



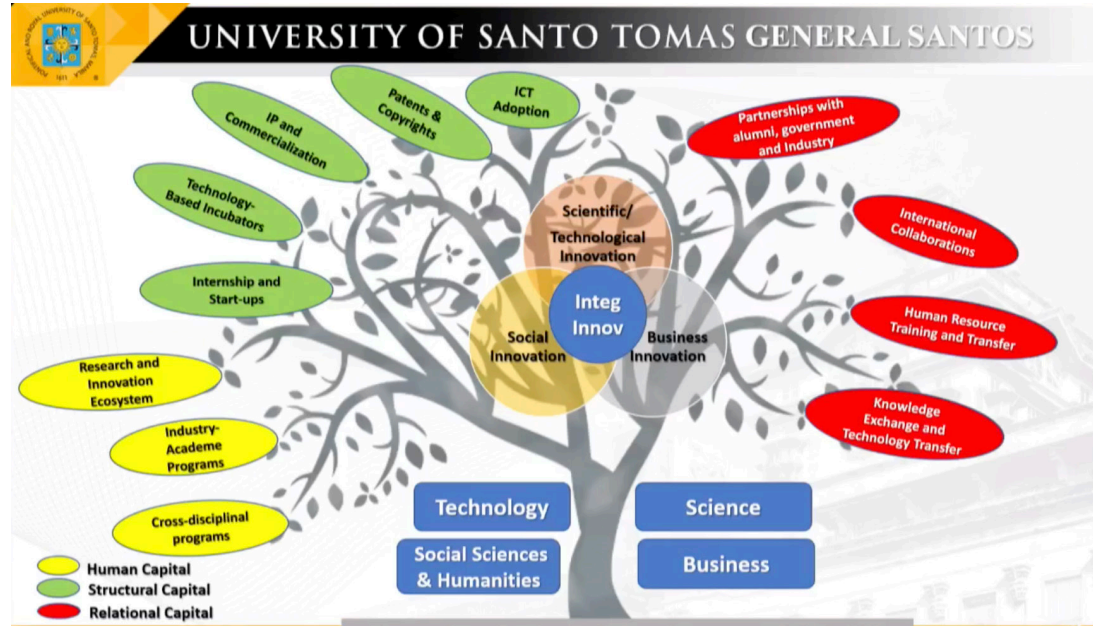
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Dr. Nonato delivers the 2023 *Discurso de Apertura*.

2023 *Discurso de Apertura* showcases UST GenSan's path to integrated innovative agritech campus

Academician Prof. Maribel G. Nonato, Ph.D., the Assistant to the Rector for UST General Santos, unveiled details about the soon-to-be-inaugurated UST branch campus in her *Discurso de Apertura* (Inaugural Lecture) delivered on August 4, 2023.

The *Discurso de Apertura* immediately followed the Mass of the Holy Spirit that was celebrated to open the Academic Year 2023 to 2024. UST Secretary-General Rev. Fr. Louie R. Coronel, O.P., E.H.L., who served as the Master of Ceremonies, explained that the tradition of an inaugural academic lecture has been essential in the opening exercises of universities across Europe. UST adapted this practice to conform with the tradition of the Dominican houses of studies of starting every school year with a conference called *Lectio Prima*, or first lecture, based on the UST statutes drafted by Fr. Juan Amador, O.P., in 1785.

Fr. Coronel further added that this year's lecture joins the longest serial publication of the University: the collection of inaugural addresses delivered at the beginning of every academic year, which includes addresses since 1866.

Dr. Nonato's lecture, titled "C.A.R.E. in the

21st Century Academic Institution", focused on a range of caring expressions applicable in the current educational landscape. Using many configurations of acronyms for the letters C, A, R, and E throughout her talk, she tackled factors necessary in the improvement and "Conceptualization of an Academic Institution that is Relevant and Engaging".

She highlighted the need for "Cutting-edge, Assertive, Resourceful, and Enterprising" management leaders who can consider a lot of factors building an academic institution of higher learning and the focus on "Creation and Advancement of Resources in Education" particularly to face 21st century challenges to higher education.

These challenges stem from external and internal factors, which include globalization, internationalization, industry 4.0, quality assurance, accreditation and rankings, United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs), global competitiveness index, Philippine Development Plan, DOST Pagtanaw 2050, Filipinovation, climate change, and new diseases.

Succeeding in or meeting the

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Assistant to the Rector for UST GenSan and Academician Professor Emeritus Maribel G. Nonato, Ph.D. (fifth from left) is with the Bishop of Marbel His Excellency Most Rev. Cerilo Casicas, D.D. (fourth from left) and UST Rector Very Rev. Fr. Richard Ang, O.P. (sixth from left). Accompanying them are (from left:) Vice Rector for Research and Innovation Rev. Fr. Jannel Abogado, O.P., Vice Rector Rev. Fr. Isaias Tiongco, O.P., Prior Provincial Very Rev. Fr. Filemon dela Cruz, O.P., Vice Rector for Academic Affairs Prof. Cheryl Peralta, DrPH, Professor Emeritus Fortunato Sevilla III, Ph.D., UST Secretary-General Rev. Fr. Louie Coronel, O.P., EHL, and Vice Rector for Religious Affairs Rev. Fr. Pablo Tiong, O.P.

aforementioned challenges all require different approaches of C.A.R.E., such as “Commitment to Accreditation and Regulatory Entities” to ensure quality education, which is SDG #4. Dr. Nonato said, “Academic institutions can no longer be just observers. Instead, we have to be part of transforming the world and we need to be active participants to play our role in delivering quality education.”

A model academic institution that could be resilient to external and internal factors is a “Comprehensive, Academic Research-oriented Enterprise”, explained Dr. Nonato, who added that “We are living in a world where problems are more complex, and it requires multi-, inter-, trans-, and intra-disciplinary solutions for knowledge production is no longer a single discipline. Knowledge generation and dissemination are no longer carried out in isolation in academic environments. It now involves interaction with other knowledge producers, so the academic institution should be comprehensive.”

Research, as one of the three functions of an institution of higher learning, intensifies competitiveness, internationalization, and globalization, while enterprise education enhances the entrepreneurial minds of the students, simultaneously enriches employment, lifelong learning skills, and adaptability for life beyond school, Dr.

Nonato emphasized.

Pointing out that the success of a university lies primarily in its workforce, Dr. Nonato underlined the core need for “Competent with Advanced-degree and Research-oriented Educators” and more partnerships between the academe, industry, and government that can bring more people with expertise to the fold. Aside from its academic staff of educators, HEIs must also invest in “Committed, Able, Resourceful, and Efficient” non-academic personnel. With these in mind, a university can operate better with “Confident, Action-oriented, Reliable, and Ethical” human capital.

Citing the World Economic Forum’s five-year projection for emerging and declining jobs from 2023 to 2027, Dr. Nonato noted that large scale job growth that is expected in education, agriculture, digital commerce and trade is driven by technology, digitalization, and sustainability. Meanwhile, self-efficacy, cognitive, management, engagement, technology, and collaborative skills are crucial for the 2023 workforce.

The importance of “Creative, Adequate, Relevant, and Effective” curricula was also highlighted. This could stem from building stronger linkages with industry partners or the business sector to develop cross-disciplinary academic programs that can

more closely meet the requirements of companies and address the issue of skills mismatch.

Included in the discussion was the ongoing development of UST General Santos, which recently topped off its own Main Building and will soon be blessed and inaugurated.

Dr. Nonato, who has been with UST since starting her college days in the 1970s, the University’s expansion to General Santos and Sta. Rosa shows that UST was just waiting for the right time to “spread its wings beyond España” and “bring Thomasian education to the South.”

UST GenSan will be an integrated innovative agri-tech campus founded in the Thomasian identity, the three core values of competence, commitment, and compassion, and 21st-century digital skills, she said.

“Initial academic programs will be in technology, natural and health sciences, business, social sciences, and humanities,” revealed Dr. Nonato.

Referencing Pope Francis’ call to build an ‘educational village’ in his message for the launch of the 2020 Global Compact on Education, Dr. Nonato shared, “I’d

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Bishop Casicas reflects on *Veritas in Caritate*, Holy Spirit during UST’s *Misa de Apertura*

The University of Santo Tomas officially opened the Academic Year 2023-2024 with the *Misa de Apertura* (Mass of the Holy Spirit), presided over by the Bishop of Marbel, South Cotabato, His Excellency Most Rev. Cerilo Alan U. Casicas, D.D., and concelebrated with the Dominican Fathers.

The Bishop, in his homily, shared his reflections on the Holy Spirit and the nature of truth, as held at the core of the University’s motto, “*Veritas in Caritate*” or truth in love (Ephesians 4:15).

“In your [University] motto, truth/*veritas* is not simply abstract academic truth. Truth and charity, truth and God’s love are one and the same. Truth is not truth if we have not found the love of God revealed in Christ,” said Bishop Casicas, who added that “Everything is there in Christ, but we cannot see it unless a spotlight is shown on it and we are given an eye and heart to see it, that is the Spirit. The greatest gift of the Spirit is to lead us to that truth.”

Bishop Casicas likened life without seeing the truth through the guidance of the Holy Spirit to only seeing facades instead of the entirety of a structure: “It’s like going into this beautiful campus of yours, looking at an old building, and seeing just windows and maybe moss on the walls, but if you studied architecture, then these are not simply windows and columns. They unfold before you the beauty of the building, the

beauty that draws you in, that gets your attention.”

“I hope, in your stay here in UST, that truth and charity are one because the Spirit leads you to it, that you do not just see columns or windows, but you see the heart of our faith in Christ and the light of the Spirit. The Spirit is not just a light that shines outside, but one that also shines within,” shared Bishop Casicas.

The Bishop further encouraged Thomasians to “Find that light and spark within you. It leads you to Christ, not just through his sayings or through his works, but you see that everything leads to the Father, to whom he comes from and returns to in love, and the love between them is no other than the Spirit. That’s why the Spirit alone can lead us to the truth that is love and the love that is truth.”

The prelate also noted that having a Mass of the Holy Spirit is a highly regarded tradition for many Catholic schools to begin a new academic year properly. “[When] the Spirit is at work within us, it draws us, and conforms us to the love of God, not romantic, but the crucified, christened love of Christ-- That’s the love that we know as Christians.”

“How do we know that we have assumed and played the role of Christ by listening to the Spirit?” asked Bishop Casicas. “If we live a life of self-emptying

or being centered on others, being humble and self-sacrificing,” he answered, calling the process the ‘unselfing’.

Unselfing, as defined by the Bishop, is when the self is negated because it finds something or someone greater than itself. This mindset can lead to living out *Veritas in Caritate*, since much like how the Hebrew word for ‘spirit’ can also mean ‘breath’, one must eventually exhale or share the self outward, rather than keeping or holding it indefinitely, said Bishop Casicas.

He further explained the concept with an example for the community: “How do we know that the Spirit is really at work in UST? When UST is open and makes sacrifices not for what is within. When it becomes more sensitive, serving, humble, sacrificing, not only for what is within its community and the University, but even outside, those in the periphery.”

The Bishop also urged the community to truly live Christ’s core values, cautioning against empty gestures. “We have our traditional pious signs of our Catholic faith. We continue [doing] the sign of the cross, the rosary, Mass, many others, but all of these are empty without ‘unselfing’. Without unselfing, we might be called Catholic, but the Spirit is not in us. Without

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Most Rev. Casicas (center) concelebrates the Mass with the Dominican Fathers including UST Rector Very Rev. Fr. Richard G. Ang, O.P. (at the altar, left) and the Prior Provincial Very Rev. Fr. Filemon dela Cruz, O.P., (at the altar, right).



Bishop Casicas shares his reflections during the homily.

UST welcomes Academic Year 2023-2024 through onboarding week



UST Secretary-General Rev. Fr. Louie R. Coronel, O.P., EHL (in Dominican habit), accompanied by each academic unit's administrators, leads freshmen as they enter the Arch of the Centuries.



UST Rector Very Rev. Fr. Richard G. Ang, O.P., delivers the homily during the Eucharistic Celebration for the ROARientation.

The University of Santo Tomas opened its historic gates to a new batch of Thomasians. Over 11,000 first-year students in the basic and higher education levels began their student life at UST by joining several onboarding activities, including the ROARientation sessions, a welcome concert, and the Thomasian Welcome Walk from August 2 to 5, 2023.

This year, new Thomasians were introduced to UST's context and culture

through a series of talk shows that focused on the themes of Tradition, Inspiration, Guarantee, Resource, and Engagement.

The Virtual ROARientation on August 2, which was live-streamed via the official UST Facebook account (@UST1611official) and the UST Tiger TV account (@USTigerTV), presented the University's policies and services to the students and parents. The discussions also focused on the academic, research,

and spiritual life in UST, health and wellness, student safety and comfort, University communication, and student engagements.

The in-person ROARientation on August 5, with a culture-based orientation, engaged the students in interactive games and various activities. New Thomasians

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like to envision [UST GenSan] to be an educational village where all the players work harmoniously with the community, industry, Church, and local government."

The Assistant to the Rector for UST GenSan also expressed her gratitude to the members of the Thomasian community who lent support, saying "The blueprint of UST General Santos will not be completed without the CARE of several academic and non-academic staff who generously shared their talents and ideas in completing it."

A retired professor of chemistry, Dr. Nonato is an Academician of the National Academy of Science and Technology and is currently the National Research Council of the Philippines (NRCP) Vice President and Chemical Sciences Division Chair. She

is also a member of the Commission on Higher Education - Technical Committee in Chemistry.

She has served UST in different capacities, as the first female lay person to become Vice Rector for Research and Innovation, as the Dean of the College of Science where she used to teach Organic Chemistry, and Director of Research Center for Natural Sciences, among many others.

She pioneered research on phytochemistry and biological activities of Philippine-grown species of the genus *Pandanus*, with more than 50 publications in internationally indexed journals. Her association with the plant is so widespread that an advisee of hers in the Graduate School, Dr. Christina Tan, named a newly discovered Pandan species after her: *Freycinetia nonatoi*, a fitting tribute for a

leading scholar fondly called the "Pandan Queen" by her colleagues and students.

Her discovery of novel and structurally unique pharmacologically important alkaloids from the genus *Pandanus* earned her the NRCP's 2006 achievement award in chemical sciences, the Philippine Association for the Advancement of Science and Technology's 2016 Gregorio Y. Zara Award for Basic Research, the Philippine Federation of Chemistry Sciences' 2017 Shimadzu Achievement for Chemical Research, and the Philippine Regulation Commission's 2020 Outstanding Professional of the Year in Chemistry, among many accolades in her impactful career.

In recognition of her many significant contributions to education and research, Dr. Nonato will be conferred the title of Professor Emeritus on October 13, 2023. ■

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can earn prizes, learn the sports cheers for school spirit, and immerse themselves into the dynamic culture of the Thomasian community.

UST Rector Very Rev. Fr. Richard G. Ang, O.P., and Vice Rector Rev. Fr. Isaias D. Tiongco, O.P., led the Eucharistic celebrations for the morning and afternoon sessions, respectively, and concelebrated the Masses with the Dominican Fathers.

Immediately after the ROARientation, freshmen joined the annual tradition of the Thomasian Welcome Walk, where students enter the historic Arch of the Centuries to symbolize the beginning of their Thomasian life. Led by the UST Secretary-General Rev. Fr. Louie R. Coronel, O.P., EHL, and the administrators of each academic unit, the students were met with cheers and drum beats upon entry through the Arch.

Since 2002, hundreds of thousands of Thomasian freshmen have walked through the Arch at the start of each academic year. For the freshmen of 2023, their entry on August 5 began the cycle that will end in a few years at their Baccalaureate Mass, when they will exit through the Arch. UST holds its traditions involving the Arch of the Centuries in high regard because the Arch was the original gateway of the University back in its Intramuros campus. It was reassembled piece by piece in the Sampaloc campus after World War II and serves as a reminder of the University's rich history.

After entering the Arch, the new Thomasians joined the Thomasian Welcome Party, which featured P-Pop sensations BINI and BGYO, and Thomasian talents Anton Stefano and JC Herrero. While the freshmen witnessed the program live at the Quadracentennial Pavillion, other students and fans outside the Thomasian community can revisit the livestream, which is still available on the UST Tiger TV (@USTigerTV) Facebook page.

On August 4, the University of Santo Tomas officially opened the Academic Year 2023-2024 with the *Misa de Apertura* (Mass of the Holy Spirit), presided over by the Bishop of Marbel, South Cotabato, His Excellency Most Rev. Cerilo Alan U. Casicas, D.D., and the *Discurso de Apertura* (Inaugural Lecture), which was delivered by Academician Prof. Maribel G. Nonato, Ph.D., the Assistant to the Rector for UST General Santos. She discussed "C.A.R.E. in the 21st Century Academic Institution".

Regular classes commenced on August 9, 2023, with most classes proceeding via



P-pop sensations BGYO and BINI perform their hits.



UST Salingawi Dance Troupe demonstrates University cheers.

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unselfing, we may be called a Catholic institution, but we will have driven away the Spirit," Bishop Casicas emphasized.

After Bishop Casicas officially opened the Academic Year 2023-2024 at the end of the Mass of the Holy Spirit or *Misa de Apertura*, it was immediately followed by the *Discurso de Apertura* (Inaugural Lecture), which was delivered by Academician Prof. Maribel G. Nonato, Ph.D., the Assistant to the Rector for UST General Santos. She discussed "C.A.R.E. in the 21st Century Academic Institution". ■

hybrid arrangements through the Enriched Virtual Mode (EVM) of education. The University's health policies, such as masking in crowded areas and indoors, frequent hand sanitization, and thermal screening, among others, remain highly encouraged. ■

UST confers *Juris Doctor* degrees to nearly 1000 Thomasian lawyers



(From left:) UST Law Alumni Association President and Sandiganbayan Associate Justice Hon. Ronald Moreno, UST Faculty of Civil Law Dean Atty. Nilo Divina, Supreme Court Associate Justice Hon. Amy Javier, UST Secretary-General Rev. Fr. Louie R. Coronel, O.P., Legal Education Board Chairperson Atty. Anna Marie Melanie Trinidad, UST Faculty of Civil Law Regent Rev. Fr. Isidro Abaño, O.P., and Faculty of Civil Law Secretary Atty. Arthur Capili

Almost a thousand Thomasian lawyers from the Classes of 2018 and earlier were conferred the degree of Juris Doctor in substitution of their previously held Bachelor of Laws degree. The conferment ceremonies were held on July 29, 2023, at the Quadricentennial Pavilion of the UST Manila campus and [streamed live via the official Facebook page of the UST Faculty of Civil Law](#).

Pursuant to the Legal Education Board (LEB) Memorandum Order No. 19, Series of 2018, the LEB Chairperson Atty. Anna Marie Melanie Trinidad confirmed the authority of UST to migrate the Bachelor of Laws (L.B.) to the degree of Juris Doctor (J.D.) and reissue diplomas to the graduates fitting the criteria of having passed the bar examinations, obtained their license to practice law, and previously obtained the Bachelor of Laws degree.

UST Faculty of Civil Law Dean Atty. Nilo T. Divina acknowledged the graduates' hard work, saying, "When you started your studies here in UST, each of you had your reasons for becoming a lawyer... It took a lot of tenacity, sacrifice, and grit to cross the finish line and reach where you are today."

"When you have graduated from the University, you may have realized it was not an endpoint, but a point of departure.

Similarly, the conferment today is another flight of yours to soar higher and pursue other dreams and aspirations," said Dean Divina, who noted that this day was historic, for it marked the first Juris Doctor conferment ceremony of the Faculty of Civil Law and also served as the biggest assembly of Thomasian lawyers so far.

Dean Divina also relayed to the graduates a message from Supreme Court Chief Justice Hon. Alexander Gesmundo, who wrote "Kindly extend my regards to the Thomasian lawyers and exhort them to remain devoted to the pursuit of truth and promotion of justice under a regime of liberty and democracy."

UST Faculty of Civil Law Regent Rev. Fr. Isidro Abaño, O.P., said "We hope that, as UST was once your home during your formative years, it remains gratefully etched in your heart that UST will always be your home where you are always welcome with such esteem."

In the Message of Accession, UST Secretary-General Rev. Fr. Louie R. Coronel, O.P., EHL, urged the graduates to recall the teachings of St. Thomas Aquinas to illuminate, rather than merely shine, saying, "Let us embrace this journey with a profound sense of purpose, for we have been called to become advocates for justice, champions of the downtrodden,



Hon. Amy Javier delivers the inspirational message.

and protectors of the dignity inherent in every human person. Your actions, no matter how small they may seem, can send ripples of transformation throughout the Church, the nation, and the global community."

Dean Divina and Fr. Coronel led the candidates for the Juris Doctor degree in the ceremonial wearing of the JD sash.

Supreme Court Associate Justice Hon. Amy Lazaro-Javier, an alumna of the Faculty of Civil Law Class of 1982,

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CCWLS Director Hidalgo wins S.E.A. Write Award

The UST Center for Creative Writing and Literary Studies (CCWLS) Director, Professor Emerita Cristina Pantoja Hidalgo, Ph.D., was awarded the Southeast Asian Writers (S.E.A. Write) Lifetime Achievement Award on August 10, 2023.

The award is presented annually, since 1979, to selected Southeast Asian writers, generally for lifetime achievement, but sometimes also for a specific work. The awards ceremony is always held in Bangkok, with a member of the Thai Royal Family presiding. Awardees receive a S.E.A. Write Recognition Plaque and a S.E.A. Write Honorarium.

This year, the award presentation ceremony and gala dinner was held in Bangkok's Mandarin Oriental Hotel. To be honored are awardees for 2019, 2020 and 2021. There were no award ceremonies during those years, due to the pandemic.

Hidalgo is one of the country's most distinguished writers. She is a writer of fiction and nonfiction, a critic and a literary scholar, having published more than 40 books, including 3 novels, 5 short story collections, 4 books of literary criticism, and numerous nonfiction collections. She has received the Carlos Palanca Grand Prize

for the Novel, and several National Book Awards (given by the Manila Critics Circle and the National Book Development Board). She has also received lifetime achievement awards, like the Dangal ng Lahi Award from the Carlos Palanca Memorial Awards, and the Gawad Balagtas from Unyong ng mga Manunulat sa Pilipinas (UMPIL). Her latest books are *What I Wanted to Be When I Grew Up: Early Apprenticeship of a Writer* (UP Press, 2021) and *Collected Stories and Tales* (USTPH, 2019). Another volume of memoirs is forthcoming.

Aside from heading the UST CCWLS, Hidalgo is Graduate Lecturer IV at the UST Graduate School, teaching Creative Writing and Literature courses. She is also Professor Emerita of the University of the Philippines Diliman, where she also teaches graduate courses.

In her extraordinary career, which spans decades, Hidalgo has served as Director of the UST Publishing House, Director of the UP Press, Director of the UP Institute of Creative Writing, and UP Vice President for Public Affairs. She has lived and worked as a writer, editor and teacher in Bangkok, Beirut, Seoul, Yangon (formerly Rangoon), New York City, and Manila. ■



Dr. Hidalgo

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delivered the inspirational message. Noting the UST Faculty of Civil Law's over 400 years of history as the oldest school of law in the nation, Javier said "Every time there were major changes and upheavals in Philippine governance, in Philippine society, in the Philippine legal environment, our alma mater has always been there and continues to endure. Truly, we come from a tradition of surviving challenges and finding opportunities to flourish."

Associate Justice Javier also explained the rationale for the name change, saying "The Juris Doctor is considered as a professional doctoral degree in jurisdictions where the basic law degree is a graduate level degree. On the other hand, the Bachelor of Laws is commonly used when the entry requirement in basic law courts is a senior high school diploma. The use of 'Bachelor of Laws' also creates an erroneous perception that the basic law degree is equivalent to other bachelor's level degrees. It goes without saying that there was nothing ordinary in the way we earned our Bachelor of Laws; we just need to rebrand to retain our relevance during these times of change and changing perceptions about the legal profession."

UST Law Alumni Association President and Sandiganbayan Associate Justice Hon. Ronald Moreno, an alumnus from the Class of 1995, led the recitation of the Thomasian Pledge, before Dean Divina concluded the conferment ceremonies with his words of thanks. ■



UST Faculty of Civil Law Dean Atty. Nilo Divina (right) is granted the Juris Doctor degree and sash by UST Secretary-General Rev. Fr. Louie R. Coronel, O.P., EHL (standing, left)

CTHM Hospitality Management students win Philippine Culinary Cup 2023



(From left:) Chef Elijah Coronado, Adrian Zapata, Daniel Dalipe, and Chef Olga Ko



Aga's winning cake

The College of Tourism and Hospitality Management (CTHM) BS Hospitality Management major in Culinary Entrepreneurship students Ms. Ma. Sophia Lorenz Aga, Mr. Daniel Dalipe, and Mr. Adrian Zapata won Bronze Medals during the Philippine Culinary Cup (PCC) of the World Food Expo 2023. The event was held from August 2 to 5, 2023 at the SMX Convention Center in Metro Manila.

Aga competed in the Wedding Cake Display Category. She was coached by Mr. Reinald A. Andaya and Mr. Kristian Kristoffer A. Roque and assisted by Mikee Dimaano, Rod Villamarin, Patricia Penoliar, and Chandelle Silvestre. They presented a Kapampangan-inspired cake titled *Kaku ka, keka ku*, which is translated as *I am Yours, You are Mine*.

Dalipe and Zapata competed in the Young Chefs Category. They were coached by Mr. Elijah J. Coronado. Their two dishes, (1) Steamed Mussels in White Wine with Cilantro Butter, Apple and Onion Salad with Lemon-White Wine Vinaigrette and (2) Chestnut and Mushroom Chicken Roulade, Supreme Sauce, Squash and Carrot Mash with Sauteed Asparagus and

Pickled Granny Smith Apples, won them a place at the podium.

There were also other students and academic staff who competed in other categories. Ms. Franchezka De Roxas competed in the French Touch Pastry Category, assisted by Danica Lara and Sofia Paja and coached by Mr. Reinald A. Andaya. Mr. Angelo Gabrielle Lati joined the Bread Showpiece Category, assisted by Sophia Hernandez and Dre Aganinta and coached by Mr. Kristian Kristoffer A. Roque and Ms. Kathlyn Tisha G. Ortaliz.

Mr. Kristian Kristoffer A. Roque, an academic staff of the College, competed in the Global Chef Challenge – Pastry Category.

The UST CTHM delegation was supervised by Ms. Ramona Olga D. Ko, academic staff from the CTHM Department of Hospitality Management.

The Philippine Culinary Cup (PCC) has become the most prestigious culinary competition in the Philippines. PCC takes on an even bigger role in providing the Filipino chefs an internationally-recognized platform to hone their skills and showcase their talents in the culinary field. ■



Dalipe and Zapata's winning dishes

Father Rector graces Thomasian-led architecture firm's 40th anniversary, meets SMC President



(From left:) Very Rev. Fr. Richard G. Ang, O.P., Ar. Jose Siao Ling and SMC President Ramon S. Ang during the 40th anniversary celebration of JSLA Architects.

UST Rector Very Rev. Fr. Richard G. Ang, O.P., Ph.D., met San Miguel Corporation (SMC) President Ramon Ang during the 40th-anniversary celebration of the JSLA Architects, a firm founded by notable Thomasian architects Jose Siao Ling and Ana Mangalino Ling.

The Father Rector thanked the business tycoon for SMC's support to the University. In July, Petron Corporation, a subsidiary of SMC, formally expressed its support for the UST Growling Tigers.

Likewise, the Father Rector congratulated the architects Siao and Ana Ling for their continuous success in their field. JSLA Architects has been one of the leading architectural firms in the country, known for the designs of the Mall of Asia Arena, the SMX Convention Center, and the development planning of the Regina RICA in Tanay, Rizal.

Also present in the event were administrators of the University and officers of the UST Research and Endowment Foundation, Inc. Among them were Prof. Maribel Nonato, Ph.D., Engr. Siegfried Prado, Mr. Levine Lao, Mr. Cristian Naval, and Mr. Lewelen Arcaya. ■



(Standing, from left:) UST officials Executive Assistant to the Assistant to the Rector for UST Sta. Rosa Engr. Siegfried V. Prado, Assistant to the Rector for UST GenSan Prof. Maribel Nonato, Ph.D., and Rector Very Rev. Fr. Richard G. Ang, O.P., together with Thomasian alumna and co-founder of JSLA Architects Ar. Ana Mangalino Ling, (sitting, from left:) Congressman Elpidio Barzaga, Jr., Dasmariñas City Mayor Jennifer Austria-Barzaga, and Sta. Rosa City Mayor Arlene B. Arcillas.

English Department's AJELS is now indexed in EBSCOhost

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AJELS
Asian Journal
of English Language

THE OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE UST DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

The Asian Journal of English Language Studies (AJELS), the official academic journal of the UST Department of English, has recently taken steps to broaden its readership. After months of close coordination with EBSCOhost and CrossRef, as well as support from the UST Office of the Rector, the Office of the Vice Rector for Research and Innovation, and the Faculty of Arts and Letters, AJELS is now indexed in EBSCOhost databases and has registered digital object identifier (DOI) for all its articles.

EBSCOhost is an online research platform that makes quality research publications accessible to millions of scholars worldwide. Most journals indexed in established journal databases like EBSCOhost have DOI, which help make research articles easier to locate for citation purposes. These developments widen the

global reach of AJELS, which aligns with UST's vision to become a more globally recognized expert in research. These concrete steps also redound to the research impact of UST in the English language studies category.

Led by the founding Editor-in-Chief (2013-2017) Prof. Marilu R. Madrunio, Ph.D. and the editorial team composed of Assoc. Prof. Alejandro S. Bernardo, Ph.D., Mr. Roy Randy Y. Briones, Assoc. Prof. Veronico N. Tarrayo, Ph.D., and Prof. Camilla J. Vizconde, Ph.D., AJELS was born in 2013. It has since released 10 volumes with 67 research articles by scholars mostly from higher education institutions in the Philippines but also from universities in the Asia Pacific region including Australia, Brunei, Japan, Singapore, Taiwan, and Vietnam. Scholarly contributions from Ecuador, Qatar, Turkey, and the UK are also featured in the volumes,

which were ably managed by the subsequent Editors-in-Chief Dr. Veronico N. Tarrayo (2018 to 2020) and Dr. Alejandro S. Bernardo (2021 to 2022).

Building on these first decade milestones and supported by her predecessors and reliable, creative staff Vermon Bryan Y. Revillosa, Mar Christian Darren C. Ramos, and Adrienne A. Zacarias, the newly appointed Editor-in-Chief Asst. Prof. Pia Patricia P. Tenedero, Ph.D. envisions even bigger things for AJELS. The next step is publishing strong articles and launching a new cover for Volume 11 in December 2023. AJELS welcomes book reviews, brief reports, and research articles for the upcoming volume until September 30, 2023. Details of the call for publication, submission guidelines, and publication ethics are available in the newly updated website: <https://ajels.ust.edu.ph/>. ■



Some members of the Philippine Pavilion team at the Arsenale venue of the Venice Biennale (From left:) Bien Alvarez (TAC exhibitor), Ar. Lyle La Madrid (TAC exhibitor), Ar. Maria Cynthia Funk (co-curator), Noel Narciso (project manager) and Matthew Gan (TAC exhibitor) [Photo courtesy of Ar. Erika Dia]

UST Architecture alumni, academic staff represent PH in 2023 Venice Architecture Biennale

Architect Maria Cynthia Y. Funk, an alumna of the College of Architecture, together with Sam Domingo, was chosen to represent the Philippines in the 2023 Venice Architecture Biennale, one of the most prestigious architectural exhibitions in the world, with their pavilion concept titled, *Tripa de Gallina: Guts of Estuary*.

The pavilion explores the relationships between urban water bodies, solid waste, and the informal community that live along these water bodies. This supports the theme of the 2023 Biennale, "The Laboratory of the Future" curated by Lesley Lokko, and asks the question, "What does it mean to be an 'agent of change'?"

The Philippine Pavilion proposes that the possible solution lies in its temporal nature and is meant to be a continuous design evolution through constant dialogue between all stakeholders and the communities living along the urban estuaries, towards a replicable and more effective spatial solution that is contextually sensitive to the needs of the community and the environment. It also proposes an alternative architecture paradigm from the traditional view of architecture as

permanent and rigid structures, towards architecture as a system of iterations, evolutions, and solutions.

The structure comprises modular bamboo framed "bridgeways" over projected videos of the virtual "estero", leading visitors to a circular gathering where visitors can peer into snippets of the daily lives of the community and the urban waterways that envelop them.

Other architecture alumni and academic staff involved are Ar. Lyle La Madrid as exhibitor under The Architecture Collective (TAC), Ar. Harry Serrano and Ar. Cesar Concio III as contributing catalog writers.

The participation in the Venice Biennale is supported by the Philippine Arts in Venice Biennale (PAVB) as a collaborative undertaking of the National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA), the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) and the Office of Senator Loren Legarda.

The 2023 Architecture Venice Biennale runs from May 20 to November 26, 2023. You may visit the official Biennale website at: www.labiennale.org/en/architecture/2023/philippines. ■



View at the circular gathering space showing projected videos of daily events of the "estero" [Photo courtesy of Ar. Maria Cynthia Funk]

Medina of SHS, Argao of GS join discussions in multiple interfaith, religious gatherings in Japan

Junior Teacher John Ismael J. Medina of the UST Senior High School and Asst. Prof. Renz Christian C. Argao, Ph.D. of the UST Graduate School participated in three religious gatherings in Japan, namely, the G7 Hiroshima Summit Prayer and Symposium by Religious Leaders on May 10 in Hiroshima; the Asia and the Pacific Interfaith Youth Network (APIYN) Executive Committee Retreat Meeting on May 11 and 12 in Kyoto; and the World Conference Religions for Peace (WCRP) on May 13 in Kyoto.

Representing the APIYN in the G7 Hiroshima Summit Prayer and Symposium, Medina and Argao led the participants in prayer with Argao using the local dialect of Kapampangan in his prayer. Argao also served as a speaker during the symposium, focusing on the importance of disarmament and the role of youth in peacebuilding.

In the APIYN Executive Committee Retreat Meeting, discussions on the future projects and programs of the organization were planned under the leadership of Argao. The plans included in the APIYN 2026 Agenda focus on disarmament, youth peace and security, and sustainable development goals, which were all presented to Dr. Yoshinori Shinohara, Secretary General of the Asian Conference of Religions for Peace.

APIYN released its statement on the G7 Summit titled “Peace through Peaceful Means: A Call to G7 Hiroshima Summit Leaders to Abolish Nuclear Weapons”. Medina and Argao capped their Japan trip by participating in the 50th anniversary of the WCRP Japan Youth Committee. ■



Medina (left) and Argao (center) in Japan

Educ hosts exchange program with Thai students



(seated from left:) Assoc. Prof. Carmina Vicente, College of Education Assistant Dean Asst. Prof. Louie Dasas, Ph.D., Education High School Principal Assoc. Prof. Marielyn C. Quintana, Ph.D., College of Education Dean Assoc. Prof. Pilar I. Romero, Ph.D., Dr. Kamonwat Phuwichit, Food Technology Department Chair Ms. Essence Jean del Castillo, College of Education Secretary Asst. Prof. Alvin Ringgo Reyes, with (standing, from left) Dr. Grace Thanatporn, Secondary Education Chair Asst. Prof. John Christian C. Valeroso, Ph.D., and Thai students

The UST College of Education brought in 11 students from Thailand’s Walaya Alongkorn Rajabhat University (VRU) to the campus for its International Student Academic and Cultural Exchange (ACE) Program from May 1 to 10, 2023.

The Math majors were led by Dr. Grace Thanatporn, Head of VRU Mathematics Department, and Dr. Kamonwat Phuwichit, Dean of Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences at the Kamphaeng Phet Rajabhat University.

After their courtesy visit to the Office of International Relations and Programs (OIRP), the participants toured areas of the UST Junior High School and Senior High School Programs. Co-teaching was also done at the Education High School together with 4th year BSE Math Pre-Service Teachers.

They also attended lectures on innovative teaching of Mathematical concepts with UST Education students, as well as on Filipino culture and heritage.

EDUC HOSTS EXCHANGE PROGRAM TO PAGE 14



UST launches three-year commemoration of significant dates in St. Thomas Aquinas’ life

The first of three annual seminars commemorating significant dates in St. Thomas Aquinas’ life opened on July 18, 2023 at University of Santo Tomas (UST) Manila.

The two-day forum gathered nearly 200 scholars, students, and researchers in hy-flex mode to reflect on the theme “Truth in Dialogue: Conversations on St. Thomas Aquinas and Contemporary Questions on Truth.”

The conference was formally opened by UST Rector Very Rev. Fr. Richard G. Ang, O.P., Vice Rector for Research and Innovation and the Dean of the Faculty of Sacred Theology Rev. Fr. Jannel Abogado, O.P., Institute of Religion Director Rev. Fr. Ermito de Sagon, O.P.

Plenary speakers included Fr. Mark Daniel Holtz, O.P., Vice-Dean of the Faculty of Philosophy and Sr. Catherine Joseph Droste, O.P., Vice-Dean of the Faculty of Theology at the *Pontificia Università San Tommaso d’ Aquino*.

In his speech, Fr. Holtz said a deeper engagement with St. Thomas Aquinas’ thoughts on truth should be done in the “spirit of open and mutually curious dialogue.” This would “benefit contemporary debates” on pluralist notions about truth.

Sr. Droste said the Holy Spirit’s gifts of wisdom and counsel help form the self for dialogue and engagement. With prudence and charity, these gifts would allow dialogue partners to enter a “dialogue of Revelation” whose principal agent is the same Holy Spirit.

Prof. Jovito Cariño, Ph.D. of the UST Department of Philosophy shared his insights in his lecture “*Tagpuan, Tapatan, Talaban: Si Santo Tomas de Aquino, Dayalogo at ang Kontemporaryong Paghahanap sa Katotohanan*” (Encounter, Exchange, Engagement: St. Thomas Aquinas, Dialogue and the Contemporary Search for Truth). He said truth-seeking through dialogue ideally starts with *tagpuan*, or initial encounter of dialogue partners, leading to a relationship of *tapatan* or authentic exchanges, and ultimately to *talaban*, influencing each other with “values and virtues.”

UST Graduate School Regent Rev. Fr. Rodel E. Aligan, O.P., SThD, lectured on the “Relevance of St. Thomas Aquinas on Truth, Communication and Authenticity of Christian Life in the Digital Age.” He said communicating in the digital world requires “consistent as well as authentic witnessing to the truth.”

“Everyone must help incarnate, en flesh, or enliven “the Gospel truth in the real world,” he added.

More than 50 academic papers were heard in parallel sessions clustered into 16 topics, including Asian cultures, Contemporary Ethical Theories, Post-Truth, Catholic Education, Modernity, and Modern Technology.

The Holy Eucharist on July 18 commemorated the 700th anniversary of

ST. THOMAS AQUINAS LIFE TO PAGE 14



Fr. Mark Daniel Holtz, O.P., Vice-Dean of the Faculty of Philosophy at the Pontificia Università San Tommaso d’ Aquino.



Sr. Catherine Joseph Droste, O.P., Vice-Dean of the Faculty of Theology at the Pontificia Università San Tommaso d’ Aquino.



UST Graduate School Regent Rev. Fr. Rodel Aligan, O.P.

ST. THOMAS AQUINAS LIFE
FROM PAGE 13



Assoc. Prof. Marella Bolaños, Ph.D., Rev. Fr. Ermito de Sagon, O.P., Rev. Fr. Rodel Aligan, O.P., Rev. Fr. Mark Daniel Holtz, O.P., Sr. Catherine Joseph Droste, O.P., and Prof. Joel Sagut, Ph.D.



Prof. Jovito Cariño, Ph.D.

St. Thomas Aquinas' canonization. The main presider was Rev. Fr. Napoleon Sipalay Jr., O.P., Vice Rector of the UST Central Seminary.

Assoc. Prof. Marella M. Bolaños, Ph.D. from the Department of Philosophy of the Faculty of Arts and Letters gave the closing message on July 19.

The forum coincided with the 9th annual Archbishop Leonardo Legaspi Lecture Series, the flagship activity of the UST Center for Theology, Religious Studies and Ethics honoring the University's first Filipino Rector Magnificus, and former president of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines.

Organizers of the event were the Institute of Religion, Center for Theology, Religious Studies and Ethics (CTRSE), Office of the Vice-Rector for Research and Innovation, Department of Philosophy of the Faculty of Arts and Letters, UST Graduate School, the Ecclesiastical Faculties, and Office of the Vice Rector for Religious Affairs. ■

**EDUC HOSTS EXCHANGE PROGRAM
FROM PAGE 12**

Through the ACE program's discipline-specific training sessions and culturally immersive activities, foreign students do not only develop leadership skills and critical thinking, but also gain a deeper understanding and appreciation of diverse cultures, traditions, and customs. ■

Lontoc of Educ/GS engages students, educators in Gender-ing ELT workshops in Brazil



Dr. Lontoc (seventh from left)

Dr. Gina Lontoc of the UST College of Education and the Graduate School was one of the facilitators of dynamic and transformative workshops in Brazil. This program is part of the research project, *Gender-ing English language teaching (ELT): International perspectives, practices, and policies* funded by the British Council in the United Kingdom.

This event which took place at the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro from June 14 to 17, 2023 brought together Brazilian educators, students, and teacher trainers, who are keen on creating empowering and gender-inclusive learning environments. Dr. Lontoc's participation and contribution extended beyond the workshop facilitation, as she also took part in the evaluation of the overall project.

Participants shared significant insights during the sessions which highlight the significance of inclusive practices in English language education. Both facilitators and participants emphasized the importance of fostering a safe, respectful, and equitable environment for all learners, regardless of race, gender, age, or socio-economic status.

Participants were encouraged to reflect on current gender-related issues in the classroom and how their own teaching practices could contribute innovative ways to address these challenges and promote diversity and equality in the English language classroom. They were also left with the challenge of embracing their crucial role in shaping a more inclusive and sustainable future as English language educators.

GENDER-ING ELT WORKSHOP TO PAGE 16

Renowned forensic linguists conduct ISSFLA Summer School in UST

The 17th edition of the International Summer School for Forensic Linguistic Analysis (ISSFLA) was held on July 7, 8, and 10, 2023, following the IAFLB Biennial Conference in UST. The Summer School, conducted at the 11th floor of the BI. Buenaventura G. Paredes, O.P. Building, was attended by 17 select participants coming from the different regions in the country.

For this edition, three advanced courses were offered to those who already have a solid background in forensic linguistics. These were: (1) Authorship Analysis taught by Prof. Tim Grant, the Director of the Aston Institute for Forensic Linguistics (AIFL) at Aston University, Birmingham, UK, (2) Interpreted Interviewing taught by Prof. Georgina Heydon of the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology (RMIT) University in Melbourne, Australia and (3) Identifying Deceptive Texts taught by Dr. Isabel Picornell of QED Limited, UK. All three are past presidents of the International Association for Forensic and Legal Linguistics (IAFLB).

As distinguished forensic linguists, Grant, Heydon, and Picornell have served numerous times as expert witnesses in court cases in the UK and Australia and have helped solve criminal cases by providing evidence in court through detailed linguistic description and methodological rigor on how suspects, witnesses, and victims use language.

Since the goal of forensic linguistics is to avoid the miscarriage of justice and to help improve its delivery in any legal setting, Grant, Heydon, and Picornell trained participants to: analyze the features of texts, letters, email messages; identify features of fraudulent emails and police transcripts that highlight deception; profile the author of such texts; and conduct investigative interviews that adhere to the PEACE

ISSFLA SUMMER SCHOOL TO PAGE 15

ISSFLA SUMMER SCHOOL FROM PAGE 14



(Preparation and Planning, Engage and Explain, Account, Closure, and Evaluate) model used by the police in interviewing suspects and witnesses.



The 17 trainees for this year's 17th edition of the International Summer School in Forensic Linguistic Analysis (ISSFLA) together with Prof. Tim Grant of Aston University, UK (seated, center, upper left photo), Prof. Georgina Heydon of RMIT, Australia (seated, center, lower left photo) and Dr. Isabel Picornell of QED Limited and Aston University, UK (seated, center, right photo).

This is the second time that UST has hosted the summer school. The first one was held in 2016 at the UST Graduate School, during its 12th edition. The International Summer School in Forensic Linguistic Analysis (ISSFLA) is managed by Prof. Malcolm Coulthard and the training sessions are usually held in Europe.

ISSFLA 17 was made possible through the efforts of Dr. Marilu Rañosa-Madrurnio, the course coordinator, and Dr. Isabel Picornell, the course director. The goal of the ISSFLA training is to advance the field of FL in the country with the participants conducting FL research in their own respective regions. ■

UST Literature academic staff deliver lectures in Chinese universities

UST Faculty of Arts and Letters professors Maria Luisa Torres Reyes, Ph.D., and Joyce L. Arriola, Ph.D., joined a select group of Filipino scholars who participated in a lecture series held in various universities across China from July 4 to 13, 2023.

The first of these conferences was the Zijingang Global Forum on Interdisciplinary Studies at the Zhejiang University in Hangzhou. The event's theme was "Symposium on Interdisciplinary Studies of Literature and Literary Criticism in the Era of Artificial Intelligence." Held on July 5-6, it was jointly organized by the Institute of Foreign Literature and the Institute for Interdisciplinary Studies of World Literature.

In this symposium, Reyes was the discussant of the keynote speaker, Prof. Fen Gao of the School of International Studies and Director of the Institute of Foreign Literature of Zhejiang University. Gao's talk was titled "Literary Criticism in the Age of Artificial Intelligence in China," describing the impact of "Artificial Intelligence literature" on literary creation and literary concepts. As discussant, Reyes pointed out the comprehensiveness of the overview of the topic and commended the self-reflexivity with which the contradictory tendencies were also discussed. She raised questions that focused on the concerns and caveats emerging from the practice of literary criticism in relation to the very limitations of artificial intelligence's application today and in the future.



Prof. Arriola at the 12th Convention of the International Association for Ethical Literary Criticism in Wuhan, China

In the same symposium, Arriola delivered a talk on "Technology and Ethics from the Perspective of Marshall McLuhan's Medium Theory." Critical of the perception that McLuhan's Medium Theory was neutral about the ethics of technological use, she argued that "the form or the medium becomes for McLuhan, the determinant of how a society, emphasizes one sensory extension, such as written, printed, oral, auditory, multi-dimensional, over another."

The second conference was the 12th convention of the International Association of Ethical Literary Criticism, on the theme, "20 Years of Ethical Literary Criticism: Retrospect and Prospect." It was hosted by the Central China Normal University in Wuhan.

In a round table discussion attended by major practitioners of ethical literary criticism internationally, Reyes spoke about the directions of Ethical literary and cultural criticism in the Philippines and its aim to contribute to a truly international dimension of this critical practice. She also talked about the forthcoming establishment and founding of The Ethical Literary and Cultural Criticism Association of the Philippines (ELCCAP) and the general guiding principles and particular trajectories in the development of a Filipino ethical and critical practice.

In the same round table discussion, Arriola discussed "Historiographic Metafiction: Certain Ethical Dimensions" that tackled the challenges to the novelist and the critic in order to problematize the truth-claims of the historical record and mode of transmitting historical knowledge, responsibility toward sources, and "deconstructing dominant historical claims."

The third conference was on Narratology organized and hosted by Shanghai Jiao Tong University in cooperation with the journals *Frontiers of Narrative Studies*, *Arcadia*, *Humanities and*

UST LITERATURE TO PAGE 17



Prof. Arriola (left) and Prof. Torres Reyes

GENDER-ING ELT WORKSHOP FROM PAGE 15

Beyond the workshops, the project team planned for other impactful post-project activities by determining the successes of the project, the areas for improvement, and the strategies that work to enhance their future collaborative endeavors. This inspiring event encouraged new perspectives and meaningful insights in the intersection between language and gender, making English language

teaching a powerful tool for transformative education.

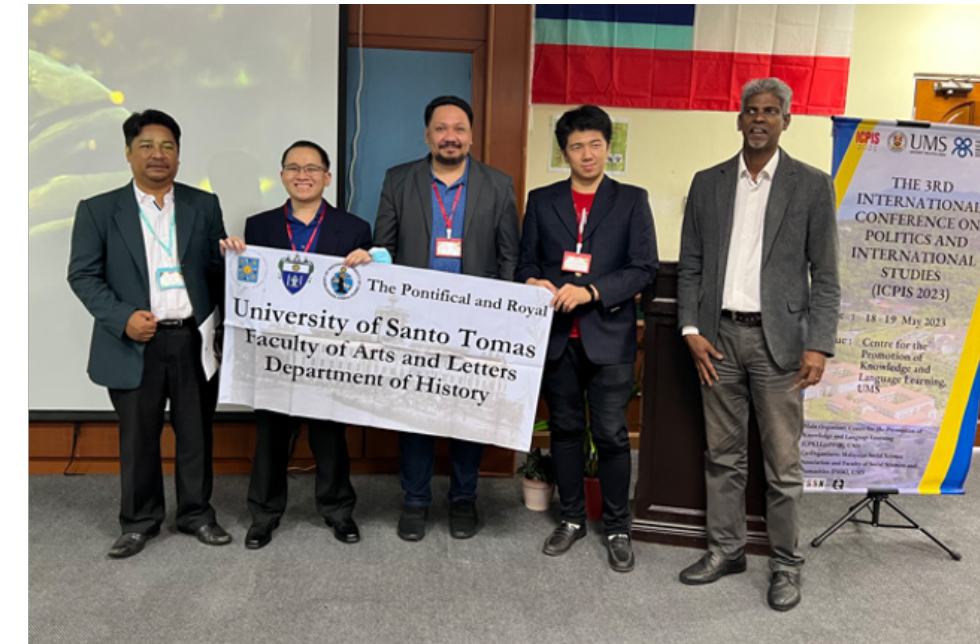
These activities are outcomes of the collaborative efforts of the project composed of researchers from 10 ODA countries namely, Bangladesh, Botswana, Brazil, China, Colombia, Indonesia, Morocco, Philippines, Ukraine, and Vietnam. The project is led by Dr. Vander Viana (Principal Investigator) from the University of Edinburgh and Dr. Aisling O'Boyle (Co-Principal Investigator) from Queen's University Belfast. ■

History Dept. Chair Resos of GS presents research on politics at Malaysian conference

Associate Professorial Lecturer Archie B. Resos, Ph.D., of the UST Graduate School led paper presenters from the UST Faculty of Arts and Letters in the Third International Conference on Politics and International Studies at the Universiti Malaysia Sabah in Kota Kinabalu.

Resos, who also serves as the UST Department of History Chair, presented his research from the UST Research Center on Culture, Arts and Humanities titled "Ferdinand Marcos, Sr. and Joseph Estrada: From the Narrative of Political Tower to the Story of the United Filipino People Power."

The international conference in the Universiti Malaysia Sabah brought together researchers, scholars, practitioners, and academicians from various parts of the world who have interests in political and historical discourses. It had for its theme "Navigating Malaysia's Domestic and International Political Challenges in the Post-Covid Era". The conference was sponsored by the UMS Centre for the Promotion of Knowledge and Language Learning in cooperation with the UMS Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities, and the Malaysian Social Science Association. ■



Dr. Resos (center)

UST LITERATURE FROM PAGE 16



Prof. Reyes with Prof. Biwu Shang (left) of Shanghai Jiao Tong University and Prof. Vincenz Serrano (right) of ADMU

Social Sciences Communications, and *Interdisciplinary Studies of Literature* held from July 10 to 13.

Reyes discussed a paper titled "The Road Chronotope in Rural Colonial Philippines" about "How My Brother Brought Home a Wife," a canonical short story by Manuel E. Arguilla, published during the Commonwealth Period. Using Bakhtinian "chronotopic" analysis, the paper explored the dynamic ways by which the short story's spatial and temporal features, which were often marginalized in traditional studies of Philippine fiction, played a dominant role in framing and structuring the aesthetic and thematic significance of the narrative.

Their participation was fully sponsored by Zhejiang University and Shanghai Jiao Tong University which are both C9 universities (China's equivalent of "Ivy league universities"), while Central China Normal University is a top university in Wuhan, Hubei Province.

Reyes is the UST Scholar-in-Residence, Editor-in-Chief of *UNITAS* journal, and Professor at the Department of Literature, while Arriola is a Professor at the Department of Literature and Department of Communication, Research Fellow at the UST Center for Theology, Religious Studies and Ethics, and elected head of the Humanities Division of the National Research Council of the Philippines (NRCF). They were joined by Filipino colleagues Prof. Vincenz Serrano of the Ateneo de Manila University and Atty./Dr. Jose Duke Bagulaya of Education University of Hong Kong. ■



Prof. Reyes discusses her keynote lecture on the Bakhtinian chronotope in front of the audience at Shanghai Jiao Tong University

UA&P Fil Dept visits UST *Sentro sa Salin* for collaborative benchmarking



Dr. Fajilan (right row, fourth from front), UST Office of Public Affairs Assistants to the Director Ms. Michaela Lagniton and Ms. Katherine Patrice Sibug (right row, third and second from front) with UST Filipino teachers and guests from UA&P.

Dr. Fajilan and Dr. Camba

UST *Sentro sa Salin* at *Araling Salin* (UST SSAS) and the University of Asia and the Pacific (UA&P) Department of Filipino have cemented their ties at the *Palitang-Salin: Campus Tour and Benchmarking* held on July 6.

The consensus meeting, led by UST SSAS Chair Assoc. Prof. Wennielyn F. Fajilan, Ph.D. and UA&P Department of Filipino Chair Asst. Prof. Moreal Camba, Ph.D., allowed both institutions to lay down their translation feats and agenda.

UST SSAS *Lupon ng mga Tagasalin* members and UST *Departamento ng Filipino* academic staff, including Asst. Prof. Elenita Mendoza, Asst. Prof. Myra P. De Leon, Ed.D., Asst. Prof. Amalia Castro, Ph.D., Mr. Marvin Zapico, Mr. John Dale Trogo, Ms. Charlotte Malinao, and Mr. Mark Anthony Angeles, shared their experience in technical and literary translation.

Meanwhile, UA&P Department of Filipino academic staff, including Mr. Louise Vincent Amante, Asst. Prof. Leodivico Lacsamana, Ph.D., and Mr. Errol John Velasco, shared their translation of Roman classics.

The event ended with a campus tour where participants, including UST SSAS member and former UST *Departamento ng Filipino* Chair Prof. Roberto Ampil, Ph.D., visited the Main Building, UST Museum, Quadracentennial Square, and the Miguel de Benavides Library, including the Antonio Vivencio del Rosario UST Heritage Library. ■

ARTS AND CULTURE

Thomasian visual artists feature works in group exhibit **Vision: Insight**



The UST Atelier Alumni Association, Inc. (USTAAAI), the official alumni group of the UST College of Fine Arts and Design, staged the second installment of its Vision project series titled "Vision: Insight" from July 8 to July 23 at the ArtistSpace, Ayala Museum Annex, Makati City.

Top Thomasian visual artists joined the group exhibit, namely, Manny Baldemor, Andres Barrioquinto, Remy Boquiren, Richard Buxani, Salvador Ching, Fil Delacruz, Anita del Rosario, Edgar Doctor, Elmer Dumlao, Jun Impas, Raul Isidro, Edgar Lantin, Justin Nuyda, Ramon Orlina, Marcelino Rodriguez, and Dominic Rubio. The exhibit was curated by prolific painter and printmaker Janos Delacruz.

INSIGHT TO PAGE 19

INSIGHT FROM PAGE 20

Present during the opening and ribbon-cutting event was Hon. Grace Poe-Llamanzares as the guest-of-honor.

"Art always appreciates not just in value but in memories and history," said Poe in her welcome remarks. The senator, who was exposed to the arts at a young age, pointed out its importance in showcasing the story of one's country through museums and exhibits. She encouraged the patrons and guests to invest in the arts for its perpetuity.

Spearheaded by USTAAAI President Marissa Pe Yang, the association continues its commitment in promoting and supporting Thomasian artists and all their artistic endeavors. Through Atelier's projects such as the recently concluded Outstanding Atelier Alumni Honors and Vision series, Pe Yang aims to inspire fellow Thomasian art professionals and students to follow their own creative journey.

Vision series started in 2021 providing an avenue and platform for Thomasian artists during the pandemic. The third installment called "Vision: Propel" is set to launch this August 2023 at the Art Anton Gallery, Pasay City. ■



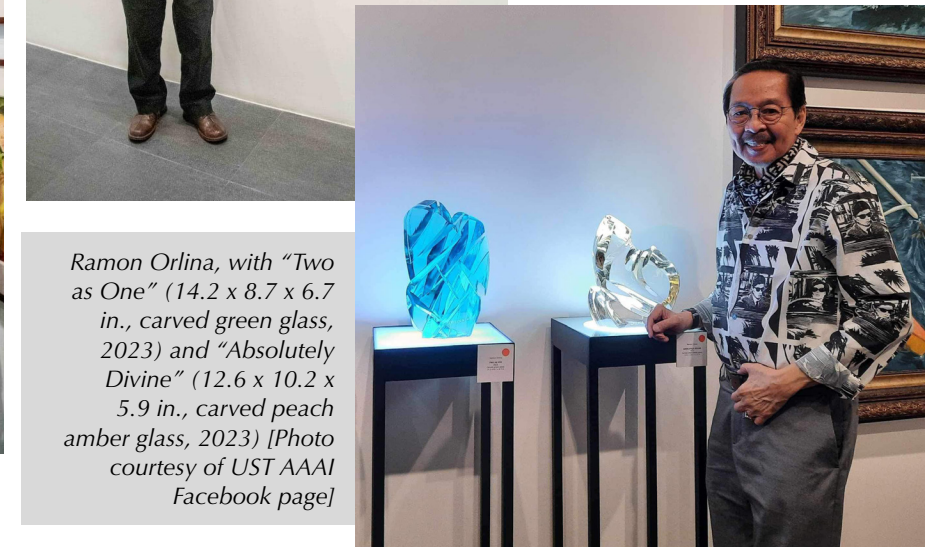
USTAAAI President Marissa Pe Yang (center) and Vision: Insight curator Janos Delacruz present the exhibit memorabilia to guest-of-honor Hon. Grace Poe-Llamanzares (left)



Jun Impas with his works "Waiting for Blessings 1 and 2", (30 x 40 in., oil on canvas, 2023) [Photo courtesy of UST AAAl Facebook page]



Edgar Doctor with his works "Save the Trees No. 3" (24 x 32 in., mixed media, 2018) and "The Yellow Sun" (34.5 x 34.5 in., mixed media, 2018) [Photo courtesy of UST AAAl Facebook page]



Ramon Orlina, with "Two as One" (14.2 x 8.7 x 6.7 in., carved green glass, 2023) and "Absolutely Divine" (12.6 x 10.2 x 5.9 in., carved peach amber glass, 2023) [Photo courtesy of UST AAAl Facebook page]



(Seated, from left:) Asst. Prof. Alvarez, Prof. Cristina Pantoja Hidalgo, Avenida publisher Nida Ramirez, Ting Pantoja Mañalac. Standing: Prof. John Jack Wigley, Precious Pages publisher Segundo Matias, Jr., Joselito Delos Reyes, King Llanza, Chuckberry Pascual, Dinah Roma, Alice Sun-Cua, Ned Parfan, Nestor Cuartero, George Deoso, U Eliserio and Adrian Ho at the Philippine Book Fest

UST Publishing House marks its 430th year with SINAG Festival events

To celebrate the 430th year since the founding of *La Imprenta de los Dominicanos de Manila*, now known in its current form as the UST Publishing House (USTPH), Asia's oldest university press embarked on Sinag Festival, a multi-event book launching of its 2019-2023 titles.

Spanning from June to September, 2023, Sinag Festival takes the place of the USTPH Grand Book Launch, the annual presentation of USTPH titles. Since its 2019 titles had not been celebrated in-person since the pandemic, the festival was also intended to reconnect authors to their audiences in physical venues. Sinag derives its name from the Sun of St. Thomas Aquinas at the center of the UST logo.

Sinag kicked off with a group book signing at the Booktopia Stage of the Philippine Book Festival on June 3 at the World Trade Center, Pasay City, in partnership with the Book Development Association of the Philippines and the National Book Development Board (NBDB). The three-day Philippine Book Festival held from June 2 to 4 was also the USTPH's first book fair participation since 2019.

The main program of the Sinag Festival, dubbed "*Sinag sa Diliman*" took place on July 3 as part of the CMC (College of Mass Communication) Week, at the CMC Auditorium, University of the Philippines-Diliman. USTPH Director Ma. Aiil B. Alvarez presented the ceremonial first copies to USTPH authors Ricky Lee, National Artist for Film and Broadcast Arts; Cristina Pantoja Hidalgo, Director of the UST Center for Creative Writing and Literary Studies (UST CCWLS); Ma. Alexandria I. Chua, Director of the UST Research Center for Culture, Arts and Humanities; Dean Francis Alfar, chair of the Manila Critics Circle; Nikki Alfar, fictionist and editor; Rolando Tolentino, former dean of the UP CMC; Louie Jon A. Sanchez, UP CMC faculty; Chuckberry J. Pascual, UST CCWLS Resident Fellow; Dr. Alice Sun-Cua, a medical practitioner at San Juan de Dios Hospital; King Llanza, a



(Standing, from left:) Asst. Prof. Alvarez, Dr. Jose Victor Torres, Dr. John Iremil Teodoro, Asst. Prof. Parfan

finalist for New York's Gaudy Boy Poetry Prize; U Eliserio of the UP Filipino department; and John Iremil Teodoro, Director of the DLSU Bienvenido N. Santos Creative Writing Center (BNSWC). Also present in the event were CMC Dean Fernando Paragas, Alwynn Aguirre, chair of UP Broadcast Communication, and Anthony John Balisi, NBDB director.

Held in partnership with the Bienvenido N. Santo Creative Writing Center, "*Sinag at De La Salle University*" was a whole day of

SINAG FESTIVAL EVENT TO PAGE 21

CWC International Corporation donates Vitra Design Museum Miniature Collection to UST Architecture

The UST College of Architecture gratefully received the 62-piece Vitra Design Museum miniature collection during the turnover by CWC Interiors, headed by its CEO and President Mr. Fred Yuson, held on May 30, 2023 at the CWC Interiors Showroom in Bonifacio Global City, Taguig City.

The Vitra Design Museum miniature collection is a global collection of furniture containing iconic pieces made by world renowned designers such as Charles and Ray Eames.

Representing Architecture, Ar. Vinson P. Serrano, College Secretary, received the collection together with notable Architecture alumni namely Ar. Abelardo 'Jojo' M. Tolentino, Jr. of AIDEA, Ar. Carmelo 'Meloy' T. Casas of Casas + Architects, Ar. Arlen De Guzman of Arlen P. De Guzman Design & Associates Co., Ar. Lora B. Rivera, past National Executive Vice-President of the United Architects of the Philippines, and other Thomasian architects. The turnover was made possible through the kind assistance of Thomasian Architecture-alumnus Ar. Onet Limchoc of Limchoc Construction Corporation.

The College of Architecture is planning to open the collection to the public to highlight milestones in international furniture design. ■



Architecture Dean Rodolfo Ventura shows a miniature of a classic Eames Lounge Chair.



The Vitra Design Museum Miniature Collection [Photo courtesy of the CWC Interiors website]

College of Architecture Secretary Ar. Vinson Serrano (third from left) receives the collection.



SINAG FESTIVAL EVENT FROM PAGE 20

book events at Henry Sy, Sr. Hall, De La Salle University on July 14, starting with a book signing by playwright Jose Victor Torres, a Thomasian alumnus and DLSU history faculty. This was followed by a tandem book launch between USTPH and Penguin Southeast Asia for Ferdinand Pisigan Jarin, author and co-editor of four USTPH titles, and John Toledo, a faculty of the UST literature department. The day culminated with the Sinag Poetry Stage, with poetry readings by Paul Alcoseba Castillo, Raphael Atienza Coronel, Adrian Crisostomo Ho, Mookie Katigbak-Lacuesta, King Llanza, Dinah Roma, John Iremil Teodoro, and a virtual participation by Baguio-based poet and journalist

Babeth Lolarga. CCWLS Resident Fellow Dr. Jenny Ortuoste served as program host.

Philosophy, religion and theology titles took center stage at "*Sinag at the Aquinas Conference*" in coordination with the UST Institute of Religion and the UST Center for Theology, Religious Studies and Ethics (CTRSE) on July 19 at the George Ty Hall, Buenaventura Garcia Paredes, OP Building in UST, featuring titles by UST Vice Rector for Research and Innovation Rev. Fr. Jannel Abogado, O.P., Prof. Jove Jim Aguas, Rev. Fr. Edgardo Alaurin, O.P., Assoc. Prof. Milagros C. Arrevillaga, Prof. Alfredo Co, Rev. Fr. Fausto Gomez, O.P., Assoc. Prof. Roland Theuas DS. Pada,

and Prof. Joel Sagut, Director of the UST CTRSE.

On August 18, a book launching by National Artist for Literature Virgilio S. Almaro was held at the Quezon City Circle, co-sponsored by Quezon City Mayor Joy Belmonte.

The next event in the festival calendar is "*Sinag: UST Authors Series Redux*" which featured books by the resident fellows of the CCWLS on September 4, 2023.

The Sinag Festival will close with more book signings and launchings on September 14-17 at the Manila International Book Fair, SMX Convention Center, Pasay City. ■



Harper Adams University Senior Lecturer and Researcher

(From left:) UST Office of Public Affairs Director Asst. Prof. Joreen T. Rocamora, Ph.D, Senior Lecturer and Researcher from the Harper Adams University Department of Engineering in the United Kingdom Mr. Sam Wane, and Assistant to the Director for Public Affairs Ms. Michaela Lagniton on August 14, 2023.

Campus France Manila - Service de Coopération et d'Action Culturelle (SCAC) under the Embassy of France

(From left:) UST Office of Public Affairs Director Asst. Prof. Joreen T. Rocamora, Ph.D., Campus France Manila SCAC Head and Officer for Higher Education and Linguistics Mr. Adam Folleas, and Office of International Relations and Programs Associate Director Prof. Karen Santiago, Ph.D., on August 15, 2023



Architecture Licensure Examination

June 2023

UST Passing Rate: 87.82%
National Passing Rate: 61.12%



3rd - 84.60%
Nadine Anne Laurente Bagon



4th - 84.10%
Kenneth Christopher Dy



8th - 83.40%
Marion Jeuss Colis Garcia



9th - 83.10%
Rochelle Mae Ko Ong



10th - 82.90%
Keziah Salazar Jose



10th - 82.90%
Lemuel Kim Beltran Rollon



Psychometricians Licensure Examination

August 2023

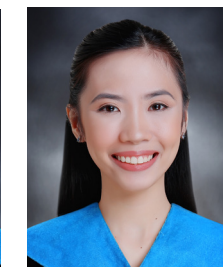
UST Passing Rate: 98.88%
National Passing Rate: 73.27%



6th - 88%
Krizzia Joyce Apolinaria Bautista



6th - 88%
Joseph Miguel Onera Dillague



6th - 88%
Mary Mark Shireen Nieves Loba



8th - 87.60%
Khim Marian Ryan Panaguiton



10th - 87.20%
Andrea Selene Pacursa Oliveros



10th - 87.20%
Ezekiel John Corillo Saligumba



10th - 87.20%
Mary Joy Quimno Serafin



Psychologist Licensure Examination

August 2023

UST Passing Rate: 93.55%
National Passing Rate: 72.44%



3rd - 86%
Earl Francis
Infante Mallari



Food Technologies Licensure Examination

August 2023

UST Passing Rate: 49.3%
National Passing Rate: 39.98%



10th - 84.5%
Natalie Mae
King Caumban



Medical Technologists Licensure Examination

August 2023

UST Passing Rate: 93.86%
National Passing Rate: 73.75%



2nd - 92.7%
Jolina Mae
Dela Peña Ongchinke



3rd - 92.4%
Kevin Carlo
Macaspac Ganas



3rd - 92.4%
Hilary Marj
Lopez Orbeta



6th - 92.1%
Bianca Felise
Falcon Cruz



6th - 92.1%
Exequiel Fernando
Sangco, III



7th - 92%
Aira Francine
Estrellado Marquez



8th - 91.9%
Simon Nicohlus
Rombano Cañeba



9th - 91.8%
Leo Bert
Antolin Orpilla



10th - 91.7%
Jose Carlo
Rigor Domingo



10th - 91.7%
Juanico Paredes



THE ACADEMIA

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