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Pontifical and Royal UNIVERSITY OF SANTO TOMAS
THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES

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AI SUMMIT 2024

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

ADVANCING AI CAPABILITY PROMOTING AI SAFETY

MARCH 18-19, 2024
8:30 AM - 4:30 PM

DR. ROBERT C. SY GRAND BALLROOM
UNIVERSITY OF SANTO TOMAS
ESPANA, MANILA

SUPPORTING PARTNERS

AAP **BPAP** **Rotary Club of Makati**

UST holds AI Summit 2024

The University of Santo Tomas held the AI Summit 2024 on March 18 and 19, 2024, at the Grand Ballroom of the Bl. Buenaventura García Paredes, O.P. Building.

With the theme “Advancing AI Capability and Promoting AI Safety,” the AI Summit 2024 brought together more than 400 educators, researchers, industry practitioners, government leaders, non-government, and educational organizations and agencies to engage in meaningful conversations on the impact of the rapidly evolving field of AI on education, the workplace, and society.

Opportunities for Innovation and Collaboration

The AI Summit served as a platform for fostering innovation and collaboration. It provided a unique opportunity for industry professionals, researchers, policymakers, and entrepreneurs to exchange ideas, share insights, and explore cutting-edge advancements in AI technology. By facilitating interdisciplinary

dialogue and collaboration, the summit created an avenue conducive to pushing the boundaries of AI innovation further.

AI's Impact Across Industries

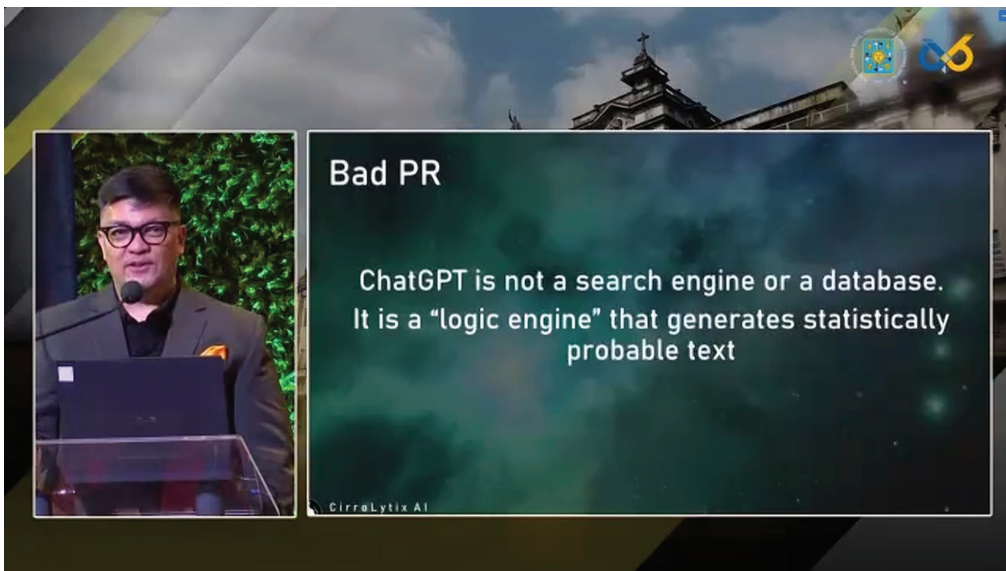
One of the main objectives of the summit was to explore the diverse applications of AI across various industries. From industry experts, educators, AI professionals, policy-makers, researchers and beyond, AI is revolutionizing traditional processes, enhancing efficiency, and driving unprecedented levels of productivity. Through the keynote speeches, panel discussions, and interactive workshops, participants were able to gain valuable insights into how AI is reshaping industries and creating new opportunities for growth and development.

The AI Summit 2024 kicked off with keynote speeches from policymakers, program developers, academics, and industry practitioners to provide perspectives and guidance on navigating

AI SUMMIT 2024 TO PAGE 2

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CEO of Cirrolytix Research Services Mr. Dominic Ligot

artificial intelligence at present and in the future, promoting innovation and collaboration. The morning plenary session on Day 1 included the following speakers and their presentations: Prof. Shafika Isaacs, Ph.D. of the University of Johannesburg (*Advancing AI Capability in Education – critically & with caution*), Prof. Lev Gonick, Chief Technology Officer of Arizona State University (*Global Frameworks for AI Policy and Program Development*), Ms. Michelle Alarcon, President of the Analytics Association of the Philippines (*AI Governance Framework in the Philippines*), Mr. Jack Madrid, President and CEO of the IT and Business Process Association of the Philippines (*Preparing the Future Workforce for the Needs of the IT-BPM Industry*), Asst. Prof. Joseph Benjamin Ilagan, Program Director of the IT-Entrepreneurship Program of the Ateneo de Manila University (*Generative AI and Emerging University Startup and Entrepreneurship Initiatives*), and Prof. Cheryl Peralta, DrPh, Vice-Rector for Academic Affairs of UST (*Harnessing AI's Potentials and Overcoming Challenges for Educators*).

The afternoon session of Day 1 presented the whys and hows of AI capability building for relevant and acceptable use in the workplace, education, and even in daily social activities. This provided opportunities to explore the diverse applications of AI across

various industries. The speakers and their presentations included: Dr. Ethel Agnes Villanueva, Chairperson of the Technical Working Group on Lifelong Learning at the Commission on Higher Education (*AI Competency Frameworks and Standards for the Future Workforce*), Ms. Kyle Bowen,

Deputy Chief Information Officer of ASU (*One Size Fits One Learning Experiences*), Mr. Sherwin Pelayo, Executive Director of AAP (*Using the Philippine Skills Framework for Analytics and Artificial Intelligence (PSF-AAI) for Workforce Development*), Ms. Noemi Lardizabal-Dado, Columnist of The Manila Times (*Creativity is Integrated into Education*), Mr. Beato Bongco, Co-Founder and CEO of Anycase.ai (*Prospects of AI for Startups: The Case of Generative AI for the Legal Profession*), and Asst. Prof. Anna Cherylle Ramos, Director of the Educational Technology Center of UST (*Harnessing AI's Potentials and Overcoming Challenges for Educators*).

Ethical AI and Responsible Innovation

As AI technologies continue to evolve, the importance of ethical AI and responsible innovation cannot be overstated. The summit provided a forum for discussing the ethical implications of AI deployment, addressing concerns related to bias, privacy, and algorithmic transparency. By fostering discussions on responsible AI practices, the summit ensured that AI development remains aligned with societal ethical values and promotes the greater good. These concerns were the main focus for the morning session of Day 2 of the summit.



Dr. Ethel Agnes P. Valenzuela, Chairperson of the TWG on Lifelong Learning, Commission on Higher Education.

AI SUMMIT 2024 FROM PAGE 2

The speakers and their presentations included: Hon. Cong. Mark Go of the House of Representatives (*AI Safety in Education*), Prof. Vicente Antonio Pijano III, Chancellor and COO of the Philippine Women's College, Davao representing the Philippine Association of Colleges and Universities (*Acceptable AI Policy Development for Educational Institutions*), Dr. Allison Hall, Senior Director of ASU Enterprise Technology (*Drafting Course Policies for Acceptable AI Use*), Mr. Dominic Vincent Ligot, Founder and CEO of Cirrolytix (*AI Ethics for Education and the Workplace*), Mr. Miguel de Guzman, AI Safety Researcher of Data Ethics Ph and Council for Responsible Analytics and Artificial Intelligence (*Promoting AI Safety: Findings from Recent Research Evidence*), and Asst. Prof. Leo-Martin Angelo Ocampo, academic staff of UST (*Strengthening Humanity and Human Agency in the Era of Artificial Intelligence*).

Next Generation of AI Leaders

The AI Summit maintains its commitment to nurturing the next generation of AI talent. Through mentorship programs, networking opportunities, and educational workshops, the summit empowered aspiring AI professionals to hone their skills, expand their knowledge, and make meaningful contributions to the field. By investing in talent development, the summit sought to foster a vibrant



(From left:) Asst. Prof. Joseph Benjamin Ilagan, Prof. Cheryl R. Peralta, DrPH, Ms. Michelle Alarcon, and Mr. Jack Madrid

AI ecosystem that thrives on diversity, creativity, and innovation.

Given these aspirations for future AI leaders, the plenary sessions were capped by launching the MasterTrack Specialist Certificate on AI-Integrated Learning and Development under the AI Core Certification for Educators (ACE) Program of the University of Santo Tomas. This post-baccalaureate certificate program is anchored on the Philippine Skills Framework for Analytics and Artificial Intelligence and the Philippine Skills Framework for Human Capital Development and comprises six MasterCourses. Each MasterCourse will run for 54 hours, 5-6 weeks, equivalent to a 3-unit course in the University, for a total of 18 units.

Finally, the afternoon AI Summit 2024 concluded with parallel workshops on Introductory AI Tool Navigation and Immersive Experience in Specific Disciplines, discipline-clustered parallel sessions that allowed participants to experience Generative AI tools relevant to particular disciplines work, navigate these tools, and reflect on their experience regarding their possible uses, advantages, pitfalls, implications on learning and development, and key considerations before use. There were also parallel workshops on Course Level Policy PIAI-Ground (Reflecting on Considerations For Classroom-Level AI Use), AI acceptable use policy writeshops for educators who want to draft course policies to help guide AI integration to instruction.

The Road Ahead

The Artificial Intelligence Summit 2024, with all its partners and experts, stood as a beacon of inspiration, guiding the education sector towards a future where AI-driven innovation enhances lives, drives economic prosperity, and fosters social progress. By bringing together the brightest minds in AI, the summit paved the way for a future where the possibilities of artificial intelligence were proven limitless.

Ultimately, the summit stood as a testament to the transformative power of AI and the boundless potential it holds for shaping the future. Through collaboration, innovation, and responsible stewardship, UST can hopefully harness the full potential of AI to contribute to various sustainable development goals in order to build a brighter, more inclusive future for generations to come.

The AI Summit 2024 was successfully undertaken with UST's collaborating partners: the Philippine Association of Colleges and Universities (PACU), Private Education Assistance Committee (PEAC), USAID-RTI International in partnership with the UPSKILL Design Collaboratory Arizona State University (ASU)- University Design Institute, and CirroLytix. The AI Summit 2024 also had supporting partners: the Analytics and Artificial Intelligence Association of the Philippines (AAP), the IT and Business Processing Association of the Philippines (IBPAP), and the Rotary Club of Makati. ■



UST Vice Rector for Academic Affairs Prof. Cheryl R. Peralta, DrPH

Six Thomasian-led Architecture companies enter the World's Top 100

For the year 2024, six architectural companies from the Philippines made it to the list of the top 100 architectural practices in the world—all six are Thomasian-led companies.

This list, provided by World Architecture 100 (WA100), is Building Design's annual survey of the world's largest architectural practices. The publication of the list is one of the sought-after publications in the industry. The companies are as follows:

AIDEA, with UST Architecture Class of 1987 alumnus Ar. Abelardo Tolentino, Jr., as its founder and president, is the highest in the Philippines and #39 in the WA100. Most recently, he and AIDEA worked on the recently inaugurated UST General Santos City Main Building.

Visionarch, at #57, is led by Ar. Daniel Terence Yu (UST BS Architecture, Class of 1995); ASYA Design, at #79, is led by its Principal Architect Ar. Albert Yu (UST BS Architecture, Class of 1991); WTA Architecture and Design Studio, at #88 is led by its Principal Architect Ar. William T. Ti, Jr. (UST BS Architecture, Class of 2002); GFP Architects, at #96, has for its Managing Partner Ar. Annette F. Gaddi-Liganor (UST BS Architecture, Class of 1982) and was founded by Ar. Gabriel Formoso (UST BS Architecture, Class of 1937); and JSLA Architects (#99) is founded by two alumni from UST BS Architecture Class of 1980, Ar. Jose Siao Ling and Ar. Ana Mangalino-Ling. ■



AIDEA President Ar. Abelardo Tolentino, Jr.



Visionarch President Ar. Daniel Terence Yu



GFP Architects Managing Partner Ar. Annette F. Gaddi – Liganor and Founder Ar. Gabriel Formoso



ASYA Design Principal Architect Ar. Albert Yu



WTA Architecture and Design Studio Principal Architect Ar. William T. Ti, Jr.



JSLA Architects Founder/Principal Architect Ar. Jose Siao Ling and Founder/Partner Ar. Ana S. Mangalino-Ling



New Dominican Bishop Sipalay invites Alaminos community to journey together for the common good



Most Rev. Napoleon Balili Sipalay, Jr., O.P., D.D. [Photo courtesy of the University of Santo Tomas Facebook page]

A Filipino Dominican is now the Fourth Bishop of the Diocese of Alaminos. Most Rev. Napoleon Balili Sipalay, Jr., O.P., D.D., was ordained on March 18, and formally installed on March 19, 2024, coinciding with the feast of Saint Joseph, the patron of the diocese.

The solemn episcopal ordination and rites of canonical possession were officiated by His Excellency Most Rev. Socrates B. Villegas, O.P., D.D., the Archbishop of Lingayen-Dagupan. Bishop Jacinto A. Jose of Urdaneta and Auxiliary Bishop Fidelis B. Layog served as co-consecrators.

Church leaders, including Manila Archbishop Jose Cardinal F. Advincula, O.P., D.D., and Dominican Fathers from the Santo Domingo Church and Priory of St. Thomas Aquinas, were in attendance, and so were local government leaders including the Alaminos Mayor Arth Bryan Celeste.

Bishop Sipalay's installation ends the four-year *sede vacante* period, in which the diocese—in the absence of its bishop since his predecessor Archbishop Ricardo Baccay was assigned to Tuguegarao in 2019—had Bishop Layog as the apostolic administrator.

He is the third Filipino Dominican to be elevated to the episcopate following the late Archbishop Emeritus Leonardo Legazpi, O.P., of Caceres, and the late Auxiliary Bishop Jose Salazar, O.P. of Lipa.

"Let us look to the task before us, the task of building the Church. The Lord does not look at us as we are now, for he looks at what we can become," said the newly ordained Bishop.

"Let us journey together for the common good of this diocese. Let us build this Church together, not going ahead, not going backward, but together, side by side, we walk to build a Diocese of Alaminos," urged Most Rev. Sipalay, adding "Please accompany me with your prayers. We pray for one another, that we may be instruments to continue the plan of the Lord in our lives."

Prior to being ordained, Bishop Sipalay was most recently the Vice Rector of the UST Central Seminary. He also served as the 12th Prior Provincial of the Dominican Province of the Philippines and UST Vice Chancellor from 2016 to 2021.

Born in Davao City on October 20, 1970, he entered the Order of Preachers in 1988 after initially taking up Medical Technology in UST and made his First

Profession in 1991. After completing his institutional studies, he was ordained a priest on April 5, 1997. Since then, he has faithfully served the Province in various capacities, including as a formator, spiritual director, and missionary to Sri Lanka.

The Bishop's official coat of arms contains symbols honoring his identity. Elements include the Dominican Cross fleury with an Aquinian sun in splendor, which appears on the upper right side of the shield and pertains to his life as a member of the Order of Preachers. The crossed keys of St. Peter refers to the First Pope, the Patron Saint of the Archdiocese of Davao, where the Bishop was born and raised, while the rice plant and leaves pertain to the Bishop's surname and middle name: "*Si palay*" ('there is rice' in Binisaya) and *Balili* ('grass' in Binisaya). The tree on the hilltop with the monogram of the Blessed Virgin Mary refers to his devotion to the Blessed Mother, and his service as Prior and Rector of the Minor Basilica of Our Lady of Manaoag.



His motto, visible on the coat of arms, is "*misericordiam Dei et vestram*," (God's mercy and yours) is the official response of one who enters the Order of Preachers to the Prior during his Religious Profession and reflects his constant commitment as an obedient disciple of St. Dominic de Guzman.

Most Rev. Sipalay's appointment was officially announced by His Holiness Pope Francis on January 28, 2024, during the Feast of Saint Thomas Aquinas. ■

158 DepEd-Pasig teachers complete College of Education's Science Teaching certificate program



The teachers at the completion ceremony

A total of 158 teacher-scholars from the Department of Education (DepEd) in Pasig City have completed the Certificate in Science Teaching (CST) Program offered by the UST College of Education.

The post-baccalaureate program, which ran from October 2022 to March 2023, provided public school Science teachers of DepEd Schools Division Office of Pasig City (SDO-Pasig) with 27 units of science content specialization, science pedagogy, science research, and technology courses to further enhance their teaching competencies.

A Completion Ceremony was held last February 24, 2024 at the Frassati Auditorium, Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati, OP Building, to mark the program's culmination.

The event was attended by Rep. Roman T. Romulo, Representative of the Lone District of Pasig and Chair of the House Committee on Education and Culture; UST Vice Rector for Academic Affairs Cheryl R. Peralta, DrPH; UST College of Education Dean Pilar I. Romero, LPT, PhD; Regent Rev. Fr. Maximo P. Gatela, OP, PhL; UST College of Science

SCIENCE TEACHING CERTIFICATE PROGRAM
TO PAGE 7

UST hosts COMELEC's 'Register Anywhere Program' rollout ahead of next year's polls

The University of Santo Tomas joined the Commission on Elections (COMELEC) "Register Anywhere Program" (RAP) to enhance the efficiency and accessibility of the voter registration process. Thomasians, parishioners, and their relatives were able to register as new voters, transfer precincts, and reactivate or correct their registration data at the UST P. Noval Court, on March 14, 2024.

The RAP is a comprehensive service for voter registration. Rather than being limited to local COMELEC offices across the metropolitan area, RAP enables more citizens to join regardless of current residence at designated sites across the country. As a "one-stop shop" for voter registration, RAP facilities are conveniently located in malls, private establishments, church organizations and government offices, and educational institutions, now including the University of Santo Tomas.

UST remains one with the COMELEC's mission to increase voter turnout and empower more Filipinos to actively participate in the electoral process. The rollout of RAP is the latest addition to the collective University efforts for voter rights and education, after recently hosting the CNN Presidential and Vice Presidential Debates in 2022, conducting the hy-flex webinar "jUST Vote: Highlighting the Importance of Citizen Journalism and the Role of Media during a Pandemic Election", and the Boto Pilipino year-long voter engagement advocacy campaign, among many others. ■



Rollout of COMELEC's
Register Anywhere Program

March 14, 2024 | 7:00 am - 5:00 pm | P. Noval Court
University of Santo Tomas, Manila

SCIENCE TEACHING CERTIFICATE PROGRAM
FROM PAGE 6



Vice Rector for Academic Affairs Prof. Cheryl Peralta, DrPH (fifth from left), College of Science Dean Prof. Rey Donne Papa, Ph.D. (seventh from left), College of Education Dean Assoc. Prof. Pilar Romero, Ph.D. (sixth from left) Regent Rev. Fr. Maximo Gatela, O.P., (fourth from left), and officials from the College of Education present tokens to Pasig Councilor Angelu de Leon (third from left) and DepEd SDO Pasig City Superintendent Dr. Sheryll Gayola, CESO V (second from left)



Pasig Mayor Hon. Vico Sotto congratulates the teachers.

Dean Rey Donne S. Papa, PhD; DepEd SDO Pasig City Superintendent Dr. Sheryll T. Gayola, CESO V; Pasig City Councilor Hon. Maria Luisa "Angelu" de Leon; Pasig City Local Government Unit (LGU) Education Unit Officer-in-Charge Atty. Kathleen Mae Villamin; and DepEd SDO Officials, Principals, and Head Teachers of participating schools.

During the ceremony, UST College of Education Assistant Dean and CST Project Lead Louie B. Dasas, PhD, and Dr. Gayola shared their thoughts on the project's successful completion.

They also recognized the Pasig LGU and the collaborating units, such as the UST College of Science, UST Educational Technology Center, and the UST Center for Innovative Teaching and Educational Delivery for their support and assistance.

Mr. John F. Bautista of Manggahan High School, the top completer, expressed his gratitude on behalf of all the teacher-scholars ■

Lintao of AB, GS tapped as Resource Person in Lower House's version Plain Language Bill



(From left:) Research assistant and UST Sociology student Jan Megan Soriano, Plain Language Bill co-author Congressman Jose S. Aquino II (Agusan del Norte 1st District), Prof. Rachelle B. Lintao, Ph.D., and TWG head Congressman Dale B. Corvera (Agusan del Norte 2nd District)

Prof. Rachelle B. Lintao, Ph.D., Chair of the Department of English and Program Lead of the Graduate School English Language Studies Cluster, served as a resource person for the Committee on Public Information Technical Working Group (TWG) in a series of meetings held at the House of Representatives during the Second Regular Session of the 19th Congress in crafting the Plain Language Bill. The most recent meeting was held on February 13, 2024 and the previous one was on November 14, 2023.

As a plain language advocate, Lintao was the lone academic who represented the University of Santo Tomas. She joined the heads of various government agencies as resource persons in providing inputs to the TWG headed by Congressman Dale B. Corvera (Agusan del Norte 2nd District).

Lintao suggested to the TWG that the definition of plain language provided under International Organization for Standardization (ISO) be adopted in the bill. She also raised the role of the higher education institutions (HEIs) in helping conduct training, seminars, and other capacity building activities for the offices and agencies covered by the act.

The TWG came up with the revised bill titled An Act Requiring Government Offices to Adopt Plain Language in All Communications to the Public to Enhance Citizen's Access to Government Information and Services in substitution of House Bills Numbered 4902, 5418, 5465, and 9158. The short title of the bill is "Plain Language in Government Communications Act". ■

Open Science initiatives highlighted in annual UST Science Week celebration

From March 18 to 23, 2024, the UST College of Science held its annual Modified Enhanced Online and Onsite Week of Science (MEOOWS) with the theme "Open Science". The Open Science initiative ensures that research outputs are available to all who need them. It fosters collaborations and encourages other scientists to validate the reproducibility of research results while ensuring equity, respecting diversity, and maintaining security and privacy.

The keynote speakers during the opening ceremonies of this year's celebrations are Dr. Chelle Gentemann of the US National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) who spoke on NASA's Open Science initiatives and Academician Mudjekeewis D. Santos, Ph.D. of the National Fisheries Research and Development Institute (NFRDI) who discussed the importance of science



Participants of the Environmental Psychology International Conference (EPIC) with Sec. Robert Borje of the Climate Change Commission after his plenary lecture (Photo courtesy of the College of Science Journal)

UST SCIENCE WEEK TO PAGE 9

UST SCIENCE WEEK FROM PAGE 8



Outstanding Alumni of Science Dr. Anthony Leachon and Ms. Karen Ibasco, M.Sc. taking photos of the TOAST commemorative plaques permanently installed on the 3rd floor of the UST Main Building.

communication in promoting open science initiatives. Dr. Santos is an associate professorial lecturer at the UST Graduate School.

Included in the many activities during the week-long celebration is the inaugural Mariano M. Pangan Lecture Series of the Department of Chemistry which was delivered by Academician Prof. Emeritus Fortunato B. Sevilla III, PhD. This lecture series pays tribute to the legacy of Prof. Dr. Mariano Pangan, who served as Chair of the Department of Chemistry, Dean of the College of Science and Faculty of Engineering, Assistant to the Rector for Academic Affairs, and Assistant Director of the Research Center for Natural Sciences.

The college week ended last March 23 with the first-ever Environmental Psychology International Conference (EPIC) hosted by the Department of Psychology. In attendance during the event was Sec. Robert Borje of the Climate Change Commission as well as well-



Science Regent Rev. Fr. Louie R. Coronel, OP and Dean Dr. Rey Donne Papa are joined by Dr. Jennifer Aguilar, Assistant Dean of the College of Fine Arts and Design during the ribbon cutting ceremony of the art exhibit.

known experts in the field of environmental psychology such as Dr. Susan Clayton of Wooster College (USA) and Dr. Ricardo Garcia Mira of the University of Coruna (Spain). This was the first conference in environmental psychology conducted in the Philippines.

The Department of Psychology hopes to come up with more research projects in environmental psychology. This is the college's contribution to the partnership between the University of Santo Tomas and the Climate Change Commission of the Philippines to help address climate problems in the country through instruction, research and community engagement—an essential contribution to the attainment of several sustainable goals.

Later that evening, the College of Science awarded the winners of The Outstanding Alumni of Science Tribute (TOAST) for 2024. The awardees included Edigio P. Elio, MD (BS General Science, 1977) for Humanitarian Service, Sheila

Marie G. Hocson, PhD (BS Psychology, 1998) and Donnabel Kuizon-Cruz (BS Chemistry, 2000) for Industry Practice, Emmerson Gale Vista, MD (BS Biology, 2003) and Amado Ona Tandoc III, MD (BS Biology Accelerated, 1999) for Medical Profession, Hon. Fransisco Perez Altarejos, MD (BS General Science, 1976) and Elizabeth Amelia V. Tianco, MD LIB (BS Chemistry, 1976) for Government and Public Service, Prof. Edralin A. Lucas, PhD (BS Chemistry, 1986) and Acad. Prof. Emeritus Maribel G. Nonato, PhD (BS Chemistry, 1978) for Scientific Research, Dean Emeritus Prof. Carmen G. Kanapi (BS Zoology, 1959) for Science Education (Posthumous), Joel Claro Perlado, MSc, FASP (BS Mathematics major in Actuarial Science 1992) and Joel Santos Cruz (BS Psychology, 1989) for Business, Entrepreneurship and Industry Practice and Karl Ubial, M.D. (BS Psychology, 2015) as Young Thomasian Scientist. The Elio family was also honored with the Science Family Awards since all members of the family graduated from the College of Science and excel in their chosen fields of specialization.

All events held during this year's Science Week are in line with the ten-year countdown of the College of Science as part of its centennial by 2026 which are anchored on the theme "Expressing our Faith through Excellence in Science".

Open Science is supported by the United Nations, which called on governments to establish national and international policies on Open Science. The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) also highlighted the importance of Open Science principles for the benefit of humankind and planetary sustainability in its 2021 "Recommendations for Open Science". In the United States, federal agencies declared 2023 as a Year of Open Science and organized various events, which espoused the integration of open science initiatives into their policies. ■



The Outstanding Alumni of Science Tribute (TOAST) winners for 2024 (photo courtesy of the Office for Alumni Relations)

Architecture alumni receive national recognition



Ar. William Ti on center together with the officials of PRC

Ar. Leo Pariñas, an alumnus of the UST College of Architecture Batch 1987, was an awardee for the Ani ng Dangal 2024 under the Architecture and Allied Arts Category by the National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA).

The awarding was held on February 20, 2024 at the Manila Metropolitan Theater.

An International Associate member of the American Institute of Architects, Pariñas is the Founding Principal and CEO of the LPPA Design Group.

His architectural experience expands through a variety of built structures, which include office buildings, residential towers, retail and mixed-use developments, hotels, resorts, education and healthcare facilities, industry, sports and civic buildings, housing developments, townhouses, custom homes and sustainable architecture projects and architectural interiors.

Adding to the list of accolades received by Thomasian architects is Ar. William T. Ti, Jr. who was named



Outstanding Architect of the Year (2023) by the Professional Regulation Commission.

An alumnus of the UST College of Architecture, he graduated with a degree in BS Architecture in 2002. He is currently the Principal Architect of WTA Architecture and Design Studio. His project "Ferdinand E. Marcos (FEM) Stadium Project" located in Laoag, Ilocos Norte was recently awarded as "Highly Commended" project during the World Architecture Festival 2023 held in Marina Bay Sands, Singapore from November 29 to December 1, 2023.

This year, his company WTA Architecture and Design Studio was included in the 2024 World Architecture 100 ranking 88th in the World. ■

UST Nutrition students place in Masterclass Interschool Competition

Fourth Year students of the Bachelor of Science in Nutrition and Dietetics Program won 2nd Runner-up in the Nutrition Masterclass Interschool Competition 2024 organized by the Nutritionist-Dietitians' Association of the Philippines (NDAP) and Nestlé Philippines, Inc. (NPI).

The team was composed of Vincent R. Altoveros, Francisco C. Mayuyu, Faye Beatriz V. Nuñez, and Joanna Marie B. Santos with Inst. Ailyn Mae K. Del Rio, RND, MSc as coach.



The UST Team

Former Architecture Dean David-Reyes was conferred Honorary Fellow by Hong Kong Institute of Architects

Ar. Yolanda David-Reyes was conferred Honorary Fellow by the Hong Kong Institute of Architects (HKIA) on February 23, 2024 during the HKIA SPRING Reception and opening of RAX Exhibition. She is the first woman Architect in Asia to receive such distinction.

She served as the dean of the UST College of Architecture and Fine Arts from 1990 – 2000. Aside from the academe, Ar. David-Reyes was prominent in the field of practice and professional organizations. She served as National President of the United Architects of the Philippines, Chairman and President of Architects Regional Council Asia, International President of Eastern Regional Organization for Planning and Human Settlement, among others. In government, she also served as Member of the Professional Regulatory Board of Architecture before becoming a Commissioner of the Professional Regulation Commission.

She is also a Fellow of UAP, an ASEAN Architect, APEC Architect, Honorary Fellow of the American Institute of Architects, and a LIKHA Awardee.

She finished her Architecture degree in UST in 1975 and holds the rank of Professor. ■



Ar. Yolanda David – Reyes right, together with Ar. Benny Chan – President of HKIA

Thomasian Chemistry Week 2024: Celebrating Science, Alumni, and Industry



(From left:) Chemistry Department Chair Assoc. Prof. Alan Rodelle Salcedo, Ph.D., Periodic Table Fund Raiser Inc. Vice President Academician Professor Emeritus Maribel G. Nonato, PTFR PRO Ms. Nida Autor

The University of Santo Tomas (UST) Department of Chemistry recently concluded its annual Chemistry Week celebration from February 12 to 16, 2024. This week-long celebration showcased the department's commitment to promoting chemistry education, research, alumni engagement, and industry collaboration.

MASTERCLASS INTERSCHOOL COMPETITION FROM PAGE 10

Running from September 2023 to February 2024, the competition required producing a 2-minute nutritional video focused on immunity nutrients, healthy snacking, *baon* tips, whole grain benefits, plant-based nutrition, trans fat 101, fortification, or weight loss.

The winning entry of the UST team provided public health information on trans fat.

The Nutrition Masterclass Interschool Competition 2024 was participated in by 15 universities and colleges all over the Philippines.

The winners were announced during the NDAP 69th Annual Convention held on 23 February 2024 at the Century Park Hotel Manila.

THOMASIAN CHEMISTRY WEEK 2024 TO PAGE 12

LECTURES AND CONFERENCES

College of Educ execs deliver lectures in Indonesia



*Asst. Prof. Reyes
(third from left) and
Asst. Prof. Dasas
(fourth from left)*

UST College of Education Assistant Dean Asst. Prof. Louie B. Dasas, LPT, Ph.D. and College Secretary Asst. Prof. Alvin Ringgo C. Reyes, LPT, MA delivered lectures at the Atma Jaya Catholic University in Jakarta, Indonesia, on 29 February-2 March 2024.

Assistant Dean Dasas talked about “Agency in Curriculum-Making and Implementation” while Asst. Prof. Reyes discussed “Understanding the Contexts of Philippine Classrooms” at the lecture-forum attended by 180 Religious Education students and the Faculty of Education and Language academic staff.

The UST contingent was met by Dr. Yanti, Vice Rector for Innovation, Research, Cooperation and Alumni; Dr. Luciana, MEd, Dean, Faculty of Education and Language; Dr. Pricilla Anindyta, Deputy Dean, Faculty of Education and Language; the different program heads; and Mr. Adre Zaif Rachman, Head of International Office.

Dean Assoc. Prof. Pilar I. Romero, LPT, Ph.D., also delivered an academic lecture on “Catholic Education and Leadership” via Zoom.

Both institutions also had initial discussions on the co-offering of credit courses in Catholic Education and Multiculturalism for the Elementary Education and Secondary Education Programs. These credit courses include: the processing of tempeh, a traditional Indonesian dish made of fermented soybeans for the Food Technology and Nutrition and Dietetics Programs; joint research on Teacher Education and Special Needs Education; and continued collaboration in the International PSALM Conference organized by the College every year.

College officials also explored possible collaborations concerning Indonesia’s Merdeka Curriculum. ■

THOMASIAN CHEMISTRY WEEK 2024 FROM PAGE 11

Commencing the week-long celebration is the gathering of BS Chemistry Alumni together with the UST Department of Chemistry academic staff, as well as past and present student scholars. This is in celebration of another successful fundraising event for the benefit of the students under the Department of Chemistry. The highlight of the event was the display of the new periodic table, featuring generous donations primarily from UST BS Chemistry alumni. Each donor’s contribution was commemorated with a note below the respective element/s of their choice. Special recognition was given to the Class of 1978 for their generous donation, symbolized by the elements Tennessee, Rhodium, and Tantalum. The event was held as a celebration of the alumni’s support and the continued efforts to raise funds for the department’s scholarship program through the Periodic Table Fundraiser, Inc.

Another highlight of the Chemistry Week celebration is the interactive chemistry exhibit, MahiKapnayan. Organized in collaboration with the UST Chemical Society, the exhibit aimed to introduce junior and senior high school students to hands-on chemistry-centered activities. The event received positive responses from students who engaged actively with the interactive exhibits and hands-on chemistry experiments on display. Highlights included short experiments and a challenging escape room-style activity named *Hukbong Itim Takedown*. The event successfully communicated the importance of chemistry and its real-world applications to the next generation of scientists.

Emphasizing the partnership between academe and industry, Catalyst Connections brought together industry partners and 3rd and 4th year BS Chemistry students to explore potential career paths and industry applications of their knowledge. Organized in

collaboration with the Thomasian Chemists Alumni Association, the event provided a platform for students to engage in meaningful discussions with professionals from various sectors. Industry partners such as Ascxent Knowledge Resources, Inc., San Miguel Foods, Inc., Mach Union Laboratories, Inc., D&L Industries, Inc., ADIP Testing and Research Lab, Inc., and DJM Grandeur Corp. provided valuable insights to prepare students for successful careers. The event marked a significant stride towards preparing future-ready chemists to excel in their careers and contribute effectively to the industry.

The Thomasian Chemistry Week 2024 encapsulated the spirit of collaboration, innovation, and dedication to advancing the field of chemistry. Through these events, the UST Department of Chemistry continues to foster a vibrant community of scientists and professionals committed to scientific excellence and societal impact. ■

Caliwan of Accountancy discusses teachers' roles and responsibilities in central Visayas region

Asst. Prof. Francisco M. Caliwan, Jr., Assistant Dean of the UST-AMV College of Accountancy, delivered a lecture on The Roles and Responsibilities of Accounting Teachers during the Education Forum of Central Visayas Region held on March 9, 2024, at the Cebu Institute of Technology, Cebu City.

In his lecture, Caliwan enumerated the different responsibilities of a teacher inside the classroom, which are grounded in the trifocal functions of a university: teaching and learning, community service, and research. He discussed that teachers have instructional, research, and service tasks.

For instructional tasks, Caliwan mentioned that teachers are responsible for effectively and efficiently delivering teaching and learning inside the classroom. He also discussed that inside the classroom, teachers wear the hats of facilitators, assessors, and trainers. For the research tasks, he remarked that teachers should actively engage in creative and scholarly pursuits, conduct research studies related to the courses handled, and help students develop research skills. Finally, for service tasks, he emphasized that teachers are responsible for participating in the college's outreach programs that respond to the needs of society and advocates for sustainability.

Caliwan is one of the four speakers of the forum, alongside Hon. Maria Teresita Z. Dimaculangan, Member of the Professional Regulatory Board of Accountancy (BOA), who delivered a number of BOA updates; Mr. Lucky Cimat, P&A Grant Thornton Senior Managing Consultant for Sustainability and Climate, who discussed Becoming a Catalyst of Sustainability; and Ms. Rose Dale Ando, Assurance Partner of Price Waterhouse Coopers



Asst. Prof. Caliwan during his presentation

Philippines who discussed updates on International Financial Reporting Standards.

The Central Visayas Regional Forum is the sixth installment of the regional fora organized by the National Association of CPAs in Education. ■

Dones of CHRMS, CRS discusses sonography in physiotherapy at Malaysian webinar



Dr. Dones

Center for Health Research and Movement Science Research Supervisor at and College of Rehabilitation Sciences academic staff Prof. Valentín C. Dones III, Ph.D., lectured on "Integrating Sonography in Physiotherapy" at a webinar organized by Malaysian Allied Health Sciences Academy (MAHSA) University in Malaysia on March 1, 2024.

Dones, with his extensive expertise in manual physiotherapy and as Research Supervisor, offered insights into the utilization of sonography for the visualization of myofascial trigger points, fascia adhesion, and ligament sprains. He demonstrated how sonography enhances the accuracy of therapeutic interventions, including dry needling and the PainFree Release Technique, leading to improved clinical outcomes for individuals afflicted with musculoskeletal conditions. His presentation, enriched with a variety of case studies, emphasized the impact of sonography on physiotherapeutic practices, facilitating a more refined approach to the treatment of patients.

The knowledge disseminated in this session is expected to encourage the physiotherapy community to further embrace and integrate advanced technologies such as sonography into their practice, thereby elevating the standard of patient care and therapeutic success. ■

GS holds joint lecture with Yokohama National University



(First row, from left:) Dr. Tomas Tiu, Dr. Augusto De Viana, Dr. Takaaki Kobayashi, Dr. Michael Anthony Vasco, Dr. Camilla Vizconde, Dr. Elizabeth Arenas, Dr. Mary Caroline Castano, Dr. Ernesto Dimaculangan, and (second row:) YNU students



Ms. Audrey Summers Whittle, PhD Student,
Yokohama National University



Dr. Eric Zerrudo, CCCPET Director

Fostering international ties, the UST Graduate School organized a joint session with the graduate students and academic officials from Yokohama National University (YNU) on February 23, 2024.

Director of the Center for Conservation of Cultural Property and Environment in the Tropics (CCCPET), Dr. Eric Zerrudo, presented his paper titled “Cultural Heritage Mapping – Philippine Experience.” He lectured about how culture was injected into Philippine laws and how it evolved in the past decades to cater to the different cultures in the country. He then showcased the various efforts of CCCPET to teach cultural mapping all over the country with the use of the cultural mapping toolkit.

With students from YNU raising interest on the topic of UST as an internment camp, Program Lead for History Dr. Augusto De Viana indulged the audience with his discussion on UST World War II Internment Camp and Camp O'Donnell Internment Camp. The discussion focused on the daily lives of the internees inside the UST internment camp and featured the cartoon illustrations by one of the

internees - Teedie Cowie Woodcock. Dr. De Viana emphasized the need for this history to be taught to future generations.

Last to present was YNU's representative Ms. Audrey Summers Whittle, a doctoral candidate, who presented her paper titled “Did Nationalism End Religious Rule? A Comparative Analysis” where she delved on the perception of nationalism in countries where religion is widely recognized. She focused her study on India, particularly Hinduism, as it is the oldest religion in the world. Although the Indian government did not allow formal research on their religion, Ms. Whittle was able to compile various beliefs through actual observation and conversations from the local people. At the end of her presentation, she solicited thoughts and comments from the audience to further enhance her study.

The joint lecture was attended by administrators of the UST Graduate School, Director of the Office for International Relations and Programs, Dean Emeritus Professor Dr. Lilian J. Sison, and YNU professor Dr. Takaaki Kobayashi. ■

Scientists, researchers uphold Filipino language at 30th Panayam Pang-Agham

Science and language experts reaffirmed the impact of Filipino in learning and communication at the 30th Panayam Pang-Agham, held at Tanghalang Teresita Quirino, Benavides Building last March 20-21.

Organized by the UST Research Center for the Natural and Applied Sciences (RCNAS) and the UST *Departamento ng Filipino*, in cooperation with the UST College of Science, UST Faculty of Engineering, and UST Graduate School, the international conference underscored inclusivity in communicating science using the country's national language.

In his keynote lecture, Professor Emeritus Fortunato B. Sevilla, III, Ph.D. attested that students understand concepts in Chemistry faster and more effectively when these are explained in Filipino. The Academician of the National Academy of Science and Technology also related his observation that Science is being taught in the native languages of developed countries.

Meanwhile, National Research Council of the Philippines (NRCP) Executive Director Dr. Bernardo N. Sepeda delivered the Plenary Lecture.

Educators from international institutions gave lectures on how their respective national languages were used in imparting scientific knowledge to their own people. Prof. Nakao Nomura, from the University of Tsukuba, Japan, lectured via Zoom, while Dr. Monika Widyastuti Surtikanti, M.Pd., from Universitas Katolik Santo Agustinus Hippo, Indonesia, and Prof. Yann-Wen Lan, from National Taiwan Normal University joined the participants in UST.

Experts from various sectors in the country also imparted their scientific knowledge and experience. Academician Victor B. Amoroso, director of Center for Biodiversity Research and Extension in Mindanao-Central Mindanao University shared the role of collective action in taking care of biodiversity. Dr. John Enrico Torralba,

head of *Sangay ng Salin of Komisyon ng Wikang Filipino*, explained the government agency's mandate in promoting the intellectualization of Filipino through translating scientific texts. Academician Caesar A. Saloma, editor-in-chief of *Philippine Journal of Science*, discussed the importance of a scientific journal. Prof. Jayson D. Petras, Ph.D., director of Sentro ng Wikang Filipino-University of the Philippines, Diliman and national president of Pambansang Samahan sa Sikolohiyang Pilipino (PSSP), drew attention to "*Sikolohiyang Maka-Filipino*," by producing a *Glosaryong Sikolohikal* on the concept of *kapwa*.

RCNAS fellows also shared their research works, including Asst. Prof. Nikki Heherson Dagamac, PhD. and Prof. Pia Marie SP. Albano, Ph.D., who are both from the Department of Biological Sciences; Prof. Ross D. Vasquez, Ph.D. from the Department of Pharmacy; and Assoc. Prof. Dharmatov Rahula B. Albano, Ph.D. from the Department of Chemistry. ■



Keynote speaker Academician Professor Emeritus Fortunato B. Sevilla, III



Prof. Nakao Nomura from the University of Tsukuba, Japan

HASAAN Vol. 7 authors impart wisdom in Filipino research

Contributors of HASAAN journal Tomo VII shared their research process in a lecture forum held last February 28 at the Lourdes Custodio Multipurpose Room, Albertus Magnus Building.

HASAAN is the UST *Departamento ng Filipino's* annual interdisciplinary refereed journal in Filipino, which features articles focused on Filipino as a field of knowledge from researchers and scholars in the country.

Rev. Fr. Jannel N. Abogado, O.P., Vice Rector for Research and Innovation, delivered the opening remarks, while Dr. Wennielyn Fajilan introduced the journal to students and teachers who attended the event.

Mr. Mark Anthony S. Angeles, a Filipino and Media Studies academic staff, discussed his research paper *"Ang Kaso ng Estupadong Tao, Resureksiyonista, at ni Jerry Dayunyor: Ilang Talâ sa Pagsasalín sa Filipino ng A Tale of Two Cities ni Charles Dickens"* and underscored the value of writing research in Filipino. Axle Christien J. Tugano, a academic staff at University of the Philippines Los Baños, explained how he created his paper *"Mga Pangako ng*

Puso, Mga Sakripisyo ng Kamay: Imahen ng Estados Unidos bilang Kanlungang Pilipino Batay sa mga Piling Pelikula ni Olivia Lamasan." Meanwhile, Jay-Mar Luza, Campus Research & Development Unit Head of Bulacan State University, discussed his paper *"Pagsusuri sa mga Paraan ng Pagbabaybay sa Filipino ng mga Piling Tabloid sa Filipino."*

Authors who were not in Manila during that time presented through video. This includes Ian Mark P. Nibalvos, instructor at Samar State University, who expounded on the paper *"Leksikal na Elaborasyon ng Salitang 'Communicable Disease' sa Panahon ng Pandemya,"* which he co-authored with Thomasian students Jeremiah Victoria T. Dimasacat, Jeffrey Louis V. Din, Chelsea Angela M. Domingo, Aleyah Zoe Hannah R. Dumayag, Chelsea A. Dural, Jonathan Josh H. Duran, Mary Martie L. Durana, Justine Denyll P. Elazegui, Rhon Silhouette Louise G. Empaynado, and Shanaine Neve A. Escal. Gerard P. Concepcion, Assistant Professor at University of the Philippines, Diliman, shared insights about his paper *"Kalakasan, Kahinaan, Oportunidad at*

Banta ng Programang Philippine Track ng Busan University of Foreign Studies: Mga Implikasyon sa Pagtuturo ng Wikang Filipino sa Labas ng Pilipinas."

Starting April 1, HASAAN Tomo VII will be available at the journal's official website (<https://hasaan.ust.edu.ph/>).

Readers will also be able to access *"Antas ng Pagtanggap: Filipino Bilang Wikang Panturo ng mga Asignaturang Pang-Akawntansi"* by Kristoffer Ban Cabiles, Maria Jeaia Cao, Aldrienne Mae Dela Cruz, Melrein Vinsie Galang, Ivan Pispis, Romelyn Piloneo, Cyril Vedania, and Baby Jean Jose from Central Luzon State University, and *"Pagbuo ng Modyul 1 para sa Special Filipino Beginners' Program sa Baitang 7 ng DLSU Integrated School"* by Princess Gissel Dionela-Servo, from De La Salle University-Laguna Campus.

In her closing remarks, Assoc. Prof. Pilar I. Romero, Ph.D., dean of UST College of Education, recalled how HASAAN came into existence and how it was kept alive by former UST instructors Jonathan Geronimo and Crizel Sicat-De Laza, who themselves contributed articles to the journal. ■

INTERNATIONALIZATION

Villanueva of Architecture visits Sheridan College, Ontario

Ar. Cecilia May Villanueva visited Sheridan College Hazel McCallion Campus in Mississauga, Ontario last February 24, 2024. This visit was hosted by Ar. Flordeliza Laperal of UST Architecture Batch 1979 and Ar. Ramiro Nolasco of UST Architecture Batch 1984, both Professors of Architecture of Sheridan College. The visit intends to forge collaborative research between University of Santo Tomas College of Architecture and Sheridan College, Faculty of Applied Science & Technology.

The visit explored Sheridan's Architectural Studies Program under the Faculty of Applied Science and Technology. The program is grounded on a purposeful and nimble education that provides practical, hands-on learning opportunities that can be carried from the classroom

to the workforce. Their high-intensity and industry-renowned programs equip students with relevant knowledge and real-world problem-solving skills.

Sheridan features a strong commitment to addressing the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. Sheridan introduced the 2023 Mission Zero Heroes, where they promote sorting in a variety of containers to recycle, reuse, and reduce waste materials on campus grounds. This strongly aligns with caring for our common home as discussed in the encyclical *Laudato Si'*.

Ar. Villanueva's visit hopes to foster ties with Sheridan College for the benefit of both students and academic staff of the College of Architecture in aspects of research and faculty development. ■



From left: Ar. Flordeliza Laperal, Ar. Cecilia May Villanueva and Ar. Ramiro Nolasco

Biochemistry Department visits HKUST to discuss future collaborations

To foster international collaborations and enhance academic excellence, the UST Faculty of Pharmacy Department of Biochemistry conducted a benchmarking visit to the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST) from March 12 to 16, 2024. The delegation from UST, composed of academic staff and researchers specializing in biochemistry, was warmly welcomed by Dr. Robert K.M. Ko, Acting Division Head, Division of Life Science, and Professor Yusong Guo at HKUST.

During the benchmarking activities, the UST delegation had the opportunity to tour state-of-the-art research facilities and laboratories at HKUST, gaining insights into cutting-edge technologies and methodologies employed in biochemistry research. Dr. Minerva Daya, Chair of the Department of Biochemistry, UST Faculty of Pharmacy, expressed her appreciation for the warm hospitality extended by HKUST and emphasized the significance of international partnerships in advancing scientific research and education.



The visit to HKUST marks a significant milestone for the Department of Biochemistry paving the way for future collaborations and contributing to the advancement of biochemistry research in the Philippines and beyond. ■

(From left:) Mark Kevin Devanadera, Angelica Crisostomo, Myla Santiago, Leonardo Guevarra, Jr., Yusong Guo, Minerva Daya, Robert K.M. Ko, Ruel Valerio De Grano, John Paulin, Maritess Cation, and Maricel Ranido.

ARTS AND CULTURE

Science, CFAD mount exhibit “Expression of Faith through Excellence in Science and Art”



Fine Arts alumnae who joined the exhibit pose with Asst. Prof. Danilo Santiago, MFA who served as one of the judges of the competition, Dean Papa and Asst. Prof. Pedro Felix G. Garcia II, MFA Chair of the Painting Program of the College of Fine Arts and Design

The College of Science, in collaboration with the College of Fine Arts and Design, mounted a painting exhibit and competition celebrating Faith and Science through Art. The art showcase was anchored on the theme of the 2026 centennial of the UST College of Science “Expressing our Faith through Excellence in Science”.

The exhibit showcased paintings submitted by members of the Thomasian community. A total of nine entries from the alumni category and twenty-six from the student category were exhibited at the lobby of the Main Building from March 18 to 23, 2024, and vied for the top prizes for both the professional and student categories. The judges include contemporary artist Asst. Prof. Danilo Santiago, MFA, Academician Prof. Emeritus Fortunato B. Sevilla III, Ph.D., and Rev. Fr. Louie R. Coronel, OP, EHL. The competition was generously supported by Ms. Pinky Pe-Tobiano of BS Chemistry class of 1992 who donated PhP 50,000.00 for the winning entries. The following were declared winners of the painting competition:

SCIENCE, CFAD MOUNT EXHIBIT TO PAGE 18

Magsaysay plane crash commemorated in book launch at UST Library



UST Vice Rector Rev. Fr. Isaias Tiongco, O.P. (center) receives a copy of the book from members of Nestor Mata's family.

The UST Miguel de Benavides Library, in collaboration with the family of the late Thomasian journalist Mr. Nestor Mata, launched the new edition of the book, "One Came Back: The Magsaysay Tragedy," co-authored by Nestor Mata and Vicente Villafranca.

The launch on March 18, 2024 at the UST Library Conference Hall commemorated the 67th anniversary of the historical plane crash that claimed the life of former Philippine President Ramon Magsaysay and 25 others. The book details the harrowing account of the lone survivor Nestor Mata.

Photos, documents, and other memorabilia related to Mata's life and

achievements were also available for viewing outside the launch venue, including his acclaimed books "Cory of a Thousand Days" and "One Came Back: The Magsaysay Tragedy".

The exhibit also paid homage to President Magsaysay, featuring his speeches and photographs documenting the plane crash and its aftermath.

In attendance were members of the Mata and Magsaysay family, including former Senator Ramon Magsaysay Jr., Thomasian

alumna Mrs. Mila Magsaysay Valenzuela, and actor Francis Mata, among others.

Initially published in 1957, The book 'One Came Back' provides a firsthand account of the final moments of President Magsaysay and Mata's harrowing experiences as the sole survivor. As an esteemed alumnus of the University of Santo Tomas (UST), Mata's contributions as an educator in Political Science and Journalism at UST add another layer to the significance of this event.

The new edition is published by Art Angel Commercial Quests, Inc., owned and run by the family of the late Jose L. Pavia, a journalist who worked alongside Mata at the Philippines Herald, where he served as the Executive News Editor until martial law led to the paper's closure. ■

SCIENCE, CFAD MOUNT EXHIBIT FROM PAGE 17

Alumni Category

- 1st Place - *Gift of the Weak* by Jerick Prince Julian
- 2nd Place - *Crosses in the Micro* by Eric Mendoza
- 3rd Place - *Coexisting* by John Augustine Abiad

Student Category

- 1st Place - *Lord sana gumaling na si Mama... Amen* by Juan Miro Magbuhos
- 2nd Place - *St. Albert the Great* by Mividia Mae Aguirre
- 3rd Place - *Genesis I* by Yvette Kathryn Bala

The opening of the exhibit on March 18, 2024 was well attended by students, alumni and faculty of the College of Science and College of Fine Arts and Design. It was an opportunity for the community to view artworks which focused on the interplay between faith and science as interpreted by Thomasian artists. ■



Prefect of Libraries Rev. Fr. Angel Aparicio, O.P. (sixth from left), Chief Librarian Ma. Cecilia Lobo (leftmost) with family members of President Magsaysay and family members of Nestor Mata.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

“Mga tinig ng katarungang panlipunan”: UST SIMBAHAYAN holds panel discussion on social justice



(From left:) Faculty of Arts and Letters Secretary Asst. Prof. Louie Benedict Ignacio, Ph.D., CSC Vice President Aiah Karrylle Jacinto, Bishop-elect of Alaminos and UST Central Seminary Vice Rector Rev. Fr. Napoleon Sipalay, Jr., O.P., Human rights lawyer Atty. Mario Maderazo, and SIMBAHAYAN Director Asst. Prof. Froilan Alipao

The University of Santo Tomas SIMBAHAYAN Community Development Office (UST SIMBAHAYAN), in collaboration with the Office of the Vice Rector for Religious Affairs (OVRRA) and the Dominican Family for Justice, Peace, and Care for Creation Philippines (DFJPCC-Phils.), organized “*Mga Tinig ng Katarungang Panlipunan: Isang Panel na Talakayan*,” a culminating event for the 5th Fr. Pedro Salgado, O.P. Social Justice Campaign. Held on February 22, 2024, the same week as the United Nations International Social Justice Day.

The panel discussion explored the perspectives and theology of Fr. Pedro Salgado, O.P. The panel featured the following discussants: Rev. Fr. Napoleon Sipalay, Jr., O.P. – Vice Rector of the UST Central Seminary, Rev. Fr. Delfo C. Canceran, O.P. – Priest of the Ministry for Urban Poor, Atty. Mario Maderazo – Human Rights Lawyer, Asst. Prof. Louie Benedict Ignacio, Ph.D. – Faculty Secretary of the Faculty of Arts and Letters, and Ms. Aiah Karrylle Jacinto- Central Student Council Vice President.

Formally opened by UST SIMBAHAYAN Assistant Director Christian Rey D. Rimando, MSPT, he remarked that the quest for social justice is an arduous but dignified pursuit.

In his talk, Rev. Fr. Canceran shared the historical account of Fr. Salgado– how he philosophized and pursued social encyclicals’ notions of social justice, solidarity, and subsidiarity within the teachings of the church. He stated that despite such knowledge, Fr. Salgado’s encounter with the poor and his commitment to genuine empowerment led him to become an exemplar of social justice.

Fr. Canceran’s talk served as a point of reflection for the panel discussants with the discussion moderated by UST SIMBAHAYAN Director Froilan A. Alipao, MCD.

The panel discussion first reflected on the meaning of social justice. Atty. Maderazo and Asst. Prof. Ignacio remarked that social justice is principally rooted in *pagpapakatao* or the humanization of laws where every Filipino achieves the justice they deserve and that their human dignity is actualized with the goal of the common good. In conjunction with their statement, Fr. Sipalay shared that justice is inherent to humans, something



Fr. Delfo Canceran delivers his talk via Zoom

that is rightfully ours; an orientation agreed upon by Ms. Jacinto who stressed “[*dapat*] lahat ng tao ay masagana at nakukuha ang nararapat sa kanila.”

Connecting Thomistic Philosophy and Fr. Salgado’s approach to social justice in their context, Asst. Prof. Ignacio reflected on the hardship of advocating social justice within the constraints of educational institutions. Nonetheless, he found that there are many ways of institutionalizing social justice– and that it is only a matter of what you can do within your means to achieve it. This was echoed by Ms. Jacinto, who shared her experience as a student leader working hard to represent the student body and their rights, stressing how joining organizations (from student councils to non-government organizations) played a significant role in pursuing social awareness

**MGA TINIG NG KATARUNGANG PANLIPUNAN
TO PAGE 20**

History Dept. Chair Resos discusses Santo Tomas Internment Camp



Faculty of Arts and Letters Dean Prof. Melanie D. Turingan, Ph.D., History Department Chair Dr. Archie Resos, and Office of Public Affairs Director Ms. Michaela Lagniton with the visitors from the National World War II Museum.



"Rampage" author James Scott (left) signs Dr. Resos' book.



The guests briefly visit a classroom in the Main Building, which used to serve as a dormitory for the internees.

UST History Department Chair Dr. Archie Resos delivered a lecture on the Santo Tomas Internment Camp for guests from the National World War II Museum in New Orleans, USA, some of whom are relatives of previous internees. The lecture was held on March 20, 2024 at the St. Raymund de Peñafort Building.

The American guests were accompanied by Philippine World War II Memorial Foundation Vice President for Research and Education Ms. Desiree Benipayo and "Rampage" author James Scott. After the lecture, they visited the UST Museum. ■

MGA TINIG NG KATARUNGANG PANLIPUNAN FROM PAGE 19

and justice. Fr. Sipalay attested that the church's involvement in human rights issues like Extrajudicial Killings (EJK) is a powerful movement crucial to its development. When questioned why human rights protection is almost always predicated on the "defensive position," the speakers shared how such language is crucial as it is powerful in invoking action. However, they collectively agreed that while "defending" human rights is a must, it is high time that "offensive" action is taken— in other words, we must now more aggressively pursue creative means that forward the advocacy of social justice. Proactive advocacy of social justice, Asst. Prof. Ignacio recalled

Fr. Salgado's idea of radicalization wherein everybody (especially those with privilege) must be critical of injustice. Ms. Jacinto and Fr. Sipalay stressed the importance of continued engagement, wherein Atty. Mario recalled how his continued perseverance in the recognition of a human rights violation was integral in defending the families of EJK victims' dignity.

To close the event, Rev. Fr. Victor Calvo, OP of DFJPCC-Phils. shared his reflection on Fr. Pedro Salgado's advocacy of social justice. He noted how much has changed over the years and hopes that just like how UST now reveres the advocacy of Fr. Pedro Salgado, the pursuit of social justice will only grow stronger for the betterment of the future. ■

UNIVERSITY VISITORS



Asian Society of Hydrobiology and Philippine Society of Freshwater Science

The President of the Asian Society of Hydrobiology (ASH) Dr. Yeonjae Bae of Korea University (fifth from left), the President of the Philippine Society of Freshwater Science Dr. Francis Magbanua (sixth from left) with officials from the College of Science led by Dean Dr. Rey Donne Papa (seventh from left) and the Office of Public Affairs Director Ms. Michaela Lagniton (leftmost) on February 26, 2024.



Samroiody Wittayakhom School, Thailand

Twelve students and three teachers from the Samroiody Wittayakhom School during their cultural exchange interaction with the UST Junior High School on February 28, 2024, as part of their 11th Philippine-Thailand Exchange Program. UST Office of Public Affairs Director Ms. Michaela Lagniton (front row, sixth from left) and Office Assistant Ms. Shenine Pascual (front row, fourth from left) welcomed the group and led their tour of the campus, which included the UST Museum.



Tottori College of Nursing, Japan and Thomas More University, Belgium

Delegates from the Tottori College of Nursing, Japan and students from the Thomas More University, Belgium with UST OPA Director Ms. Michaela Lagniton (rightmost), and CTHM intern Ms. Hannah de Guzman (leftmost), on March 8, 2024



Oita University, Japan

Four students from Oita University, accompanied by the Chairperson for International Affairs Prof. Rie Inomata (sixth from left) with UST OPA Assistant to the Director for Publication Ms. Katherine Patrice Sibug (leftmost) and UST College of Nursing Internationalization Coordinator Asst. Prof. Ritzmond Loa, Ph.D. (second from left) on March 18, 2024

BOARD TOPNOTCHERS



Medical Technologist Licensure Examination

March 2024

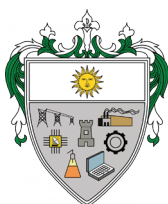
UST Passing Rate: 93.86%
National Passing Rate: 80.6%



5th - 92.3%
Angela Grace
Pamittan Regalado



5th - 92.3%
Denise Antoinette
Reano Rivera



Mechanical Engineer Licensure Examination

February 2024

UST Passing Rate: 68.14%
National Passing Rate: 66.02%



4th - 91.85%
John Carlo Delos
Santos



THE ACADEMIA

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Prof. Rey Donne S. Papa, Ph.D. Science
Mr. Christopher Paulo Manlapaz Senior High School
Asst. Prof. Jame Monren Mercado Tourism and Hospitality Management