



THE THOMASIAN ALUMNI *Newsletter*

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF UST ALUMNI ASSOCIATION, INC.



Justice Angelina Sandoval-Gutierrez

THE DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI NIGHT

A NIGHT TO REMEMBER

Speech delivered by Justice Angelina S. Gutierrez
during the Distinguished Alumni Night at the UST Alumni Center on November 16, 2018.

I consider it a great honor and privilege to speak before the distinguished alumni of the University of Sto. Tomas. Truly, you are the priceless gems of our beloved alma mater.

On behalf of the UST Distinguished Alumni and on my own, may I extend my profound gratitude to the UST Alumni Association, Inc., headed by the energetic and admirable Dr. Evelyn A. Songco, for hosting this Distinguished Alumni Night.

According to Dr. Songco, the Distinguished Alumni Night is an event that celebrates Thomasian excellence. It aims to renew the connection of the distinguished alumni to their Alma Mater and establish a meaningful relationship among themselves.

Considering your presence, distinguished alumni, I fully concur with Dr. Songco that tonight's event is a celebration of Thomasian excellence.

According to Merriam Webster International Dictionary, excellence indicates the highest degree of good qualities, of qualities that make for special worth or merit. It is synonymous with perfection.

This excellence is your hallmark, my dear distinguished alumni. Therefore, tonight is for all of you.

Why do I say that excellence is your hallmark?

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Dr. Robert C. Sy, Chairman Emeritus,
USTAAI Welcome Address
The Distinguished Thomasian Alumni Night

You are the eminent alumni of UST who have done good work in your professions and fields of specialization with marks of excellence. Your significant achievements in various fields of endeavour have contributed in countless ways to the development of our country and upliftment of our people's economic and social conditions. By your remarkable accomplishments, commitment to your professions, compassion for others, and moral courage, you have made yourselves fruitful stewards of the talents God has given you. You are the models and inspiration of the UST alumni and students' community. Truly, you deserve to belong to the special group of UST distinguished alumni, a rare breed of Filipino achievers.

In sum, you are not only learned men and women, but bearers of the highest tradition of excellence in your chosen fields and service to the country and people.

I understand many of you here are recipients of The Outstanding Thomasian Alumni Award or "TOTAL", the highest and most prestigious award and recognition bestowed on distinguished alumni by UST. Congratulations to those alumni... Keep the torch glowing!

As for the rest of the distinguished alumni, I am convinced that all of you are already on your way to receive such award.



Meanwhile, let's now focus our attention to the twin purposes of tonight's event. For one, how do you renew your connection to UST? I envision the following:

- By being active members or officers in your respective alumni associations;
- By sponsoring scholarships in this university;
- By establishing alumni sponsored honorary chair in each faculty. Under this scheme, eminent professors may be designated or appointed professors emeritus;
- By organizing alumni sponsored conferences or seminars. Lecturers and speakers may be alumni who are experts in their fields; and
- By projecting other worthy causes which will call alumni to action.

For another, how do you establish a meaningful relationship among you, distinguished alumni?

I leave that to your wisdom and judgment.

Thank you all for listening. Truly, this is a night to remember! •





Class of 1978 – the Ruby Jubilarians with Dean Susan Maravilla & Fr. Julius Factora



Members of the USTNAI San Diego – the 2018 Annual Convention Host Chapter

USTNAI successfully hosted its 22nd Annual Convention

by Danilo C. Bernal

The University of Santo Tomas Nurses Association International (USTNAI) successfully hosted its 22nd Annual Convention and Leadership Summit at the Hilton San Diego Bayfront from September 27, 2018 through October 1, 2018 in San Diego, California. The convention has been historically attended by nurses who live and work in the United States, United Kingdom, Middle East, Manila, and other parts of Asia, and are graduates of the University of Santo Tomas, Manila, Philippines. This year's theme, "Honoring the Past, Treasuring the Present, and Shaping the Future through Influence, Inspiration and Innovation" demonstrated once more the Thomasian Nurses unity and rekindled the bond that makes them a strong family. There were over 400 members with their families and friends who attended the different events this year which included a one-day educational forum, a Welcome Night, a General Assembly and Election of New Officers for 2019-2020, and a Gala Event with a 'Latin Night' theme. This year's attendees were a kaleidoscope of Alumni from Class 1952 to 2011 who came to support the organization.

The gala night featured the induction of the newly elected USTNAI officers headed by its incoming President, Jane Macagba of Class 1975. The induction was officiated by Dean Susan Maravilla from the UST College of Nursing (CON). Dean Maravilla also presented to all the attendees the latest news and current events with the College of Nursing. Also present to grace the occasion was Fr. Julius Factora, OP

the current Regent of the CON and Mrs. Ida Tionko, the incumbent President of the UST Nursing Alumni Association, Inc. (USTNAAI). Mrs. Tionko encouraged all the alumni to continue in supporting the college and the different alumni projects and future events.

The gala night is always a well-attended event as it celebrates the different batches who are Jubilarians – in attendance were members of Class of 1968 (Golden Jubilarians), 1978 (Ruby Jubilarians), 1993 (Silver Jubilarians). Mr. Nick Vera Perez (Alvin Tan), popular TV Host and Balladeer and a UST Nursing Alumni Class of 1994 provided the beautiful entertainment for the memorable evening. Ms. Jessica Sanchez from the American Idol (niece of Evelyn Bugay, Class of 1991) also came to deliver a superb performance during the Gala Night to the surprise and delight of all the attendees.

Fr. Julius Factora officiated the Thanksgiving Mass at the conclusion of this annual event. Fr. Factora delivered a very inspiring homily to all. This year's remarkable event was spearheaded by Jean Uy, the outgoing USTNAI President with the support of the USTNAI Executive Board and the collaboration of the host chapter USTNAI San Diego headed by its President Lilian Paredes of Class 1980. The 2019 Annual Convention will be held in Brooklyn, New York and will be hosted by the UST Nurses Alumni Association (USTNAA) of the Tri-State. •

Latin Night Attendees from Class 1991 (Dan Bernal), 1993 (Reggie Antonio), 1994 Amory Grijaldo) and 2011 (Gillian Bernal)



Class of 1969 – the Golden Jubilarians being serenaded by TV Host & Balladeer Mr. Nick Vera Perez (Class of 1994)



Pusong Tomasino Ngayong Pasko

by Sec. Lynette E. Gallinero
UST Alumnus batch 1993 AB Behavioral Science



The true Tomasino spirit shines through as the UST Alumni Asso-SOX Chapter celebrates Christmas with a gift giving activity dubbed as "Pusong Tomasino Ngayong Pasko" at Katangawan Elementary School. Around 100 preschoolers were chosen by the school among its most impoverished students to be recipients of backpacks with health kits inside that were given

by the Alumni Asso. UST Alumni Sox Chapter president Maria Carmela Royeca along with a number of UST's alumnus body in the region were present for the activity. It is also a way of introducing our beloved Alma Mater, UST to the local community. UST's first ever Mindanao campus will soon rise in Katangawan, General Santos. •



CEAFI ADVENT RECOLLECTION



The annual Advent Recollection of the UST College of Education Alumni Foundation Inc. (CEAFI) was for the first time extended to all UST Alumni. Some Alumni from different colleges joined the Recollection. Fr. Wilfredo Samson, S.J., himself an alumnus of the UST Faculty of Engineering, facilitated the day long Recollection with the theme Christmas Through The Eyes of God (made possible by wearing three lenses - the lens of faith, the lens of hope and the lens of love). The recollection was held last November 29 at the St. Dominic Chapel of UST Center for Campus Ministry. It was a joyous occasion not only because it got the participants into the Advent spirit but also

because it allowed many of them to find their way back to UST and reconnect with fellow Thomasians. We hope to get more participants next year." •



CEAFI Board Inducted

The College of Education Alumni Foundation Incorporated (CEAFI) Board of Directors for 2018-2020 was inducted into office by Office of Alumni Relations Director Win Medina on 5 December 2018 at the UST Alumni Association Inc. (USTAAI) Conference Room during its regular board meeting.

Elected at the CEAFI General Assembly in July, the Board has already been busy with projects even before its formal induction. Among the projects it has implemented are the booth at the recently concluded TGTE event in solidarity with the USTAAI and the Advent Recollection with alumnus Fr. Willy Samson, SJ as recollection master.

The 15-person Board is headed by President Evelyn A. Songco, concurrent president of USTAAI. Other officers are Marielyn Quintana,



VP Internal; Marilyn Cano, VP External; Ana Marie Fernandez, Secretary; Loreto Sauz, Treasurer; George Cuevas, Auditor; and Maureen Pickering, PRO. The members of the Board of Directors who head different programs are Clotilde Arcangel, Jose Dakila Espiritu, Eva Kalaw, Evangeline Morales, Cristina Sagum, Cecilia San Juan, Emily Tan and Emma Yeung. •

Philippine Society of Baking (PSB) Immersion/Training Program



The Philippine Society of Baking was responsible for the immersion/training program of (TESDA) Technical Education and Skills Development Authority assessors and trainers from all over the country last November 19 to 29, 2018.

PSB President Arvin Chua seeks the expertise of PSB founding President Bien Enrico Ah (UST Alumnus, BS Food Technology) to be the Chairman of the project. Several years ago, Mr. Ah was also one of the baking industry representatives responsible in reviewing and revising the Training Regulation for the TESDA Baking and Pastry Production.

The objective was to have the participants experience the baking industry practice, discipline in arts and knowledge in baking science and technologies.

Intensive lecture and practical workshop was done for nine days at the Filipino-Chinese Bakery Association, Inc. Research and Training Institute at Rizal Avenue, Sta. Cruz, Manila and one-day plant visit at Liberty Foodmart Commissary, Foremost Flour Mills and Kilpatrick's Corporation.

Basic Bakery Mathematics, Basic Bread Science, Basic Cake Science, Basic Pie and Basic Laminated Dough lectures and workshop were taught. The participants were also able to experience utensils, baking equipment during the class and witnessed modern machineries for production of cakes, breads, steam breads, cookies and packaging machines.

The participants felt disconnected with the industry on the first day of Bakery Math and throughout the course. They were overwhelmed



with the information within the baking industry on its practice and standards they need to learn and experience in order to be in line with the industry.

Mr. Ah also arranged 14 more PSB founders and baking industry leading professionals to teach with him.

Seventeen of the TESDA participants were from Biliran, Ilocos Norte, Pangasinan, Nueva Viscaya, Aparri, Masbate, Albay, Camarines Sur, Iloilo, Bohol, Siquijor, Northern Samar, Leyte, Davao Oriental, Davao del Sur and Agusan del Sur. All were given complimentary E-Member Status by the offices of the Philippine Society of Baking.

PSB gave them an eye opener in the baking industry and looking forward to collaborate with the trained TESDA participants to revise the National Certification Level II and hopefully further develop the NC III, NCIV and Diploma program for Baking and Pastry Production. •

THOMASIAN ERLINDA UY-KOE IS INAUGURAL ASEAN PRIZE WINNER, RECOGNIZED FOR AUTISM ADVOCACY



Last November 13, 2018, Communication Arts alumna Erlinda Uy-Koe won the inaugural ASEAN prize for her advocacy for autism inclusion. The award was conferred upon Uy-Koe, who bested 49 others, during the opening ceremony of the 33rd ASEAN Summit and Related Summits in Singapore, by Singapore Prime Minister Lee Hsien Long, witnessed by Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte and ASEAN leaders.

Fondly known as “Dang,” Uy-Koe was the first-ever three-term President of the Autism Society Philippines (ASP), of which she is now Chairman Emeritus. From the Philippines, she actively involved herself with ASEAN Autism Network. In an interview with the ASEAN Secretariat, Uy-Koe expressed her prayer that people with autism will not only be accepted, but appreciated for their contributions to society.

Uy-Koe graduated from the Faculty of Arts and Letters in 1977. In 2009, she received The Outstanding Thomasian ALumni (TOTAL) Award for Humanitarian Service.

The ASEAN Prize is a tribute to an individual or group's achievements and contributions towards a “rules-based, people-oriented, people-centered ASEAN Community.”

Credits to ASEAN Secretariat YouTube Channel, GMA News, Rappler.com, and Pia Rañada News Source: www.ust.edu.ph

UST LAW ALUMNI SPREAD JOY TO YOUNG CHILDREN



As part of their regular outreach activities, the officers and members of the UST Law Alumni Foundation, Inc. trooped to The Reception and Study Center for Children in Quezon City to spread joy to the young children that are housed there. The center is a facility operated by the Department of Social Welfare & Development to provide effective residential care program and services for the promotion, protection and rehabilitation of 0 to 6 year old children in need of special protection. It was a fun-filled event that started with a prayer and a simple program. There were plenty of food and gifts were prepared for each child. To further liven up their spirit, the Jollibee mascot was arranged to come and he did not disappoint as he led the children in dancing, singing and playing games. They also enjoyed having their photos taken and receiving a big hug from him. At the end of the program, loot bags courtesy of 7-11 Convenience Stores were distributed. •

CLICKER RAZZI



A Celebration of Life Pilgrimage to Holyland, 04-18 December 2018 with Fr. Max Gatela, OP



Appreciation Night for the Benefactors of Thomasian Alumni Centers and for the different donors of the various activities of the Office of Alumni Relations. We were honored with the presence of Dr. & Mrs. Jose & Estella Evangelista, Rev. Fr. Aparicio and Dr. Robert Sy by Professor Teresita Meet



Received on behalf of CEAFI a donation from BSN alumni Batch '73 with an amount of P100k for the BSN activities.



UST BSN Batch '78 REUNION Christmas Party, November 30, 2018 at Villa Leonila Events Place, St. Joseph Village I, San Vicente, San Pedro, Laguna.



**The UST AAI & OAR Combined Alumni Christmas Party . . .
Merriment, Happiness, foods, gifts super galore! Happy Holidays everyone!**



Merry Christmas from Tomasinong Bikolano CamSur Chapter!



**Tomasinong Bikolano Rol Milante receiving
50 Tents (BICOL RELIEF) from TALA**



**Tomasinong Bikolano Albay and CamSur preparing relief
goods for the flood land slide affected areas in each provinces.**

CLICKER RAZZI



The core group of AAIG Summit team scheduled on January 24 - 26, 2019 having our meeting at Club Filipino. Seated from L to R: Engr. Manny Estrada of Globe, Tess Meer of GSAAI, Henry Tenedero Convenor of AAIG Summit, Dr. Fe Hidalgo of DepEd, Evelyn Songco of USTAAI. Standing same order: Gilbert Artificio of EHSAAI, Jeffrey Tarayao of Meralco Foundation, Maureen S.B. Pickering of USTAAI, Jessa Infante and Venus Kaie Basa of AAIG Staff.



University of Santo Tomas Education High School







AAIG ALLIANCE

#USTTGTE2
**Merging the Thomasian Academe,
 Corporate Leaders & Alumni Entrepreneurs**



Relief for Bicol from Pharmacy Alumni



Some of the Distinguished Alumni luminaries from the UST Law Alumni Foundation and our Regional Chapters: Tomasino BIKOLANO, Tomasinong KAPAMPANGAN and UST SOCCSKSARGEN. We are proud of you all!!



Also attending during the same occasion are, seated from left: Ms. Teresita Meer (USTAAI Treasurer), Fr. Pompeyo de Mesa, O.P., Very Rev. Fr. Herminio Dagohoy, O.P. (UST Rector), Mr. Robert Sy (USTAAI Chairman Emeritus), Ms. Maureen S.B. Pickering (USTAAI PRO), standing from left: Ms. Evelyn Songco (USTAAI President), Ms. Myrna Plata-Munda (UST High School), Ces San Juan (TALA)

USTEHSAA facilitated Stipend for Selected EHS Students



The USTEHS Alumni Association, through the sponsorship of Batch 1984, facilitated the provision of Stipend for selected EHS students ranging from Grade 7 to Grade 10. The Project which aims to help the parents of underprivileged Education High School students provides allowance to cope up for daily transportation, meals, & other miscellaneous expenses.

This USTEHSAA Project, now on its second year, plans to be increased the number of beneficiaries through the support of able EHS Alumni from different batches and will be highlighted in the upcoming USTEHS Alumni Homecoming on January 27, 2019 at the UST Alumni Center. This activity will maximize performance of these EHS students even during this challenging time in our society.

USTEHSAA facilitates donation of Hygienic Kits for all EHS Students



The USTEHS Alumni Association together with Pascual Laboratories, Inc. and Radio Veritas, sponsored the provision of Hygienic Kits for all EHS students during the Education High School Foundation Week. The Project which aims to extend hygienic products to all EHS students was the first major activity of Pascual Lab and was highlighted during the Caridad Sevilla Memorial Lecture at the Albertus Magnus Auditorium.

This USTEHSAA Project will be highlighted in the upcoming USTEHS Alumni Homecoming on January 27, 2019 at the UST Alumni Center. •

USTFPAASFI

USHERED IN THE HOMECOMING SEASON

The UST Faculty of Pharmacy Alumni Association and Scholarship Foundation Inc. celebrated their Grand Alumni Homecoming last December 1, 2018 at the Dr. Robert Sy Grand Ballroom of the Fr. Buenaventura G. Paredes, O.P. Building, University of Santo Tomas. This year's theme is "Upholding Thomasian Values and Excellence as Healthcare Professionals for 147 years and beyond" and the occasion served as a springboard to the 150th foundation year of the Faculty of Pharmacy on May 29, 2021.

As early as 7:00 am, our alumni gathered for their Welcome Walk which was coordinated by VP External Mr. Hector Ocampo and the Asst. Dean of the Faculty of Pharmacy, Prof. Ma. Frieda Hapan

Ph.D.. The drums of the Purple Beat added to a more festive mood as batches of alumni passed through the Arch of the Centuries amidst cheers from the students and alumni. A tour around the campus and into the Main Building culminated this activity.

Afterwards Fr. Pompeyo de Mesa, O.P. Regent of the Faculty of Pharmacy and adviser of the Association, celebrated a Thanksgiving Mass. The homecoming program's highlights were honoring the jubilarians with medals from Tin (10 years) to Blue Diamond (65 years) with batches of 5 years interval, the recognition of Thomasians professionals in government service, our Service Awardee, Ms. Gloria T. Mutuc for being in the board for 15 years in different roles as officer and trustee of the Association.





Finally, the Outstanding Alumni Award for Dr. Rosalinda C. Torres, a 1978 B.S. Biochemistry alumna who is with the Standard and Testing Division of the Industrial Technology Development Institute, Department of Science and Technology for 39 years. Her exemplary skills and passion as scientist motivated her quest for natural remedies and development of health care products leading to submission of many patents.

As in the previous two years, attendance of jubilarians was overwhelmingly close to 500. We attributed the high number of participants with better communication through multi media technology, our on-line registration and the hard work and dedication of the batch coordinators. Even the registration as fast and well coordinated as jubilarian kits were distributed by batches together with their loot bags and souvenir programs. The event ended with songs, dancing and raffle prizes. •

Congratulations to all THOMASIANS who passed the November 2018 Interior Designer Licensure Examination!



Congratulations to all THOMASIANS who passed the November 2018 Nurse Licensure Examination!



#GalingTomasino

Source: UST OAR



ArtistSpace unveils a moment to remember: a celebration of five decades of excellence and artistry simply known as CINCO. Travel back and traverse forward as a symbolic window opens to preview the artistic life of

ANITA DEL ROSARIO

THE ARTIST. THE AESTHETE. THE INDIVIDUAL.



A progressive learner. Enthused with the very existence of art and all its forms even in her youth, her choice of a fine arts course at the University of Santo Tomas (UST) had been conclusive, selecting advertising as a major since it was a field that enabled her to study different kinds of media.

A bonafide painter. Infused with creative ideas and observations of beauty that she wanted to capture – as well inspired by the works of other artists that she encountered and admired – it inevitably gave her the impetus to pick up a brush and immortalize the moment on canvas, in oil and watercolour.

I have the utmost respect for painting, as I consider it as one of the toughest forms of art expression. It demands patience, control and meticulous attention to detail... they invoke in me the want to discover my own style, to find my own voice amidst the hues. I want to show how the light gently falls on a face, on a home, on a flower.

A creative storyteller. Due to her advertising background, it led her to explore the avenue of drawing as she delved into being an illustrator for a local comic book magazine. The process of being handed a script and transforming words into a visual journey was a total challenge but a gratifying one, as she helped weave graphic narratives of universal emotional themes (love, despair, victory, and tragedy).

An exquisite crafter. Yet it was with meticulous craft that demanded high level technique and ingenuity where she ended up establishing her status as premier artist – in sculpted jewelry. Her pieces reflect her own unique definition of 'elegance' – where the authentic and meaningful value of a work does not necessarily correlate with extravagant or lavish – as she can deftly set brilliant gems in the most modest of materials.

That earned her a reputation among the “who's who” of the Philippine social circle who fervently collected her work because she crafted each and every piece with one-of-a-kind design exclusively for a single client.

A friend and a patron mentioned that I should craft bigger versions, to make the details more evident and easier to see. And that's how I started doing my sculptures.

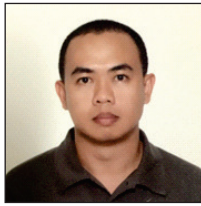
A skilled sculptor. Because of her diverse body of work, she became one of the awardees of “100 Women Artists: The Centennial of the Feminist Movement in the Philippines” – conferred by the Cultural Center of the Philippines in 2005.

Being the reticent private individual that she is, CINCO presents a rare opportunity for the public to view the works and the collections of Anita del Rosario – for the first time, with gratitude to the support of Ayala Museum. •

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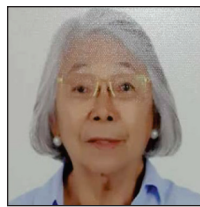


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Blowing of the 50 gold cupcakes symbolizing the golden celebration.



Tomasinong - SOCCSKSARGEN Officers & Board of Directors
(From left to right) Seated are Ms. Armie, Fr. Boyd Sulpico, OP (wearing white coat), Fr. Gerard Zabala, OP (wearing black coat), and Ms. Mayvelyn Urbano.



UST AAI AAIG NATIONAL SUMMIT

ALUMNI, ACADEME, INDUSTRY, GOVERNMENT SUMMIT
SLATED ON JAN 24-26, 2019

Cognizant of the challenges of the fresh graduates' experience in search for a rewarding employment and career in their professions, the University of Santo Tomas Alumni Association, Inc (USTAAI) is organizing the National Summit of Alumni, Academe, Industry and Government on January 24, 25 & 26, 2019 at the Multipurpose Hall, MERALCO in Ortigas, Pasig City.

The main objective of the Summit is to forge strategic alliances among the four sectors towards achieving a common innovative pathways to inclusive and sustainable life.

This was announced by the Summit's main convenors, Henry Tenedero, USTAAI Chair and Dr. Fe Hidalgo, DepEd former Secretary.

The Summit shall identify current issues and concerns of the young alumni as they undergo the transition to the world of work; identify the causes of these issues and concerns; and bring to fore the possibilities of alliances that can foster sustained partnership and collaboration among the four groups.

Invited to present their respective positions are representatives from the Department of Education (DepEd), Commission on Higher Education, TESDA, Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry, ASEAN embassies, One Meralco Foundation, among others.

At the end of the Summit, the delegates shall sign a Manifesto documenting the main salient points taken during the Summit providing the framework for a robust ecosystem where continuous conversations happen, and where fast incubation for future advocacy engagements and conversations occur.

For details please contact the Summit's Chief of Staff, Venus Basa at CP# 0955-210-1119 or email address kael.basa@gmail.com | PRESS RELEASE Contact: Henry S. Tenedero, Co-convenor CP#0917-473-0307



The AAIG Fact Sheet

WHAT: The First International Summit of Alumni, Academe, Industry, and Government (AAIG 2019)

WHERE: Meralco Multi Purpose Hall, Meralco Compound, Ortigas Center, Pasig City

WHEN: January 24-26, 2019

WHO: CHED Regional Directors
DEPED Regional Directors
DEPED SUPERINTENDENTS
Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Philippine Marketing Association
Department of Trade
OneMeralco Foundation, Informatics, Shell (SPEX), and many more.

HOW: Three Panels – REALITIES and FACTS, BENCHMARKING, SOLUTIONS

WHY:

- to identify current issues and concerns of the young alumni as they transition to the world of work;
- to identify the causes of these issues and concerns; and
- to bring to fore the possibilities of alliances that can foster conversation and innovative pathways to inclusive and sustainable development for the young alumni and the country.

Summit Rationale

Cognizant of the challenges that thousands of fresh graduates experience in search for a rewarding employment and career in the world of work, the UST Alumni Association Inc. believes that there is a need for a meaningful conversation among the powerful players that create or break the future of the alumni, namely, the academe, industry, and government. Such conversation will hopefully achieve inclusive and sustainable development for the alumni and the country.

Thus, the UST Alumni Association Inc. deems it fit to embark on **THE INTERNATIONAL SUMMIT OF THE ALUMNI, ACADEME, INDUSTRY, AND GOVERNMENT (AAIG)** to call for the Commission of Higher Education, Department of Education, basic and tertiary education institutions, industry, and government agencies to forge a common innovative pathway to inclusive and sustainable life success for the alumni and development for the country.

An 80th Birthday That is Akin to a Roman Family's Celebration

Tidbits of information from European history in the Middle Ages is replete with accounts that, among others, told of anyone in a Roman family who marked his or her 80th birthday alive, such a fate was celebrated with frenetic gaiety and pompous galore and, of course, variety and generous food served.

This rare gathering lasted for one solid week.

Generations of family members were the center of attention. Among the well-wishers were long lines of childhood friends, peers from multi-sectors of society. Leaders of government were also given special seats.

It was a long feast for the body, the senses and the mind, as historical accounts portrayed to us said.

What was also notable was that all members of the celebrant's family refrained temporarily from doing their livelihood and casual chores, and instead they went about extolling the life of the celebrant – how he or she brought honor and pride to the clan, how the honoree became the inspirational icon of their community.

And now comes a recent contemporary miniature event that was replete – though, in modest ways - with the trimmings of that familiar Roman family holiday galore. This time revolving around a likeable alumna: Mitos Cabrera-Araneta.



Last November 27, a Tuesday, our colleague (she is the features editor of this Newsletter) was the natal day of this vibrant lady. Yes, her 80th birthday.

And like our Roman family narrated here, members of the family of the celebrant, specifically her daughters were up to here with work threshing out details of the event: Names of the guests, per sector; décor and entertainment, and most of all what menu to serve.

The last item being vital in order to maintain the impeccable food and service that the family restaurant – Alfredo's Streak House – is known for.

Now came the Big Day! Needless to say, the familiar restaurant on Tomas Morato Street in Quezon City was closed during the lunch hours.

Although, business hours started a couple of hours in the morning to receive a few early well-wishers, and full hours in the evening to accommodate late greeters.

Those who came were relatives, high schoolmates, Philets classmates and contemporaries, church groups, former officemates, stage/theater and radio contemporaries. •



UST ALUMNI ASSOCIATION INC. OFFICERS 2018-2019

The new UST Alumni Association Inc. officers 2018-2019 (L-R) Dr. Robert Sy (USTAAI Chairman Emeritus) Very Rev. Fr. Hermenio Dagohoy, O.P. (UST Rector) Evelyn Songco, PhD (President) Engr. Jerenato Alfante (Vice President) Teresita Meer, PhD (Treasurer) Ellen Manansala, MA (Auditor) Maureen Pickering (PRO) Fr. Pompeyo de Mesa, O.P. (Ecclesiastical Adviser) Asst. Prof. Fredeswindo Medina, MA (UST OAR Director)

Featured THOMASIAN

Engr. Frederick C. Parayno

In 1982, the Faculty of Engineering program of the University of Santo Tomas gained a student leader from Calasiao, Pangasinan who would bring pride to them as a Distinguished Alumnus in 2018. Frederick Parayno, more known as Pakoy to his peers, started on his path of service to the University when he took on the summer job of proctoring for UST freshmen hopefuls in his third and fourth year of college. Inspired by the values instilled in him from his Dominican high school, Pakoy then decided to take more active roles in UST. On his fourth year, he was appointed into the UST Pax Romana Central Coordinating Council as Assistant Vice President for Christian Renewal Section. As Assistant VP, he was an instrument of spiritual enlightenment, dutifully scheduling masses, retreats and student activities for devout UST students. He did such an inspiring job that he was elected President of the same student organization the following year, his graduating year in college.

Pakoy continued studying, taking his Masters of Science degree in Civil Engineering at the University of the Philippines Diliman a year after graduating in UST. While undertaking his postgraduate studies, he took a teaching job at the UP College of Architecture while simultaneously working as a full time researcher at the UP Building Research Service under the National Engineering Center.

In 2012, Pakoy was once again more active in the UST community, being elected as External Vice President of the UST Engineering Alumni Association. One of his major contributions was in the revival of the USTEAAI scholarship program. Under his leadership, it was developed into a more sustainable, and even growing, initiative. What started out as a project supporting only two scholars per semester is now one able to support about ten scholars per semester, annually producing outstanding graduates. A few years afterwards, Pakoy went on to be the President of the



USTEAAI, and then later on, the President of the university-wide alumni group, the UST Alumni Association Inc.

When he is not at home enjoying a movie with his wife and daughters, or playing golf on the weekends, Pakoy can be found at his office with the Metro Rail Transit Corporation as its President and Chief Operating Officer, and concurrently as the Executive Vice President of Metro Rail Transit Development Corporation.

It's not difficult to see why a Thomasian like Pakoy was given the The Distinguished Alumni Award by the UST Alumni Association and the UST Office of the Alumni Relations last year, and even the St. Dominic Alumni Award from his high school alma mater in 2016. He has brought pride to the college and the University as a devout Catholic with a heart for service.

Important Notes

- Civil Engineering (1982)
- Proctor (3rd and 4th year college 1984 and 1985)
- Pax Romana Central Coordinating Council Assistant VP for Christian Renewal Section (1985)
- Pax Romana Central Coordinating Council President (1986-1987; graduating)
- CE Masters (1988), UP
- Vice President (2012 to 2014), UST Engineering Alumni Association Inc.
- President (2014 to 2016), UST EAAI
- President (2016), UST Alumni Association Inc.

Current Positions

- Senior Project Manager, MRTC (since 2000)
- President (2016 to present), Metro Rail Transit Corporation
- Executive Vice President (2016 to present), Metro Rail Transit Development Corporation
- Distinguished Alumni Awardee from the College of Engineering (2018)

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