Ms. Joie Cruz, Break the Fake Movement Founder Mr. Gabriel Billones, Jr., UST Vice Rector for Academic Affairs Prof. Cheryl R. Peralta, DrPH, and UST Office of Public Affairs Director Asst. Prof. Joreen T. Rocamora, Ph.D.

the simple old values of honesty, respect, and compassion, which would allow us to engage responsibly and in good faith.”

Cruz shared her experience in implementing the ASEAN Digital Literacy Programme (ADLP) in the Philippines, particularly designing a laymanized learning experience on digital literacy that would resonate with Filipino grassroots communities called “#DigiTalino”.

She urged people to empathize with fellow Filipinos, saying “It’s easy for us to express judgment whenever we hear or see someone sharing false information or when they have a very different view of reality than ours. It’s easy for us to snap and leave the conversation, but what we learned through ADLP is that compassion and empathy will go a long way. If we approach our *kababayan* with a compassionate and empathizing spirit rather than attacking [them], I think we can go further. No effort is too small.”

She also shared tips on how to tell someone that the post they shared was untrue or disinformation and cautioned against common scams found online or on mobile.

Billones highlighted the importance of working together to fight disinformation and to collectively protect democracy, prevent harm, promote transparency, and build trust in institutions and each other.

Particularly, he pointed out that good faith communicators must frame disinformation in a non-political context, without being condescending. Researchers and academics must also recalibrate their approaches to be more community-based.

“In civil society, meet them where they

are, not where you are at. You have to make sure that you can transmit the message to the person you want to talk with,” said Billones.

The UST Media Leadership Lecture Series (MLLS) is an annual forum that takes a proactive stance in the current state of media, an advocacy of the Thomasian community to have relevant and responsive information regarding the emerging technology-driven news media landscape. This year, the theme was “The Academe, Church, Media, and Civil Society: A Multi-Sectoral Initiative in Countering Information Disorder in the Philippines”

“In these times where legitimate accountable journalism and the social networks that the majority of people access are increasingly challenged by disinformation campaigns, it is all the more vital to support and amplify informative, socially responsible, and reliable media voices. We also have to do our part and develop a keen sense of awareness to recognize falsehood where it appears around us, and break the chain of dis-, mis-, and malinformation spread by thinking before we post,” said UST Office of Public Affairs Director Asst. Prof. Joreen T. Rocamora, Ph.D., who offered an overview for the MLLS, one of UST OPA’s annual events.

Originally launched in 2017, included among the keynote speakers in previous installments of the UST-MLLS are: Catholic Media Network President Fr. Francis Lucas, Lahi Philippines President Jing Magsaysay, former ABS-CBN Digital News Media Head Ms. Karen Puno-Igaya, and GMA documentary hosts Mr. Cesar Apolinario and Mr. Jay Taruc. ■

UST welcomes relics of St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus



Devotees, including Fr. Talavera (right), venerate the relics. [Photos courtesy of the Santísimo Rosario Parish – UST Facebook page]



Fr. Abaña presides over the Eucharistic Celebration. [Photo courtesy of the Santísimo Rosario Parish – UST Facebook page]

The bone relics of St. Thérèse of Lisieux, also known as St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus, had an overnight visit at the Santísimo Rosario Parish Church (UST Chapel) from April 13 to 14, 2023.

The votive mass was presided by UST Museum Director Rev. Fr. Isidro Abaña, O.P., while, Santísimo Rosario Parish Priest Rev. Fr. Paul Reagan O. Talavera, O.P., served as the homilist.

In his homily, Fr. Talavera, who himself is a devotee of St. Thérèse, said “It is with great joy that we welcome tonight the pilgrim relics of St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus, especially as we are still in the Octave of Easter, a moment and season in which we remember and rejoice at the resurrected Lord.”

St. Thérèse is among the famous saints who lived in the 19th century. Being the youngest among nine children (five of whom survived childhood) of the Martin couple (Louis and Marie Azélie), St. Thérèse grew up in a pious family where she developed an intense desire to enter religious life. With several failed attempts, St. Thérèse was granted permission to enter Carmel at the tender age of 16 joining her older siblings in the community of Lisieux. In 1890, she made her full profession on the birth date of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

In April 1896, St. Thérèse fell gravely ill and was confined to the infirmary where she spent her time writing her story by the request of her Mother Prioress. The following year, she died at the age of 24. Her final words are, “Oh, my God, I love you!”

She was canonized on May 17, 1925, and was declared Doctor of the Church by St. John Paul II on October 17, 1997.

The visit’s theme, “Lakbay Tayo, St. Thérèse! Ka-alagad, Kaibigan, Ka-misyon,” centered on seeking the intercession of St. Thérèse as the Church celebrates the Synod on Synodality.

The intricate reliquary of St. Thérèse is called the Centennial Reliquary made during the centenary of the Saint’s death in 1997.

The relics have been on tour to different archdioceses and dioceses in the Philippines since its arrival on January 2, 2023—the 150th birth anniversary of the Saint. While this was the 5th visit of the bone relics to the country, this was the first time it was housed at the UST Chapel. The pilgrimage of the relics of St. Thérèse in the Philippines ended on April 30, 2023, which happens to be the centennial anniversary of her beatification. ■

Thomsonian doctor chosen as one of Top 100 Most Influential Ophthalmologists



Dr. Javate (third row, fifth from left) with fellow awardees from different countries

Dr. Reynaldo M. Javate, former Professor III of the Faculty of Medicine and Surgery, Department of Ophthalmology and Active Medical Staff of the University of Santo Tomas Hospital, was recognized as part one of the Asia-Pacific Eye 100: 100 Most Influential Ophthalmologists 2022.

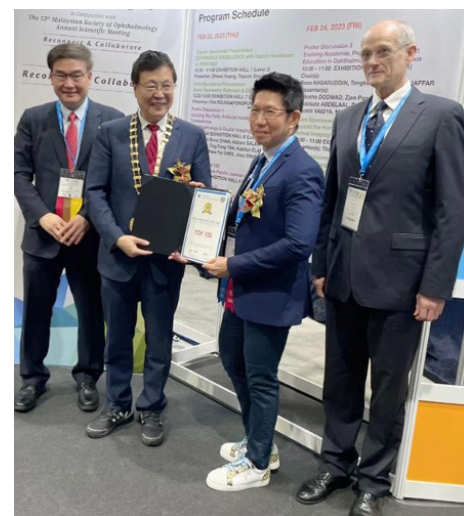
The awardees were announced and formally acknowledged at the Recognition Ceremony on February 23, 2023, during the 38th Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology Congress in conjunction with the 13th Malaysian Society of Ophthalmology Annual Scientific meeting in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

The Asia-Pacific Journal of Ophthalmology (APJO), a well-established SCI journal in the Asia Pacific region and beyond announced the establishment of the “Asia-Pacific Eye 100: 100 Most Influential Ophthalmologists 2022. The Asia-Pacific Eye 100 aims to honor and celebrate the top 100 most influential and inspiring ophthalmologists from the Asia-Pacific (AP) region who have made significant contributions to ophthalmology in the region and beyond.

There were 176 nominations from 17 countries/territories. The process consisted of two rounds of selection for the Top 100 and Top 10 respectively. All nominations were thoroughly assessed

by an independent selection committee, which was composed of 22 senior ophthalmologists from 15 countries/territories, all of whom have exceptional professional profiles and status. Nominees and awardees must demonstrate significant involvement and contributions to ophthalmology in some of the following areas: 1) Academic achievements and leadership roles; 2) Professional leadership and involvement in international ophthalmology; 3) Research achievements and contributions; 4) H-Index; SCI publications; 5) representative articles; 6) Journal editorial office and congresses organization; 7) Patents and innovations; 8) Training, teaching and education; 9) Humanitarian works; 10) Awards and honors, and/or 10) Achievements and contributions other than the above areas.

Javate is known to be an exemplary leader in the field of Ophthalmology as the Founding President of the Asia-Pacific Society of Ophthalmic Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery, Former President of the International Society of Dacryology and Dry Eye, Former President of the Philippine Society of Ophthalmic Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery and also, Former Chairman of the Department of Ophthalmology and UST Hospital Eye Institute. He is also an outstanding educator, researcher and innovator in his field for



Dr. Javate (third from left) receives his certificate.

which he was given numerous awards and recognitions. His accomplishments include publications of articles and books, and delivery of over 352 lectures, instructional courses, cadaveric and live demonstrations worldwide. He is also a scientific reviewer of various internationally peer-reviewed journals. These significant contributions to Ophthalmology landed him a spot in the top 100. ■

UST, College of Education ink MOA on teacher training with RCBNES

The University of Santo Tomas (UST) entered into an agreement with the Roman Catholic Bishop of Novaliches Educational System (RCBNES) to enhance teacher training, curriculum development, research, and learner formation through the College of Education.

UST Rector Rev. Fr. Richard G. Ang, O.P., Ph.D. and RCBNES Superintendent-Director Rev. Fr. Albert N. Delvo, Ph.D. signed the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) last March 14 at the Lourdes J. Custodio ICD Room, Albertus Magnus Building.

Vice-Rector for Religious Affairs Rev. Fr. Pablo T. Tiong, O.P. and College of Education Dean Assoc. Prof. Pilar I. Romero, Ph.D. were among those who witnessed the event.

Beginning the partnership, the College started with a lecture series for the academic staff and students of the Good Shepherd Cathedral School, one of the six integral member schools of RCBNES, in Fairview, Quezon City.

Assistant Dean Asst. Prof. Louie B. Dasas, LPT, Ph.D. facilitated a session on “Creativity and Innovation: Secret Sauce to STEM Teaching” for the STEM academic officials and staff of the school.

Senior High School (SHS) students also participated in parallel sessions, including “Teaching Young Learners and the Power of



Rev. Fr. Albert N. Delvo, Ph.D., (center) with Vice Rector for Religious Affairs Rev. Fr. Pablo T. Tiong, O.P., (second from left) Education Dean Prof. Pilar Romero, Ph.D. (leftmost), Dr. Carina Dacanay (fourth from left), and College of Education Regent Rev. Fr. Maximo Gatela, O.P.

Transforming Lives” by Elementary Education Chair Assoc. Prof. Carmina S. Vicente, Ph.D. and Elementary Education academic staff Asst. Prof. Eleanor Marie L. Bahrami-Hessari; “Dimensions of Leadership” by Secondary Education Chair Asst. Prof. John Christian C. Valeroso, Ph.D.; and “Careers in Food Technology: Expectations versus Reality” by Food Technology Chair Ms. Essence Jeanne L. Del Castillo, LPT, MS. ■



Officials and representatives of the College of Education and RCBNES



UST fetes 127 researchers, concludes Research Fortnight 2023

The University of Santo Tomas honored its researchers from various academic and research units through the Gold and Silver Series Awards held on March 9, 2023, at the Dr. Robert C. Sy Grand Ballroom of the Buenaventura Garcia Paredes, O.P. Building. This served as the culminating event of the 2023 Research Fortnight.

Researchers who have published works in the selected periods, namely, 2016-2018; 2018-2020; & 2020-2022, were recognized during the awarding ceremonies.

The 127 awardees, in alphabetical order per category, are as follows:

Arts & Humanities

- Prof. Fleurdeliz A. Albela, Ph.D. (AB: Silver 18-20, 20-22)
- Assoc. Prof. Marella Ada M. Bolaños, Ph.D. (AB: Gold 18-20, 20-22)
- Prof. Paolo A. Bolaños, Ph.D. (AB: Gold 18-20, 20-22)
- Prof. Ma. Alexandra I. Chua, Ph.D. (Music: Gold 20-22)
- Prof. Franz Giuseppe F. Cortez, Ph.D. (AB: Silver 18-20 Gold 16-18, 20-22)
- Assoc. Prof. Augusto V. de Viana, Ph.D. (AB: Silver 16-18)
- Inst. Lawdemarc Y. Decamora (AB: Silver 20-22)
- Assoc. Prof. Rhochie Avelino E. Matienzo, Ph.D. (AB: Gold 16-18)



- Prof. Robert A. Montaña, Ph.D. (AB: Silver 20-22)
- Assoc. Prof. Ian Raymond B. Pacquing, Ph.D. (AB: Gold 16-18, 18-20, 20-22)
- Assoc. Prof. Roland Theuas D. Pada, Ph.D. (AB: Gold 16-18, 18-20, 20-22)
- Assoc. Prof. Gwenetha Y. Pusta, Ph.D. (AB: Silver 18-20)
- Asst. Prof. Raniel S. Reyes, Ph.D. (AB: Gold 18-20, 20-22)
- Assoc. Prof. Jorge M. Romero, Ph.D. (GS: Gold 18-20, 20-22)
- Inst. Vinson P. Serrano (Architecture: Silver 20-22)
- Asst. Prof. Cecilia May S. Villanueva (Architecture: Silver 20-22)

Education & Social Sciences

- Assoc. Prof. Mark Anthony D. Abenir, Ph.D. (AB: Silver 16-18)
- Assoc. Prof. Ma. Evalyn B. Abiog, Ph.D. (AB: Silver 20-22)
- Prof. Arlen A. Ancheta, Ph.D. (AB: Silver 20-22)
- Inst. Avi Ben P. Andalecio (CTHM: Silver 20-22)
- Assoc. Prof. Imelda T. Angeles, Ph.D. (Commerce: Silver 20-22)
- Prof. Noel G. Asiones, Ph.D. (IR: Silver 20-22)

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- Prof. Clarence M. Batan, Ph.D. (AB: Silver 16-18, 18-20 Gold 20-22)
- Assoc. Prof. Alejandro S. Bernardo, Ph.D. (AB: Gold 20-22)
- Assoc. Prof. Ronaldo R. Cabautan, Ph.D. (Commerce: Silver 16-18, 20-22)
- Prof. Ma. Minerva P. Calimag, M.D., Ph.D. (Medicine: Gold 16-18, 18-20, 20-22)
- Prof. Mary Caroline N. Castaño, Ph.D. (Commerce: Silver 18-20)
- Assoc. Prof. Ryan Francis O. Cayubit, Ph.D. (Science: Silver 18-20 Gold 16-18, 20-22)
- Prof. Belinda D. de Castro, Ph.D. (Commerce: Gold 20-22)
- Prof. Allan B. de Guzman, Ph.D. (CTHM: Gold 16-18, 18-20, 20-22)
- Prof. Analyn B. Empaynado-Porto, Ph.D. (Pharmacy: Silver 18-20)
- Prof. Ma. Rosario Virginia C. Garcia, Ph.D. (Science: Silver 20-22)
- Prof. Moises Norman Z. Garcia, Ph.D. (Science: Silver 20-22)
- Assoc. Prof. Maria Carinnes A. Gonzales, Ph.D. (AB: Silver 16-18)
- Mr. Philippe Jose S. Hernandez (SHS: Silver 20-22)
- Asst. Prof. Jay P. Jazul (Pharmacy: Silver 16-18)
- Prof. Rachele B. Lintao, Ph.D. (AB: Silver 18-20, Gold 16-18, 20-22)
- Prof. Marilu R. Madrunio, Ph.D. (AB: Silver 16-18, 18-20)
- Assoc. Prof. Ronaldo A. Manalo, Ph.D. (Commerce: Silver 20-22)
- Prof. Ma. Belinda S. Mandigma, Ph.D. (GS: Silver 18-20 Gold 16-18, 20-22)
- Inst. Jame Monren T. Mercado (CTHM: Silver 18-20, 20-22)
- Assoc. Prof. Rosalyn G. Mirasol, Ph.D. (AB: Silver 18-20 Gold 20-22)

- Prof. Florence C. Navidad, Ph.D. (Pharmacy: Silver 16-18)
- Asst. Prof. Jeremiaiah M. Opiniano, Ph.D. (AB: Gold 16-18, 18-20, 20-22)
- Asst. Prof. Karen S. Sagun-Ongtangco (CRS: Silver 18-20)
- Inst. Jackson J. Tan, Ph.D. (Commerce: Silver 16-18 Gold 18-20, 20-22)
- Assoc. Prof. Veronico N. Tarrayo, Ph.D. (AB: Gold 20-22)
- Asst. Prof. Katrina Ninfa M. Topacio (AB: Silver 20-22)
- Prof. Camilla J. Vizconde, Ph.D. (Educ: Silver 16-18)

Health & Allied Sciences

- Prof. Leilani B. Mercado-Asis, M.D., Ph.D. (Medicine: Silver 20-22 Gold 16-18, 18-20)
- Prof. Valentin C. Dones III, Ph.D. (CRS: Silver 16-18, 18-20 Gold 20-22)
- Inst. Catherine Joy T. Escuadra (CRS: Silver 18-20)

- Asst. Prof. Ivan Neil B. Gomez, Ph.D. (CRS: Silver 18-20 Gold 16-18, 20-22)
- Prof. Maria Honolina S. Gomez, M.D. (Medicine: Gold 20-22)
- Assoc. Prof. Donald S. Lipardo, Ph.D. (CRS: Silver 20-22 Gold 18-20)
- Assoc. Prof. Julie T. Li-Yu, M.D. (Medicine: Silver 20-22)
- Asst. Prof. Donald G. Manlapaz, Ph.D. (CRS: Silver 18-20 Gold 20-22)
- Asst. Prof. Flordeluna Z. Mesina, M.D. (Medicine: Silver 18-20)
- Assoc. Prof. Millicent T. Ong, M.D. (Medicine: Silver 18-20)
- Asst. Prof. Jocel M. Regino (CRS: Silver 18-20)
- Prof. Raymond L. Rosales, M.D., Ph.D. (Medicine: Gold 16-18, 18-20, 20-22)
- Prof. Consuelo G. Suarez., M.D., Ph.D. (Medicine: Gold 16-18, 18-20, 20-22)
- Inst. Lyle Patrick D. Tanguangco (CRS: Silver 20-22)

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Science & Technology

- Asst. Prof. Donata D. Acula, Ph.D. (CICS: Silver 20-22)
- Prof. Alicia M. Aguinaldo, Ph.D. (GS: Silver 18-20, 20-22)
- Assoc. Prof. Dharmatov Rahula B. Albano, Ph.D. (Science: Gold 18-20)
- Prof. Pia Marie S. Albano, Ph.D. (Science: Silver 16-18 Gold 18-20, 20-22)
- Prof. Grecebio Jonathan D. Alejandro, Dr.rer.nat. (Science: Gold 16-18, 18-20, 20-22)
- Asst. Prof. Kim Hazel V. Arafiles, Ph.D. (Science: Silver 18-20)
- Assoc. Prof. Elizabeth H. Arenas, Ph.D. (Educ: Silver 18-20)
- Rev. Fr. Nicanor Pier Giorgio Austriaco, OP (Science: Gold 20-22)
- Assoc. Prof. Susana F. Baldia, Ph.D. (Science: Silver 16-18)
- Asst. Prof. Jolleen Natalie I. Balitaan, Ph.D. (Science: Silver 20-22)
- Asst. Prof. Beatriz A. Belmonte, Ph.D. (Engineering: Silver 16-18 Gold 18-20, 20-22)
- Prof. Michael Francis D. Benjamin, Ph.D. (Engineering: Gold 16-18, 18-20, 20-22)
- Prof. Jose H. Bergantin Jr., Ph.D. (Science: Silver 18-20)
- Prof. Christina A. Binag, Ph.D. (Science: Silver 16-18, 20-22)
- Asst. Prof. Jojo F. Blanza, Ph.D. (Engineering: Gold 18-20, 20-22)
- Asst. Prof. Jonathan Carlo A. Briones, Ph.D. (Science: Gold 16-18, 18-20, 20-22)
- Prof. Agnes L. Castillo, Ph.D. (Pharmacy: Gold 16-18, 18-20, 20-22)
- Prof. Mary Jho-Anne T. Corpuz, Ph.D. (Pharmacy: Gold 16-18, 18-20, 20-22)
- Asst. Prof. Nikki Heherson A. Dagamac, Ph.D. (Science: Gold 20-22)

- Engr. Lyn Marie Z. De Juan-Corpuz, Ph.D. (Engineering: Silver 18-20)
- Prof. Ma. Carlota B. Decena, Ph.D. (Science: Silver 20-22, Gold 18-20)
- Prof. Gina R. Dedeles, Ph.D. (Science: Silver 20-22 Gold 16-18, 18-20)
- Prof. Angelo R. dela Cruz, Ph.D. (Engineering: Gold 16-18, 18-20)
- Prof. Thomas Edison E. dela Cruz, Dr.rer.nat. (Science: Gold 16-18, 18-20, 20-22)
- Asst. Prof. Mae Lowe L. Diesmos (Science: Silver 16-18, 18-20, 20-22)
- Prof. Maria Natalia R. Dimaano, Ph.D. (Engineering: Silver 16-18, 18-20)
- Asst. Prof. Leonardo A. Gueverra Jr. (Pharmacy: Silver 18-20, 20-22)
- Prof. Allan Patrick G. Macabeo, Dr.rer.nat. (Science: Gold 16-18, 18-20, 20-22)
- Prof. Mary Beth B. Maningas, Ph.D. (Science: Gold 16-18, 18-20, 20-22)
- Prof. Cecilia B. Moran, Dr.rer.nat. (Science: Gold 16-18, 18-20, 20-22)
- Prof. Maribel G. Nonato, Ph.D. (Science: Gold 16-18, 20-22)
- Assoc. Prof. Donna May D. Papa, Ph.D. (Science: Silver 16-18 Gold 20-22)
- Prof. Rey Donne S. Papa, Ph.D. (Science: Gold 16-18, 18-20, 20-22)
- Assoc. Prof. Richard Thomas B. Pavia Jr., Ph.D. (Science: Gold 20-22)
- Assoc. Prof. Felicidad Christina R. Penafiel, Ph.D. (Science: Silver 20-22)
- Prof. Lola Domnina B. Pestaño, Ph.D. (Engineering: Silver 16-18, 18-20)
- Assoc. Prof. Maria Ruth B. Pineda-Cortel, Ph.D. (Pharmacy: Gold 16-18, 18-20, 20-22)
- Prof. John Donnie A. Ramos, Ph.D. (Science: Silver 16-18, 20-22)
- Prof. Maria Cristina R. Ramos, Ph.D. (Science: Gold 18-20, 20-22)

- Asst. Prof. Edison A. Roxas, Ph.D. (Engineering: Gold 18-20)
- Assoc. Prof. Alan Rodelle M. Salcedo, Ph.D. (Science: Silver 16-18)
- Prof. Karen S. Santiago, Ph.D. (Science: Gold 16-18, 18-20, 20-22)
- Prof. Librado A. Santiago, Ph.D. (Pharmacy: Silver 16-18, Gold 20-22)
- Asst. Prof. Myla R. Santiago-Bautista, Ph.D. (Pharmacy: Silver 16-18, 18-20 Gold 20-22)
- Asst. Prof. Kanny Krizzy D. Serrano (Engineering: Silver 16-18, 18-20)
- Acad. Prof. Emeritus Fortunato B. Sevilla III, Ph.D. (Science: Gold 16-18, 18-20, 20-22)
- Asst. Prof. Angelito A. Silverio, Ph.D. (Engineering: Gold 16-18, 18-20, 20-22)
- Inst. Kristan Bryan C. Simbulan, Ph.D. (Science: Gold 20-22)
- Prof. Mario A. Tan, Ph.D. (Science: Gold 16-18, 18-20, 20-22)
- Asst. Prof. Cristina E. Tiangco, Ph.D. (Engineering: Silver 16-18, 20-22 Gold 18-20)
- Prof. Bernard John V. Tongol, Ph.D. (Science: Silver 16-18, 20-22 Gold 18-20)
- Prof. Ross D. Vasquez, Ph.D. (Pharmacy: Silver 16-18 Gold 18-20, 20-22)
- Assoc. Prof. Oliver B. Villaflores, Ph.D. (Pharmacy: Gold 16-18, 18-20, 20-22)

Sacred Sciences

- Rev. Fr. Jannel N. Abogado, O.P., D.Th. Sc.Pat. (ES: Silver 18-20 Gold 16-18)
- Prof. Jove Jim S. Aguas, Ph.D. (AB: Silver 16-18 Gold 18-20, 20-22)

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Rimando of CRS presents research on telerehabilitation at Cambodian conference



Asst. Prof. Rimando presents the paper [Photo courtesy of Ms. Cy Torremaña of the Philippine Academy of Occupational Therapists, Inc.]

College of Rehabilitation Sciences (CRS) academic staff Asst. Prof. Christian Rey D. Rimando presented a paper titled “Assessing Telerehabilitation Readiness among Older Adults with Hypertension in Communities in Rizal and Laguna: a Cross-sectional Analytic Study.” The presentation was held at the 5th Asia-Pacific Community-Based Inclusive Development (AP-CBID) Congress in Phnom Penh, Cambodia from March 15 to 17, 2023 at the Sokha Phnom Penh Hotel & Residence.

The paper was co-authored by fellow academic staff Mrs. Archelle Jane Callejo-Tiuseco, Mr. Ken Ervbin Sosa, and students Yalena Mikaela B. Bergonio, Michelle Audrey A. Cordero Sy, Carlos Angelo D. Crespo, Hannah R. Lim, Lorenzo Joel S. Mallari, Crissy Jane F.

Santos, Fernando Levy A. Sto. Domingo, and Shermarie Klein M. Zabarte. Their study reported that the majority (62%) of older adults diagnosed with hypertension are ready and are accepting the idea of utilizing telerehabilitation. The findings of the study also identified barriers (lack of technological literacy and internet connectivity) and facilitators (availability of resources and support) in implementing telerehabilitation.

The Prime Minister of the Royal Government of Cambodia and the Honorable President of the Disability Action Council H.E. Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen graced the opening ceremony by inviting everyone during his opening speech to adopt the

TELEREHABILITATION TO PAGE 10

RESEARCH FORTNIGHT 2023
FROM PAGE 8

- Prof. Joyce L. Arriola, Ph.D. (AB: Gold 16-18, 18-20, 20-22)
- Assoc. Prof. Allan A. Basas, S.Th.D. (IR: Silver 18-20, 20-22)
- Assoc. Prof. Pablito A. Baybado Jr., Ph.D. (IR: Silver 18-20)
- Rev. Fr. Delfo C. Canceran, O.P. (ES: Silver 16-18, 18-20)
- Prof. Jovito V. Cariño, Ph.D. (AB: Silver 20-22 Gold 16-18, 18-20)
- Prof. Arvin D. Eballo, Ph.D. (IR: Silver 20-22 Gold 18-20)
- Assoc. Prof. Kristine C. Meneses, Ph.D. (IR: Gold 18-20)
- Inst. Leo-Martin Angelo R. Ocampo (IR: Silver 18-20)
- Prof. Joel C. Sagut, Ph.D. (IR: Silver 20-22)

The Gold and Silver Series are granted in recognition of the research productivity and leadership of academic staff in their respective fields of specialization within the period covered by the award. These awards are based on the faculty members’ research publications (Author by-line should indicate the University of Santo Tomas as the affiliation), ongoing research involvement, and tenure in the University.

CICS academic staff and RCNAS researcher Asst. Prof. Donna D. Acula, Ph.D., delivered the response on behalf of the awardees, while the Executive Assistant for Intellectual Property and Research Assoc. Prof. Michael Jorge Peralta served as the Master of Ceremonies.

The Research Fortnight opened on February 28, 2023 with an opening



ceremony graced by the Department of Science and Technology Secretary Hon. Renato Solidum, Jr., Ph.D. This included the launch of the Thomasian Research Repository, led by the UST Miguel de Benavides Library Chief Librarian Ms. Ma. Cecilia D. Lobo, and the opening of research exhibits at the Main Building lobby.

Activities of the research centers for the Research Fortnight include: “Mabathalang Pag-aaral: Doing Filipino Theology and Religious Education in honor of Dr. Jose ‘Ka Joe’ De Mesa” by the Center for Theology, Religious Studies, and Ethics; the “International Conference in Chemistry”, “Research and Innovation in Health Sciences: An Introduction to Measurement Theory”.

The TOMASInno Center held the “TOMASInno Forum 2023” and the Innovation and Technology Support Office held the workshop on the “Fundamentals of the Intellectual Property System”.

Sciences and Education contributed the following activities: “RCSSD Policy Expo”, “Bartolome de las Casas, O.P. Research Conference”, and the Rehabilitation Sciences Convention”, while the Research Center for Culture, Arts, and Humanities held talks focused on the theme “Framing the Future of Arts and Humanities Research: A Talk on Creative Industry and Creative AI”.

The Center for Health Research and Movement Science and the Research Center for the Health Sciences offered webinars on “Evidence-Based Practice: Bridging the Gap between Research and Clinical Care” and “Psychometric Studies in Health Sciences: An Introduction to Measurement Theory”.

The TOMASInno Center held the “TOMASInno Forum 2023” and the Innovation and Technology Support Office held the workshop on the “Fundamentals of the Intellectual Property System”.

CTHM Culinary Entrepreneurship students won Best Paper during the KAIN Conference 2023



Representatives from the College of Tourism and Hospitality Management under the Hospitality Management – Culinary Entrepreneurship Program won 1st and 2nd Place for Best Paper – Student Category during the KAIN Conference 2023 held last April 04, 2023 (Tuesday) at Jose Rizal University, Mandaluyong City.

Karen Grace V. Aster, Jaime Ramir B. Castillo, Shekaina R. Cheng, John Paulo L. Trillana, and Ysabella Marie B. Varlez won 1st place for the research titled, “Sawsawan: Explicating the Culinary Heritage Significance of Philippine Condiments using Bibliometrics (1972

– 2018).” The paper discusses the potential of the diversity of Filipino *sawsawan* to be a popular international concept.

Dylan M. Cariño, Victor Ian P. Cera, Ma. Sophia J. Medina, Louise Orlane R. Reyes, Arrian Karl A. Zaldivar, and Thomas Dominic M. Zambrano won 2nd Place for the research titled, “*Amputi Balitok* (White Gold): Explicating the Culinary Significance and Safeguarding Dimensions of Puto Calasiao in Pangasinan, Philippines.” The research was in partnership with the Municipal Government of Calasiao, Pangasinan. It was co-authored by Ms. Tammy Marie C. Fernandez (Municipal Tourism

Mr. Mercado (leftmost) with the winning student researchers

Officer) and Mr. Gerald L. Qunit (Municipal Agriculturist). The researchers highlighted the cultural and history attached to *puto calasiao* and the efforts of the *Calasiaoños* to preserve such tradition.

KAIN Conference, in its third year, aims to play a major role in achieving sustainable development goals by promoting agricultural development, food security, nutrition, sustainable food production, and the conservation of biodiversity—a thrust they share with the education campaign of the Filipino Food Month National Celebration. The event was organized by the Slow Food Youth Movement Network Philippines, Philippine Culinary Heritage Movement, the National Commission for Culture and the Arts, and Jose Rizal University.

Both research teams were mentored by Mr. Jame Monren T. Mercado from the Department of Tourism Management who also co-authored the winning research papers. ■

UST participates in the 18th Thomas More International Days

The Speech-Language Pathology Department of the College of Rehabilitation Sciences of the University of Santo Tomas was invited to the 18th International Days celebration hosted by Thomas More University. The event, with the theme “Multidisciplinary in Teaching”, was held from March 13-15, 2023 at Antwerp, Belgium. Representing CRS were Department of Speech-Language Pathology (SLP) Chair Asst. Prof. Judith A. Damian and academic staff Mr. Russel T. Romero, who both served as speakers for the faculty and student sessions at the St. Andries Campus of Thomas More.

Damian presented a talk on the context of SLP health care in the Philippines. The presentation showed the importance and relevance of including Health Care in SLP course for undergraduate Speech-Language Pathology students of the University of Santo Tomas (UST). This presentation was given to 35 faculty members of the Thomas More Speech Language Pathology and Audiology.

Romero, in another session, presented to the faculty the aural habilitation and rehabilitation landscape in the Philippines. He discussed the methods in detecting hearing loss in the country followed by different intervention procedures such as providing amplification and therapy. Aside from this, he also delved into the different communication options and its limitations for the hearing-impaired population in the country. Some of the communication options mentioned included auditory-verbal therapy, total communication, and manual communication.

The second day of the conference was a workshop carousel consisting of three rounds of 90-minute sessions provided for 200 students at the St. Andries campus. In these sessions, Damian presented her workshop on the Clinical Evaluation and Management of Adults with Dysphagia while Romero provided a workshop on Clinical Evaluation and Management of Children with Hearing Loss. The culminating activity was the plenary session wherein Ms. Damian and Mr. Romero summarized the discussions from the workshops they facilitated.

International Days is a yearly event organized by Thomas More University—the largest university of applied sciences in the northern part of Belgium. The event encourages networking among their students and faculty to their counterparts from partner institutions. The University, through the College of Rehabilitation Sciences, has a strong partnership with Thomas More University since 2018. ■



Asst. Prof. Damian



Mr. Romero

College of Education attends Southeast Asia Summit



The UST College of Education participated in the Southeast Asia (SEA)-Teacher Student Exchange Summit held last March 21-22 in Bangkok, Thailand.

The two-day summit was organized by the SEA Teacher Project or the “Pre-Service Student Teacher Exchange in Southeast Asia” under the Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization (SEAMEO).

SOUTHEAST ASIA SUMMIT TO PAGE 12

(From left:) Secondary Education Department Chair Asst. Prof. John Christian C. Valeroso, Ph.D., DLSU-Dasmariñas Vice President for Linkages and External Affairs Dr. Sonia Gementiza, Elementary Education Chair Asst. Prof. Carmina Vicente, Ph.D., and Assistant Dean Senior Teacher Louie B. Dasas, Ph.D. [Photo courtesy of Dr. Valeroso]

TELEREHABILITATION FROM PAGE 9

Jakarta Declaration on the Asian and Pacific Decade of Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) (2023-2032) for the empowerment of PWDs across the Asia-Pacific region and the world.

The chairperson of the 5th AP-CBID and the Minister of Social Affairs, Veterans and Youth Rehabilitation H.E. Vong Sauth gave the welcome remarks highlighting the importance of having a strong and effective cooperation between stakeholders in promoting inclusive communities for PWDs.

The 5th AP-CBID had the theme “Strengthening Social and Economic Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities during and after the COVID-19 Pandemic through Community-Based Inclusive Development (CBID)”. The AP-CBID congress is held every four years and is attended by government officials, non-government organizations, educators, social workers, researchers, and by the persons with disability (PWDs) themselves. The four congresses were previously held in Thailand (2009), the Philippines (2012), Japan (2015), and Mongolia (2019). ■

Ong speaks on Global Engineering Education at IEOM Society International Conference

University of Santo Tomas Office of the QS/THE Rankings Deputy Director Engr. Nestor R. Ong discussed the readiness of engineering graduates for the global workforce as a panel speaker on March 7, 2023 during the 13th IEOM Society International Conference held at the Manila Hilton Ballroom, Manila from March 6 to 9, 2023.

Ong delivered a 20-minute presentation titled, "Challenges of Engineering Graduates Facing the Current and Impending Global Economy" with the main theme: "To Reduce the Readiness Gap – Engineering Focus." In his discussion, he included some pointers that put together his decades-long experiences from the academe and the manufacturing industry.

The 13th IEOM Society International Conference was a unique conference that provided a forum for academics, researchers, and practitioners from various industries and institutions to exchange ideas and share recent developments in the field of industrial engineering and operations management. One of the highlights of the conference was the presentation by 38 speakers from eight panels on topics such as Global Engineering Education (GEE), Industry 4.0, Diversity and Inclusion Panel sponsored by Ford Motor Company, Women in Industry and Academia, Industry Solutions, Lean Six Sigma, Human Factors, and Global Supply Chain Management (GSCM).

In the same conference, Ong's Undergraduate Research advisory group was named as the first winner of the Undergraduate Research Competition (Onsite) during the Competition Winner



Engr. Ong (third from left) with colleagues

Ceremony conducted via Zoom. The research was titled ID 670 "Use of Taguchi Method-Based Design of Experiments (DOE) in the Optimization of the Drilling Parameters of Structural A572 Steel." The IEOM received 700 papers/abstracts from 53 countries, and after a thorough peer review process, approximately 450 were accepted. The program included many cutting-edge topics in industrial engineering and operations management. It is noteworthy that UST IE emerges in the most number of winning research presentations per track.

The conference tackled Global

Engineering Education (GEE) issues acknowledging the fact that there are different levels of preparedness among engineering graduates from the different parts of the world. One of the main themes discussed was how to reduce the readiness gap of engineering graduates worldwide. Special focus was given to graduates of Industrial Engineering and Manufacturing Engineering including Engineering Management.

In his presentation Ong explained that, "The challenge (faced by HEIs) is the need to focus on delivering more graduates in areas of industry and community priority, and work more closely with industry to ensure graduates have the job-ready skills and experience they will need in a challenging labor market." Ong emphasized that "The gap between the HEIs and the job market lies in the skills and technological know-how where HEIs need to learn, be updated on, and be trained for (for its graduates) to be job ready." This, he emphasized, is more prevalent in the engineering and technology labor market, where the gap grows with advancement of technology. Most universities, he said, are conventional, thus, the new advancement is not adapted and assimilated in parallel with the technology dynamics.

GLOBAL ENGINEERING EDUCATION
TO PAGE 13

Faculty of Arts and Letters hold Saint Thomas More Lecture On-site, Gears up for 60th Founding Anniversary



Rev. Fr. Nicanor Pier Giorgio Austriaco, O.P., Ph.D., S.Th.D

After a few years of holding the event online, the Faculty of Arts and Letters' St. Thomas More Lecture Series returned on-site for its 55th edition last March 22, 2023, at the UST Medicine Auditorium, with Rev. Fr. Nicanor Pier Giorgio Austriaco, O.P. as the honored guest. The current and previous administrations of the college, its academic staff, and students were present during the event.

During his talk titled "Living A Life of Moral Integrity In A Culture of Corruption," the molecular biologist, who is a moral theologian as well, attempted to lay down the possible roots and examples of this exploitation in Filipino society. He even proposed a potential definition of corruption since, according to Austriaco, only the acts deemed corrupted make up the definition. He added that as individuals, Filipinos tend to articulate the common good for why people do things a certain way. He then gave examples of delineating this with individual good in the different professions.

Central to this discussion is the Filipinos' view on the family and how this supposed basic unit of society, when not appropriately ordered within a person's priority, could lead to a disposition for corruption, which is the case in most local government units that are ruled only by a particular family. Even if corruption is more apparent in government transactions, Austriaco underscored that tracing its origins was meant to examine the individual's capacity to prevent this from happening in their immediate surrounding, no matter the duty. He added that this initial study is not yet meant for policy or law-making.

According to the Dominican priest, he had encountered corruption and mitigation of various offices when he returned to the country recently to establish a world-class laboratory for a yeast-based COVID-19 medication.

In trying to extract why the Filipinos still lean towards corruptible acts, in addition to what Austriaco cited from University of Maryland professor Robert Nelson's paper that the Spanish and Catholic colonial past of the country is a factor for having this "culture," he mentioned that there are deep psychological

SAINT THOMAS MORE LECTURE TO PAGE 14

SOUTHEAST ASIA SUMMIT FROM PAGE 11

It was attended by more than 120 representatives from 63 universities across Southeast Asia.

Delegates from the College included Assistant Dean Asst. Prof. Louie B. Dasas, LPT, Ph.D.; Elementary Education Chair Assoc. Prof. Carmina S. Vicente, LPT, Ph.D.; and Secondary Education Chair Asst. Prof. John Christian C. Valeroso, LPT, Ph.D.

The event was geared towards the (1) sharing and learning the initiatives and innovative approaches of the pre-service student-teacher exchange, implemented by institutions during the

COVID-19 pandemic; (2) discussing and planning for the 9th batch of pre-service student exchange; (3) seeking commitments from participating institutions in the implementation of the 9th batch of the SEA-Teacher Project in the middle of 2023; and (4) establishing and strengthening partnerships among participating institutions.

The College has been actively participating in the student mobility programme of the SEA Teacher Project or the "Pre-Service Student Teacher Exchange in Southeast Asia" since 2018.

GLOBAL ENGINEERING EDUCATION FROM PAGE 12

For graduates to be job ready, Ong highlighted the need for undergraduate internship, preferably when the students are on their third year level. "The 'job ready graduate' elements, according to Ong must be incorporated into the various phases of the students' academic experience to create the needed readiness impact." He also detailed the responsibilities of the university, government, and industry.

Ong discussed and explained the key objectives that deal with this reform package built on five key principles such as Agility, Focus, Innovativeness, Informed, and Efficiency for job ready graduates. He added the three main dimensions on which HEIs and labor market rests: 1) knowledge and skills that HEI transfers to graduates that the latter feed back into the labor

market, 2) legitimization of credentials that serve as signifiers to employers and enable them to 'screen' prospective future employees, and 3) enrichment of personal and cultural attributes, known as 'personality.' However, these three inter-linkages have become increasingly problematic.

Ong likewise expounded why it is difficult for HEIs to integrate and fill the gaps citing the following as expressed by educators: lack of time, lack of resources, and lack of expertise.

Most hiring managers, according to Ong, believe that Artificial Intelligence (AI) will impact the types of skills their companies need. Discussing Education Industry 4.0, he explained why educational institutions need curriculum 4.0, and how educational institutions can prepare

students for Education 4.0 and build students' digital skills. He emphasized the need to align industry requirements with education.

In the final part of his presentation, Ong highlighted the achievements of the UST Faculty of Engineering in terms of local and international accreditations and how it relates to the rankings and ratings of the University.

UST IE Department Laboratory supervisor and full-time academic staff Engr. Yoshiki Kurata, Ph.D., CIE, was also a panel speaker on Human Factors. Ong, a sought-after speaker, recently served as a panel discussant and conference plenary speaker at the Philippine Normal University Quality Assurance Forum and at the UST Simbahayan Bartolome de las Casas Research Conference 2023. ■

UST hosts hybrid PACU Summit on educational leadership, management



Participants and organizers at the UST Paredes Ballroom

The Philippine Association of Colleges and Universities (PACU), through the Committee Institutional Quality Improvement (CIQI), held the 4th Leadership and Management Perspectives in Higher Education (LAMP) Summit with the theme “One Size Fits All?? Education Trajectories, Transitions and Transformations”. It was held on March 29 to 30, 2023, through a hybrid set-up, simultaneously across three locations and platforms.

UST’s Paredes Ballroom served as the main venue. Satellite venues were at the St. Paul University Philippines, Tuguegarao City; Cebu Institute of Technology – University, and the Zoom video conferencing platform. PACU-member and non-PACU member private higher education institutions in the Philippines and their respective partner colleges and universities overseas participated in the event.

PACU’s LAMP Summit was a participatory and interactive event featuring thought leaders and school leaders to share about their stories and discuss best practices on quality management. It is a space for higher education leaders, academicians, and learning practitioners to come together to surface challenges, connections, and strategic collaborations among private higher education leaders in the country.

For Panel 1, Mapua University President Dr. Reynaldo B. Veal discussed “Future PH Degrees: Where is the Philippine Qualifications Framework

heading?” and the Commission on Higher Education Executive Director Atty. Cinderella Filipina Benitez-Jaro lectured on the “Philippine Credit Transfer System in Tertiary Education”

For Panel 2, UNESCO Division for Policies and Lifelong Learning Systems Director Dr. Borhene Chakroun presented “Transforming learning pathways and learning spaces for lifelong learning” and Global Education Services Principal Strategic Consultant Dr. Caroline Steele tackled “The Potential and the Complexities of Microcredentials.”

For Panel 3, Philippine Women’s College Davao Chancellor Prof. Vicente Antonio V. Pijano III showcased the “Skills Framework Based Programs for Business and I.T. Degree Programs in PWC Davao” while the UST College of Information and Computing Sciences Dean Asst. Prof. Jerralyn Padua discussed “Industry-Based Integration in the I.T. Degree Program in UST”, and the Our Lady of Fatima University Director for Research, Development, and Innovation Center Dr. Michael Joseph S. Diño presented “Flexible and Fast: Demystifying HyFlex Learning in Higher Education.”

The summit highlighted the updates and implementation of Philippine Qualifications Framework, the Philippine Skills Framework, the Framework for Career Path Development as well as the best practices in Skills and Industry Framework. ■

SAINT THOMAS MORE LECTURE FROM PAGE 13

inclinations in each individual. Naming *pakikisama* (sense of belongingness), *hiya* (shame), and *utang na loob* (debt of gratitude) as some of the Filipino characteristics that bring intense emotions that could lead to prioritizing the wrong kind of good in a given situation.

Fr. Austriaco believed that this would be challenging for the Filipino to forget or put aside the family or any close-knit group because of the strong familial sense. He related this with St. Thomas More’s famous last words, “I die the king’s good servant, but God’s first,” that the Filipino will be martyred for this.

As a priest, Austriaco emphasized that giving in to these inclinations, is an act of forgetting God and the common good and leads to hurting the poorest of the poor.

The audience, which includes students from the Political Science and Behavioral Science programs, among others, raised their questions and reactions on the effects and uses of this study for good governance in the future.

The St. Thomas More Lecture Series was first envisioned by Ophelia Alcantara Dimalanta and Piedad Guinto Rosales, literature stalwarts of the Faculty of Arts and Letters in 1968. Since then, trailblazers in different fields like university presidents, business and industry leaders, clergy members, national artists, supreme court justices, senators, a vice president, and two Philippine presidents have graced the event to speak about the most critical issues of the time.

This year’s edition of the lecture series is not just a return to form for the college but a way of gearing up to celebrate its 60th founding anniversary. ■

UST, RV Asia, Veritas846 bring ‘The Pilgrim’ onscreen for Thomasians

The University of Santo Tomas (UST) in partnership with Radio Veritas846 and Radio Veritas Asia held a film screening of “The Pilgrim: 500 Years of Catholic Faith in the Philippines” on March 29, 2023, at the Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati O.P. Auditorium.

The Office of the Vice Rector for Religious Affairs and Office of Public Affairs collaborated in organizing this endeavor, which showcased the rich history of Catholicism in the country to celebrate the 500th anniversary of the arrival of Christianity in the Philippines to students and guests.

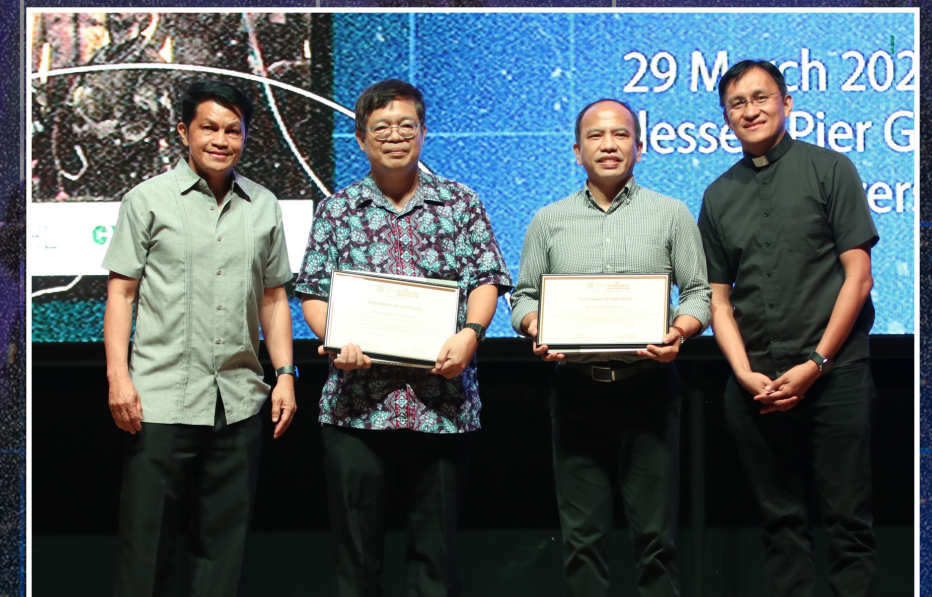
The Pilgrim is a historical documentary film produced by Radio Veritas Asia and Radio Veritas 846 in collaboration with the Tourism Promotions Board of the Philippines and Creative Travel and Tours International. It features how the Christian faith began, spread, and flourished in the country over the centuries.

Filipino historians and UST academic staff Assoc. Prof. Augusto de Viana, Ph.D., and Asst. Prof. Salvador Evardone, Ph.D., served as resource persons and appeared in the film. Prior to the film screening, they were recognized with Certificates of Appreciation.

Among those who graced the event were the General Manager of Radio Veritas Asia Rev. Fr. Victor Sadaya, Ph.D., Radio Veritas Vice President for Operations Rev. Fr. Roy Bellen, MBA, and Radio Veritas Chief Strategy Officer Bro. Clifford Sorita. ■



(From left:) General Manager of Radio Veritas Asia Rev. Fr. Victor Sadaya, Ph.D., UST Vice Rector for Religious Affairs Rev. Fr. Pablo Tiong, O.P., UST Secretary-General Rev. Fr. Louie Coronel, O.P., EHL, and Radio Veritas Vice President for Operations Rev. Fr. Roy Bellen



(From left:) Fr. Sadaya, Dr. De Viana, Dr. Evardone, and Fr. Bellen

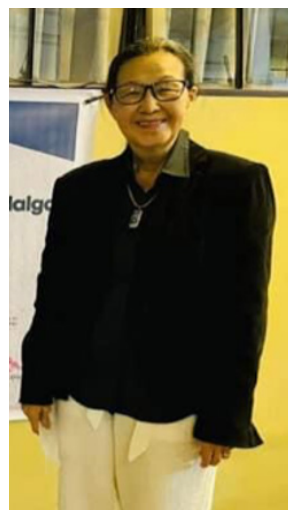


CCWLS admins, fellows deliver lectures on writing, poetry

CCWLS Director Professor Emeritus Cristina Pantoja Hidalgo, Ph.D., delivered the keynote address titled “Reading, Teaching, and Writing the Memoir” at the Memoir: The Courage to Begin With, an all-day writing event for women held on February 4, 2023, at the Sunshine Place Senior Recreation Center. The event was for young professionals and older and was open to all levels of writing proficiency. The participants ranged in age from 50s to mid-20s. They were a combination of published and would-be literary writers, journalists, teachers, psychologists, housewives, and graduate students.

Hidalgo also delivered a lecture on “My Writing Life” recently at the Philippine Book Fair in Baguio City. This is the second PBF to be held this year by the Book Development Association of the Philippines (BDAP). It was held in collaboration with the University of Baguio.

In November 2022, CCWLS Co-Director Prof. Augusto Antonio Aguila, Ph.D., UST Publishing House Director Asst. Prof. Ailil Alvarez, Asst. Prof. Paul Castillo, and Asst. Prof. Joselito Zulueta were members of the Literature/Creative Writing Panel on “Criss-crossings of



Dr. Hidalgo



Dr. Aguila (third from left) receives his certificate.

Catholic Thought and Contemporary Literature” in the recently held COMIUCAP World Congress organized by the UST Ecclesiastical Faculties.

Aguila read a paper titled “Carnival of Hate: Dante’s *Inferno* and the Contemporary Fictional Rendering of the Seven Deadly Sins” and Alvarez’ paper was on “The Sanctity of Silence; The Lyrical Articulation of Spirituality in Dinah Roma’s *Naming the*

Ruins.

Castillo’s paper was titled “Crucified Convictions: Deviation, Deception, and Darkness in Writing Poetry”, and Zulueta read a paper titled “Mudswamp of the Faith and the Hiddenness of God in Shusako Endo’s novel *Silence*.”

Aguila also delivered a lecture on “Real World Writing in the 21st Century” at UST Angelicum College during Book Month. ■

SIMBAHAYAN holds a workshop-training in City College of San Fernando, Pampanga

UST Simbahayan Community Development Office (SIMBAHAYAN) Director Asst. Prof. Froilan A. Alipao, MCD together with Program Development Officer Ms. Veronica Michelle L. Moreno and BA Sociology student Ms. Ioni A. Kho conducted a two-day workshop-training on community engagement and organizing in the City College of San Fernando Pampanga (CCSFP). The hybrid training was held from March 27-28, 2023 via Zoom.

Inspired by the handbook, *Journeying with Communities: A Community Engagement and Organizing Handbook for University Extension Workers* a handbook published by the UST Graduate School Center for Continuing Professional Education and Development, SIMBAHAYAN, and the Commission on Higher Education; the CCSFP President, Atty. Gloria J. Victoria-Bañas, CPA, DPA, CESO V extended her invitation to the team. Through this initiative, the Local University and College (LUC) hoped to be enlightened with the processes they need to undertake in achieving meaningful linkages with the various sectors of their local government unit through their Research and Extension Services.

On the first day, Atty. Victoria-Bañas warmly welcomed everyone and highlighted the importance of listening to the voices of the people. This was immediately followed by the discussion of Community Engagement and Higher Educational Institutions (HEIs) facilitated by Asst. Prof. Alipao. He emphasized the difference between extension services with community engagement in which the former present communities as helpless and in need of external assistance which puts the more knowledgeable in power while the latter believes that people’s empowerment, participation, and collective action are crucial when it comes to positive social change. Another point discussed was the Quadrants of Community Engagement by HEIs. These were Quadrant I: Research Partnerships, Quadrant II: Civic Engagement, Quadrant III: Continuing Education and Consultancy, and Quadrant IV: Civic Scholarships. The day ended with a workshop on Qualitative Self-Assessment Rubric for Institutionalizing Community Engagement in Higher Education developed by Andrew Furco. Participants were given time to assess their institution in terms of philosophy and mission of community-engagement, faculty

support and involvement in community engagement, student support and involvement in community engagement, community participation and partnership, and institutional support for community engagement.

On the second day, Moreno explained Community Organizing specifically its definitions, interrelationship with community development, the seven principles, and eight basic steps of community organizing. Alipao also challenged the participants to formulate a community organizational plan based on three scenarios: (1) a partnership with a basic educational institution, (2) a partnership with a faith-based organization, and (3) a new partnership.

The two-day event concluded with a message of appreciation and insights from CCSFP’s Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Melanie V. Briones and the Research and Extension Director Dr. Melanie Junio. Alipao also shared his hopes that through this workshop-training, the CCSFP will continue to strengthen the institutionalization of their community engagement.

The workshop-training was actively participated by 32 participants composed of administrators and faculty members. ■

PHOTO NEWS

USTinig’s Discussion’s Matters is a regular podcast that features interviews and conversations with writers and scholars who talk about a wide range of topics. It is hosted by CCWLS Resident Fellows Mr. Jose Mojica and Asst. Prof. Dawn Marfil-Burris.

You may listen to the USTinig podcast via Spotify, Anchor, Google, and Apple podcasts:

1. <https://spoti.fi/37QKuAh>
2. <https://apple.co/33L5Dd7>
3. <https://bit.ly/2JNeRye>
4. <https://anchor.fm/ust-cwls>

The latest episode for April 2023:

Podcast Episode
Episode 32: Discussions Matter Featuring Angelo "Sarge" Lacuesta
USTinig: The Official Podcast of the UST Center for Creative Writing and Literary Studies

Apr 25 - 33 min 44 sec

Episode Description

Ngayong National Literature Month, makakasama natin si Angelo "Sarge" Lacuesta. Siyempre, kasama sa kuwentuhanan ito sina Resident Fellows Jose Mojica na magtatatagong tungkol sa naging proseso ng pagsulat ng nobela, graphic literature, at ng screenplay. At hindi mawawala ang hard questions ni Dawn Marfil-Burris sa ating mga segments na USTinig Questionnaire at Save, Edit, Delete.

Si Sarge Lacuesta ay isang award-winning fictionist at essayist. Nakapaglathala na siya ng limang koleksiyon ng maikling kuwento sa Ingles, dalawang aklat ng nonfiction at koleksiyon ng graphic stories. Ang unang nobela niyang "Joy" ay inilathala ng Penguin Random House SEA. Siya rin ang Editor at Sarge ng Espira Philippines, publisher ng Good Intentions Books, at ang pangulo ng Philippine Centre of International PEN.

Other 2023 episodes:

Episode 31: Discussions Matter featuring Stefan Alvarez
Narito na ang Women's Month episode ng USTinig, kasama si Stefan Alvarez. Pakikipag-ang kwentuhanan nito Resident Fellow Jose Mojica tungkol sa kanyang early beginning hanggang sa kanyang fellowship sa Germany. Sa ating fun segments, makikilala pa...

Mar 27 - 38 min 34 sec

Episode 30: Discussions Matter featuring Louie Jon Sanchez
Magsapagkain na ang latest episode ng USTinig Podcast bago mutapag ang bawat ng Pag-ibig, mag-usap tayo tungkol sa mga kwento ng pagmamahal at pakikipagpagpapalaran. Pag-usap rin ang parolaryo na prepared na mga telesemye sa kabila ng...

Feb 27 - 1 hr 10 min

Episode 29: Discussions Matter featuring Zig Dulay
Iti na ang kasim-uhang offering ng USTinig para sa taong 2023 kasama si Zig Dulay, ang direktor sa likod ng hit telesemye ngayon na Maria Clara at Rama. Sa episode na ito ng Discussions Matters, mairerang natin ang pakikipagkuwentuhanan nito kasama si...

Jan 30 - 57 min 30 sec

UNIVERSITY VISITORS



Starkey Chief Philanthropy Officer Ms. Tani Austin and associates

Starkey Chief Philanthropy Officer Ms. Tani Austin (center) and associates from Starkey Hearing Technologies with UST Secretary-General Rev. Fr. Louie R. Coronel, O.P., EHL (seventh from left), Faculty of Medicine and Surgery Dean Dr. Maria Lourdes Domingo-Maglinao (fifth from left), Office of Public Affairs Director Asst. Prof. Joreen T. Rocamora, Ph.D. (leftmost), and Executive Assistant to the Secretary-General Mr. Emmanuel Batulan, Ph.D. (rightmost) on April 12, 2023.



University of South Australia

(Front row, from left:) Prof. Agnes L. Castillo, Dr. Matthew James Sykes, Dr. Jacinta Johnson, Asst. Prof. Joreen T. Rocamora, Ph.D., with ten students from the University of South Australia who visited UST for their mobility program hosted by the Faculty of Pharmacy on April 17, 2023.



Accenture Philippines

Four officials from Accenture Philippines, Mr. Angelo Lantin (seventh from left), Mr. Gian Lao (third from left), Ms. Kayla Go (sixth from left), and Ms. Veronica Hernandez (second from left) visited the University of Santo Tomas on April 19, 2023. They were welcomed by the Assistant to the Director for Public Affairs Ms. Michaela Lagniton (eighth from left) and accompanied on a campus tour by officials and staff from the TomasInno Center, led by Engr. Raymond Marquez (fifth from left).

UCSI University Associate Professor Dr. Hiram Ting



UCSI University Associate Professor Dr. Hiram Ting (ninth from left) from the Faculty of Hospitality and Tourism Management visited the University of Santo Tomas on April 19, 2023, for a seminar on Tourism Marketing and Consumer Behavior with the UST College of Tourism and Hospitality Management. The Office of Public Affairs assisted administrators from CTHM, namely, Research, Innovation, and Extension Services Committee (RIES) Coordinator Mr. Jame Monren T. Mercado (fourth from right) and Department of Hospitality Management Chair Mr. Juanito Luis Reyes (eight from left), in welcoming the guest. Representing OPA were the Director Asst. Prof. Joreen T. Rocamora, Ph.D. (fourth from left), and student ambassador Ms. Amery Rojo.

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Pharmacist Licensure Examination

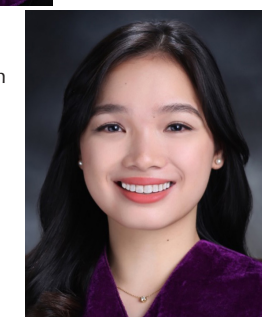
April 2023
 UST Passing Rate: 82.35%
 National Passing Rate: 62.42%



3rd - 93.20%
 Laisa Marian
 Llado De Guzman



5th - 93.05%
 Prinz Noel Angelo
 Magbitang Arcangel



9th - 92.78%
 Meann Claire
 Canilao Mendoza



Electronics Engineer Licensure Examination

April 2023
 UST Passing Rate: 36.21%
 National Passing Rate: 33.49%



4th - 87.20%
 Brian Arriola
 Aguilar



THE ACADEMIA

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