

BIONOTES OF THE RECIPIENTS OF THE HONORARY DEGREE AND TITLES

Academician Maribel G. Nonato, Ph.D., Mr. Wiliam T. Belo, Prof. Lilian J. Sison, Ph.D.



**Academician
Maribel T. Nonato, Ph.D.**
Assistant to the Rector
for UST General Santos

Leadership in Chemistry

- *President*, Philippine Federation of Chemistry Societies (2008-2012);
- *President*, Organic Chemistry Teachers' Association (2000-2016);
- *President*, Natural Products Society of the Philippines (2014-2020);
- *Member*, Board of Trustees of the Philippine Institute for Traditional and Alternative Health Care, DOH (2003-2005);
- *Member*, Technical Advisory Group, DOST PCHRD
- *Member*, Committee on Human Resources, DOST PCASTRD
- *Member*, Inter-Agency National Advisory Committee of SEI-Intel Philippine Science Fair 6. Organizer, IUPAC Global Women's Breakfast
- *Chair*, Scientific Review Committee, National Science and Technology Fair
- *Project Leader*, UST - DOST ASTHRDP
- *Chairperson*, Chemical Science Division, National Research Council of the Philippines

ACADEMICIAN MARIBEL G. NONATO, Ph.D.

As an instructional leader, Dr. Nonato taught *Organic Chemistry* at the UST College of Science and *Chemistry of Natural Products* at UST Graduate School until her retirement

Together with her mentors, Professor Emeritus Beatrice Q. Guevara and Prof. Alicia M. Aguinaldo, she helped propel UST as one of the leading Philippine Higher Education Institutions in the field of Natural Products Chemistry.

As a researcher, she has an H-index of 17 (with 58 papers cited in Google Scholar. The paper she published in 2011 in the *Journal of Natural Medicines*, focusing on the bioactive metabolites of *Diaporthe sp. P133*, stood out as the most referenced article, accumulating 69 citations.

As an administrator, she

- a) organized the transfer from the old UST Research Center in the UST Hospital to the Thomas Aquinas Research Complex;
- b) supported the expansion of research areas of the Research Center for the Natural Sciences;
- c) led the UST College of Science, as its dean, in attaining its PACUCOA Level IV Accreditation, the first in the University;
- d) came up with policies and programs which helped maintain the position of the College of Science as a research-intensive academic unit;
- e) formulated the Thomasian Research Excellence and Engagements (TREE) program with priority areas in Capability, Integrity, Grants, Dissemination and Linkages, Mentoring, Linkages, Management, Excellence Framework, Incentives;
- f) facilitated the establishment of the Research Center for Culture, Arts and Humanities;
- g) expanded the research clusters of UST to include Sacred Sciences, Science and Technology, Health Sciences, Education and Social Sciences, Arts and Humanities;
- h) introduced the categorization of researchers into three (3) tiers (To recognize, establish, and lead researchers); and
- i) assisted the Rector in leading, planning, managing, implementing, monitoring and evaluating policies, processes and procedures for the operation of UST General Santos Integrated Innovation Agri-Technology Campus.



Mr. William T. Belo
Founder and Chairman *Emeritus* of
Wilcon Builders' Foundation, Inc.

Leadership in Commerce

- Founder and Chairman, Wilcon Corporation
- Founder and President, Wilcon Builder's Supply Inc.
- Chairman, Wilcon Builders Foundation, Inc.
- Director, Designo Atelier Inc.
- Director, Markeenlo Realty Inc.
- Director, Lomarkeen Realty Inc.
- Treasurer, Crocodylus Porosus Philippines, Inc.
- President, Coral Agri-Venture Farm, Inc.
- President, Coral Farms
- President, WAJ Realty Development Inc.

Recognitions

- 2022 The Outstanding Thomasian Alumni Award
- 2019 The Manila Times Man of the Year of the Asia Leaders Award
- 2019 UST Engineering Alumni Association, Inc., Presidential Award
- 2018 People of the Year (by the People Asia Magazine)
- 2018 ASEAN Business Awards
- 2018 UST Engineering Hall of Fame and Outstanding Thomasian Engineer
- 2017 Philippine Retailers Association (PRA) President's Award (by DTI)
- 2013 Grand MVP Bossing Award (by PLDT SME Nation)

MR. WILIAM T. BELO

With a degree of BS Electronics and Communications Engineering (BS ECE) from the UST Faculty of Engineering, Mr. Belo started as a simple entrepreneur and owner of a 645 square feet hardware store along Quezon Avenue in 1977.

Driven by his focus and desire to be of service to Filipino homebuilders, and with a strong belief that Filipinos should be given the best product choices for their homes, he founded the *Wilcon Builder's Depot*, and *Wilcon Home Essentials* – Wilcon Corporation's two-store format that covers a wide array of products, including local and international brands of tiles and flooring, plumbing and sanitary wares, electrical and lighting products, hardware and tools, furniture, furnishings and houseware, paints, appliances, and building materials, among others

He is the Founder and Chairman *Emeritus* of Wilcon Builders' Foundation, Inc., a nonstock, non-profit, socio-civic organization, with philanthropic engagements such as providing educational assistance, extending a helping hand to the victims of calamities, and initiating efforts to save the environment.

He is one of the most successful entrepreneurs and iconic business leaders in the country, making his company the largest and leading distributor of homebuilding essentials in the country.



UNIVERSITY OF SANTO TOMAS

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL



Prof. Lilian J. Sison, Ph.D.
Director, UST Office for
International Relations
and Programs

Awards and Recognitions

- Special citation for Outstanding Contribution to the Chemistry Profession (Professional Regulation Commission and the Integrated Chemists of the Philippines, 2015);
- Academic Leadership Award (UST Graduate School, 2015);
- Woman of Faith (selected by the CBCP and Vatican for the Meeting of Pope Francis with Religious Leaders during his visit to the Philippines in 2015);
- The Outstanding Thomasian Alumna Award (TOTAL, 2023)
- Personal audience with Saint Pope John Paul II at the Clementine Hall of the Vatican, 15 December 1989, courtesy of Nova Spes Foundation
- UST - Fr. Angel de Blas Research Chair in Administration (1989-1991)
- UST - Rector's Scholarship (1986-1989)
- National Science Development Board Scholarship (1975-1977)

PROF. LILIAN J. SISON, Ph.D.

As the Dean of the UST Graduate School (2000-2013), Prof. Sison led the

- restructuring of the Curriculum to make the Programs more research intensive with the introduction of a mandatory course in Research Colloquium for those with theses and dissertations. Students were also encouraged to seek opportunities for research attachment and presentations in international conferences and research forums.
- expansion of graduate program offerings to include Master's Program in Cultural Heritage Studies, Food Science, Health Professions and Rehabilitation Science;
- establishment of three (3) extension centers of the Graduate School: Psychotrauma Clinic in 2002, Center for the Conservation of Cultural Property and Environment in the Tropics (CCCPET) in 2003; and Center for Continuing Professional Education and Development (CCPED).
- Masters program accreditation by PACUCOA, from Level I accreditation status to 2nd reaccreditation to Level III;
- supervision of the renovation and the transfer of the UST Graduate School from the Junior High School Building to its more dignified place at the Thomas Aquinas Research Complex;
- provision of Extension Service to CHED and DOST -SEI by offering Non-thesis Master's programs to CHED Faculty scholars teaching General Education subjects. The Graduate School also served as a training center for DOST - SEI scholars (DepED teachers of Math and Science assigned in Region IV-A);
- delivery of the Master's Program in Rehabilitation Science in partnership with the University of South Australia. Twelve (12) academic staff of the College of Rehabilitation Science completed their Master's degree under this program, significantly improving the Faculty profile of the College.;
- expansion of graduate students' activities to include sports, internationalization, and *agape*;
- organization and hosting of International Conferences; and
- committee that prepared the feasibility study of the UST Santa Rosa campus in Laguna.

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FR. LOUIE R. CORONEL, OP
Secretary-General