



THE THOMASIAN ALUMNI COMMUNITY

VOL. NO. 4 ISSUE NO. 4

Newsletter

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE UST ALUMNI ASSOCIATION, INC.

Advocacy's E-Bingo Raises Funds for Disaster Response

"Laro Mo, Tulong Mo" Bingo for a Cause on July 31, 2021 at 2pm was a fun-filled collaborative Zoom event for USTAAI's Advocacy and Fellowship Committees that successfully raised funds for disaster response while gathering some 300 alumni and their friends virtually.

Weeks before the event, the need for funds to respond to the heavy flooding in Quezon City, Rizal and Naujan Mindoro was already met, thanks to the E-Bingo event organized by Team Advocacy Co-chair Angeli Tuazon. Despite the typhoon season, USTAAI was able to mobilize volunteers faster and help more people with the cash brought in by the E-Bingo.

A bingo card costing Php 500 was used for 5 games plus a chance to win in the raffle draws done between games. Among the raffle prizes were Aiko Sushi vouchers, UST Alumni T-shirts, earphones, Php1000 GCash, a sack of rice, Cargus and a gift certificate for a 2-night stay for two at Mahalta Resort in Mindoro. The bingo prizes for the 5 games were a Xiaomi handheld

(Continue to page 4)

Father Rector and the UST Alumni Association, Inc. Meeting

The USTAAI met with the Father Rector of the University, Fr. Richard Ang, O.P. last August 4, 2021. The members of the Board of Trustees 2021-2023 were presented by the Chair of the BOT, Dean Henry Tenedero. Dr. Evelyn Songco presented the officers and the chairs of the different committees, commissions and the secretariat. She also presented the organizational chart, and the Vector, which is the primer containing the 8-point agenda of the Association and the strategic plan for 2021-2023.

To familiarize the Father Rector with the functions and activities of the different alumni teams that comprise the Executive Committee, the head of each Team presented their respective members and the different key result areas of performance of their team for the next two years.

The presentations were given by the following: Team Advocacy by its co-chair, Ms. Angie Tuazon, Team Events by Monsignor Bernie Pantin; Team Finance by its Chair, Dean Ellen Manansala; Team Resources by Chair Dr. Teresita Meer; Team Public Presence by Mr. John Peran;

(Continue to page 9)

Academe, Alumni, Industry, Government Transformation Summit



The UST Alumni Association Inc. (USTAAI), in partnership with the UST Graduate School Center for Continuing Professional Education and Development (UST GS CCPED) is holding the National Multisectoral Summit for Educational Transformation: An Academe - Alumni - Industry - Government Collaboration (AAIG 2021). This is a follow through of the AAIG Summit in January 2019.

Cognizant of the challenges that thousands of fresh graduates experience in search for a rewarding employment and career in the world of work, this Summit calls for the Commission of Higher Education (CHED), Department of Education (DepEd), Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), 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 to development for the country.

The AAIG 2021 Summit is scheduled to have 4 webinars via Zoom from September to October, with its first two webinars held last September 3 & 17, 2021. The main objective of this webinar series is to catalyze the transformation of the Philippine educational landscape towards Education 4.0 by encouraging the academe, alumni, industry, and government sectors to come together in dialogue to adapt innovative and collaborative practices in bridging the academe and industry gap.

AAIG 2021 aims to provide an efficient platform for feedback and continuing conversation for future engagements and to build a robust ecosystem where fast incubation and birth of innovative pathways lead to inclusive life success and national development. USTAAI believes that there is a need for meaningful conversations among the powerful players that create or break the future of the alumni, namely, the academe, industry and government. Such conversations will hopefully achieve inclusive and sustainable development for the alumni and the country.

(Continue to page 4)



From the President's Desk

Bridges: Reaching a Milestone

Bridges, the regular online show of the UST Alumni Association Inc. (USTAAI) on CBRC.tv is turning one in October. This show offers the viewers an opportunity for life-long learning. Its content is informative, multi-disciplinary, and inspirational; its form is conversational; and its guests are all Thomasians. It was originally aired every Sunday at 6 pm. Later, it became a 6 pm Tuesday show.

The show aims to showcase the Thomasian alumni and how their lives exemplify the Thomasian core values of competence, compassion, and commitment; to nurture the virtues of faith, hope, and love; and to provide lifelong learning to the viewers.

Thanks to the encouragement of Dr. Carl Balita, owner of CBRC, and Algie Gamboa, the Marketing Head of CBRC, the journey of Bridges started with the celebration of the teachers' day in October 2020. We were all anxious and eager. The internet connection of our guest, Dean Pilar I. Romero, was very unstable and we waited for her in great suspense. With God's blessing, our maiden show was a great success as Dean Pilar proved to be a very engaging guest as she shared many interesting insights on teaching and learning.

As weeks turned to months, Bridges slowly brought together our great alumni whose passion for their craft is overwhelming. We were awed by their expertise, their values, and their attitude. Thomasian teachers, lawyers, physicians, artists, scientists, historians, musicians graced the show. Listening to them made us feel proud of them and our alma mater.

A number of them experienced poverty. As students in the University of Santo Tomas, they had to sacrifice a great deal to be able to finish their college education. How they conquered poverty and how they made a name in their professions are truly inspiring.

This October, we celebrate because we are turning one year. To the people behind



UST launches career listing website for graduating students, alumni

In partnership with the Australia-based company Prosple, the UST Office of Alumni Relations (OAR) and the Career and Counseling Center (CCC) under the Office of the Vice Rector for Academic Affairs (OVRAA) formally launched the university's office career directory listing website on August 20, 2021. The website features a roster of the university's verified companies and employers currently looking for UST graduates to join their workforce.

Vice-Rector for Academic Affairs Dr. Cheryl Peralta, DrPH, in her message, said that the career directory listing will serve as the gateway and platform for Thomasians to transition from school to work. It heightens the graduates' awareness of the many possibilities they can explore outside the university locally and internationally. In this time of the pandemic, the university also extends support to its alumni jumpstarting, shifting, or upscaling their careers to continue achieving their dreams.

"May we be able to assist more Thomasians to land jobs where they can grow as individuals and lead others towards productivity and service," added Dr. Peralta.

Prosple Marketing and Growth Lead Yohanne Esguerra also presented the website's interface and functionality during the event. She gave a simple and quick navigation tour for the students and alumni to try. Employers and companies were also given brief descriptions and instructions on how to join the career directory list of the university.

The career directory listing is a long-term follow-up project of the UST Virtual Career Fair last May 31, 2021 with Prosple. To visit the website, go to <https://careers-ust.prosple.com/>. For the companies and employers who are interested to join, fill out the job posting request form here: <https://alumnirelations.ust.edu.ph/careers/>. - Office of Alumni Relations

Bridges, the shared experience of producing a regular weekly online show is a great opportunity to grow together. We regularly meet every Tuesday morning. We enjoy sharing some stories. We have fun during our discussions and we candidly share our thoughts. We lovingly correct one another and we pray for the success of every episode. As result of working together, the USTAAI Team Bridges and the CBRC.tv Team have formed a strong bond of friendship.

I hail CBRC.tv administration and staff because their programs nurture the viewers' competence and skills, values, attitudes. They provide the viewers opportunities to strengthen their mind and spirit.

I hail all the volunteers behind the Bridges – Alex, our volunteer artist who untiringly create our

weekly posters after his work in the office; Marie Pe Yang, who passionately promotes the show on FB; Marilyn Cano, Atty. Dwight Ramos, and Maureen Pickering who take care of our sponsorships; and Dr. Nandy Pedrosa, who always invite great guests for the show. Under the able leadership of Ida Tionko, the Chair of the Academics Committee, USTAAI Team Bridges has been sailing on smoothly.

Kaye Keyser-Bundang, our Executive Assistant, has always been there to support the Team. We are confident that we can always count on her.

The USTAAI vows to continue creating bridges among the Thomasian alumni, to strengthen faith in God and in one another, to nurture hope, and to promote authentic love among its viewers.



TIGER DEALS!

THOMASIAN ALUMNI ITEMS THAT CONTRIBUTE TO USTAAI'S ADVOCACY

**METHYL SALICYLATE
MENTHOL + CAMPHOR**

KATINKO®
OIL & OINTMENT



ITEM	Price / Dozen	
Katinko 10grams	Php	379.50
Katinko 30grams	Php	892.40
Katinko Stick	Php	501.40
Katinko Oil 35ml	Php	892.40
Katinko Inhaler	Php	807.30
Katinko Sports Spray	Php	1,610.00

Scented Alcohol

50ml	Php	524.40
100ml	Php	852.15
500ml	Php	2,163.15

Unscented Alcohol

50ml	Php	368.00
100ml	Php	655.50
500ml	Php	1,769.85



IFERN BY PJ CATS PRICELIST		
• FERN-D 120s	- 1,080.00	• AURORA BEAUTY BAR - 320.00
• FERN-D 60s	- 580.00	• HAND AND BODY LOTION - 550.00
• MILKCA	- 1,100.00	• AURORA FACE SERUM - 950.00
• FERN-ACTIV	- 850.00	• AURORA EYE CREAM - 950.00
• FERN COFFEE	- 240.00	• AURORA DAY CREAM - 950.00
• SILVERFRESH	- 375.00	• AURORA NIGHT CREAM - 950.00
POWERTRIO SET A: Php3,030.00 FERN-D 120s, FERN-ACTIV & MILKCA		
POWERTRIO SET B: Php2,530.00 FERN-D 60s, FERN-ACTIV & MILKCA		
For more info, visit our official social media accounts    @ifernbizpjcats		

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Academe, Alumni, Industry, Government Transformation Summit

(From page 1)



Webinar 1 had its theme **Transitioning the Graduates To Industry 4.0 Workplace (What Educational Institutions have to do to prepare the workforce for industry 4.0?)**. The guest speakers were Rolando J. Paulino, Jr., Managing Director and General Manager, Shell Philippines Exploration B.V.; Dr. Aldrin A. Darilag, CHRP, RMT, RN, Commissioner, Commission on Higher Education; and Jeffrey O. Tarayao, President, One Meralco Foundation.

It was hosted and moderated by Prof. Clarence M. Batan, PhD, Head of the Department of Sociology, University of Santo Tomas. Distinguished guests included Monsignor Bernardo R. Pantin, PC, JCD, President, UST Alumni Priests Association, who gave the Invocation, and Prof. Cheryl Ramos Peralta, DrPH, PTRP, Vice Rector for Academic Affairs, University of Santo Tomas, who gave the opening remarks.

The Summit Overview was given by Assoc. Prof. Jocelyn F. Agcaoili, MHPed, MSPT, Director, UST GS CCPED. The 3-hour webinar had such an overwhelming response and great feedback, with more than 400 in attendance. It was well received because it addressed the following: the integration of technology, data and human literacies; the yearning for hope in the midst of secularism; the search for truth in the midst of fake news; and, the search for a re-humanized education and meaning in life.

Webinar 2 was also well received with a high number of participants. It followed the theme **Industry 4.0: Disruptions, Disturbances & Disorders** (What are the challenges that Industry 4.0 brings to Higher education?), with Assoc. Prof. Emmanuel D. Batoon, PhD, UST Faculty of Art and Letters, taking the helm as host and moderator. The discussion focused mainly on the COVID-19 pandemic and how it greatly affects the industry and the academe, and how practical and effective solutions can be put in place with the support of the government to help organizations adapt and become resilient and agile.

The Guest Speakers were Tonisito M.C. Umali, Esq., Undersecretary for Legislative Affairs, External Partnerships and Project Management Service of the Department of Education; Rosanna A. Urdaneta, Deputy Director General for Policies and Planning, Technical Education and Skills Development Authority; Alberto Victor P. Fenix, Jr, SM & PhD, Chairman of Fenix Management and Capital Inc. and President of the PCCI Human Resources Development Foundation Inc., and Ramon M. Lopez, Secretary, Department of Trade & Industry.

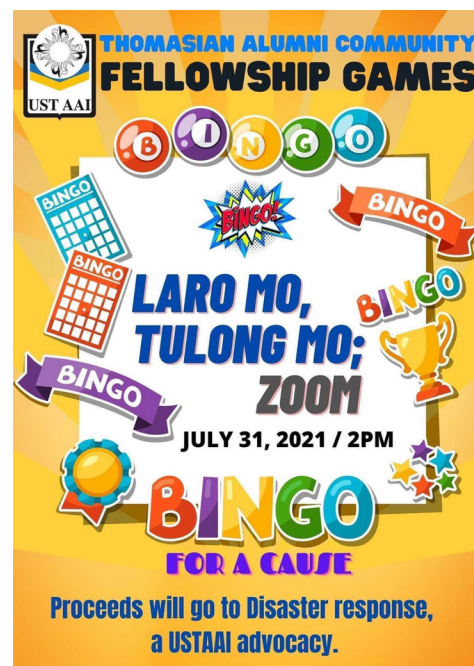
The Invocation was given by Inocencia Ida S. Tionko, RN, MHPED, Vice President, UST Alumni Association, Inc., while Dean Michael Anthony C. Vasco, PhD, UST Graduate School, gave the Welcome Remarks.

The recording of the webinar (including the live broadcast of the upcoming webinars) can be viewed via the following:

USTAAI Facebook Page - <https://www.facebook.com/USTAAI>
UST GS CCPED Facebook Page - <https://www.facebook.com/ust1611ccped>
CBRC Facebook Page - www.facebook.com/carlbaitafull
USTAAI TAC YouTube Channel: <https://www.youtube.com/c/USTAAITAC>

Webinars 3 and 4 will be held on October 1 and 15, respectively. Each webinar starts at 9AM and runs until 12 noon. Education leaders, school administrators, faculty members, graduating students and fresh graduates are invited to attend and participate. This event is FREE and is open to ALL (Thomasians and Non-Thomasians). To register, go to <https://bit.ly/AAIG2021SummitRegistration>.

This webinar series is being sponsored by Globe Telecom, CBRC VICE, Radius Telecom and Metro Rail Transit Corporation (MRTC). - Jonathan H. Peran, BS ECE 1996



Advocacy's E-Bingo Raises Funds for Disaster Response

(From page 1)

vacuum won by Joyce Ann Lapid with card C-273, Xiaomi Band 6 won by Jacob Siyambio with card D-323, an Oppo A5s cellphone won by Dr. Katrina Therese Mendoza with card K-024, a Polytron Belleza refrigerator won by Dr. Angela Fernando Villasenor with card I-384, and the grand prize, an I-pad Mini won by John Derick de Recto with card I-324.

The program began with welcome remarks from Fellowship Chair Rollo Milante and a prayer led by VP Ida Tionko. President Evelyn Songco declared the games open after expressing appreciation for the organizers, sponsors, hosts and participants. The hosts for the games were Claude Despabiladeras, Harry Uy, Angie Tuazon, Dr. Carl Balita, and Fr. Roy Rodriguez, OP. Among those who drew the winning raffle cards were Angie Tuazon, Chito Maniago, Ellen Manansala, Harry Uy and Dr. Carl Balita.

The games used the patterns U, S, T, E, with the grand prize going to the first card that was completely filled out. All prizes were sent out to the winners. - Nanette Ochoa-Fernandez, BSE 1976



USTAAI Team Advocacy, UST TALA Donate to Flood Victims

Last July 24, the southwest monsoon, enhanced by Typhoon "Fabian," brought to heavy rains over Metro Manila and Occidental Mindoro, causing heavy flooding in low-lying areas. In the aftermath of this calamity, USTAAI Team Advocacy and UST TALA organized a flash response to flood victims through the Tomasino Para Sa Kapwa Pilipino project, thanks to the leadership of USTAAI Advocacy chair Engr. Jerenato Alfante and to USTAAI Advocacy co-chair and UST TALA Chair Emeritus Angeli Tuazon.

Volunteers were mobilized and dispatched to give food packs to the affected families in various evacuation sites, namely: on July 25, to Bgy. Masambong and Brgy. Apolonio Samson QC, 300 loaves of Liberty Food bread; on July 26, to Bgy. Burgos Elementary School, in San Mateo, Rizal and Diosdado Macapagal High School in Bgy. Tatalon, 300 loaves of Liberty Food bread and boxes of milk; on July 27, Brgy. San Jose, Rodriguez in Rizal, 105 loaves of Liberty Food bread.

On July 27, USTAAI released a fund amounting



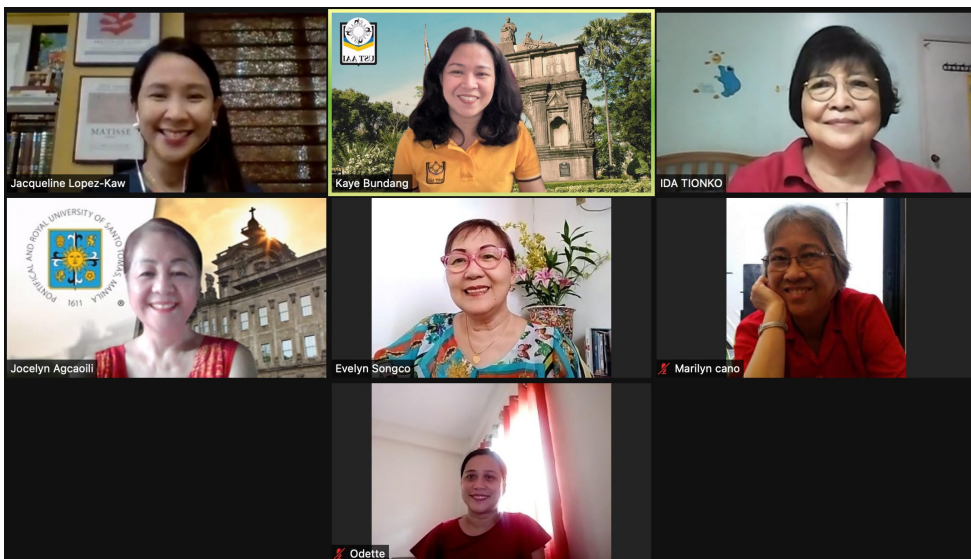
to Php 20,000 to help flood victims in Naujan, Mindoro. This relief effort was coordinated through Gloria Goco-De Guzman, Vernon Goco (BS Microbiology 1985) and Portia Hernandez Ebrada, (BS Pharmacy 1992) who helped pack and transport the goods. The goods were distributed at the Sta. Rosa De Lima Mission Area with the help of Fr. Tom Priela (Naujan Parish Priest), Fr. Lolo, and the Ma. Estrella General Hospital. The recipients include the indigenous Mangyan community. – Jonathan Peran, BS ECE (1996)



Collaborative Meeting with the DOST-TOMASInno Center

Last August 11, 2021, the USTAAI led by Dr. Evelyn Songco together with Team Academics led by the Chair, Ida Tionko and the co-Chair Dr. Marilyn Cano, had an initial collaborative meeting with the Head of the DOST-TOMASInno Center, Engr. Raymond Marquez. The meeting began with Engr. Marquez introducing the thrust of the Center and its current state. He discussed the Center as a technology-based incubator (TBI) where innovation is promoted and supported towards commercialization and helps technology-based business start-ups. The center has the capability of providing a range of resources, services and facilities needed during development. As a technology-based incubator, one of the objectives of the Center is to develop entrepreneurs and promote public-private partnerships. They provide assistance related to the business plan and development of a particular product.

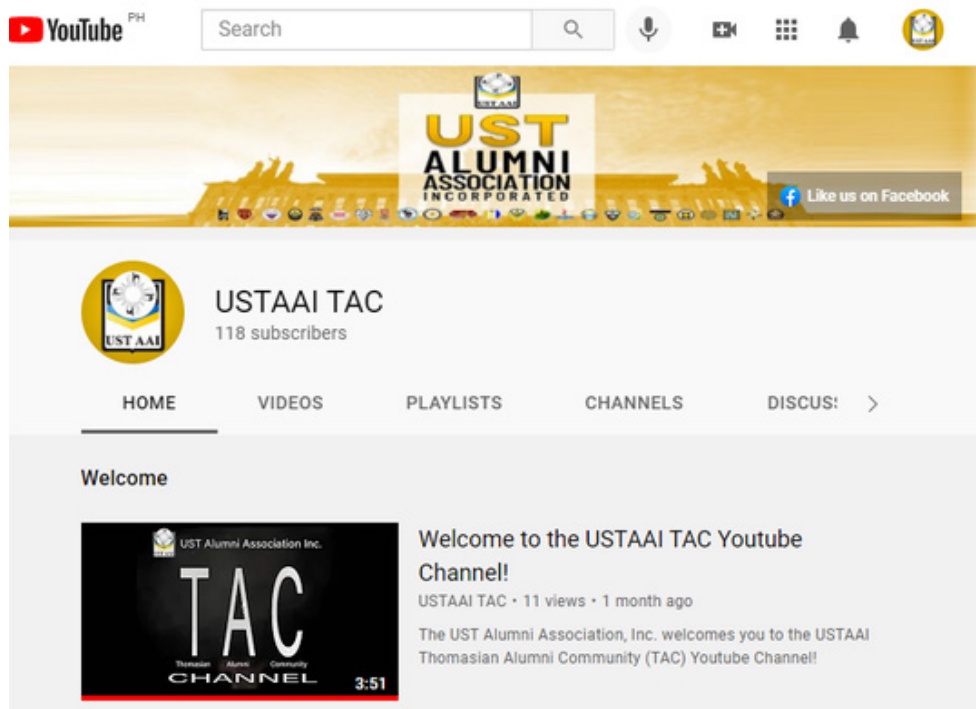
The USTAAI, having previously signed a Memorandum of Agreement-Partnership with the University on the Center, discussed at length how partnership and collaboration can be carried out. Engr. Marquez pointed out that at this time, the Center needs help to increase the number of "incubates," mentors, and "inspirers" to the program. Investors are also needed for the full-scale manufacturing of developed products. Admittedly, for these, the Alumni's support is needed. It was agreed upon that the first step to be undertaken is to introduce the Center to the alumni, the faculty and the students in a Webinar. This webinar is scheduled on October 13, 2021 at 5:00 – 7:00 PM. The final plans for this activity will be discussed in a meeting before the said event. – Ida Tionko, BS Nursing, 1970



USTAAI-UST HRD-USTCCPED Collaboration

The USTAAI Team Academics led by its Chair Ida Tionko and Co-Chair, Dr. Marilyn Cano, together with the USTAAI President Dr. Evelyn Songco and the Director of the UST Center for Continuing Professional Educational Development (CCPED), Dean Jocelyn Agcaoili, met with the Director of the

(Continue to page 15)



USTAAI TAC YouTube Channel Launched

The USTAAI Thomasian Alumni Community YouTube Channel was officially launched last July 10, 2021. It was presented by the USTAAI Public Presence Committee, led by its Chair, Dr. Jocelyn Zamora-Mariano, during the monthly meeting of the Board of Trustees.

The channel, which is open to the general public, is a resource for all graduates of the University of Santo Tomas. It aims to provide updates and other information about USTAAI events, homecomings, and other landmark celebrations. The channel is dedicated to supporting and keeping all alumni connected beyond their time at UST.

Apart from alumni events, the channel will provide videos that will uplift everyone's spirits through the Thomasians4Love initiatives, and the informative talks and meaningful discussions through the Bridges episodes.

All member associations are encouraged to send their own association videos to be broadcast and shared with other alumni. USTAAI believes that staying connected strengthens the alumni's connection with UST and allows them to value that connection more so they become one with other alumni.

Everyone is encouraged to comment, like and share all the posted videos and click the notification bell to be informed about the latest videos. To subscribe, interested parties may go to <https://www.youtube.com/USTAAITAC>. - John Peran, BS ECE, 1996

UST TALA extends help to ARESCOM

7 JULY 2021 – The University of Sto. Tomas Thomasian Alumni Leaders Association (UST TALA) visited the Army Reserve Command (ARESCOM) Training Center in Tanza, Cavite. Spearheaded by Chairman Emeritus Angie Tuazon, the visit was to extend assistance through donations of face masks, face shields, tokens, and gift bags to the Philippine Army Reserve Command frontliners.

The UST TALA volunteer group was welcomed by MGen. Peale Jon Bondoc, Commander of Army Reserve Command, together with Col. Reynaldo Malapad, INF (GSC) PA Governance and Strategy Management Office (GSMO) Head. They received the donations and also gave a tour of the ARESCOM training facilities where the UST TALA volunteers observed exhibitions and training of some of the army. The TALA volunteers also experienced firsthand some of the obstacle courses in the field.

After the gift-giving and the tour, TSg Relita Calapani did an orientation for the UST TALA, and gave a short rundown of the important guidelines on how to become an army reservist. - Mars Manalili, BA in Journalism (2012)



Bridge to Lifelong Learning

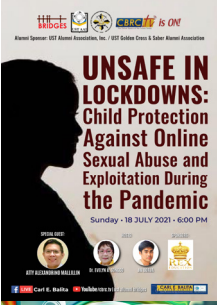
USTAAI's Academic Team continues to provide the university's alumni with topics relevant in today's environment through its weekly online show, Bridges.



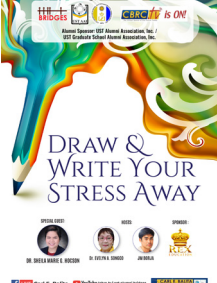
July 4, The Blessings of Online Distance Learning. In this episode, Dr. Carina G. Dacanay enumerated the best things that happened to the academic world with the boom of virtual learning. She said that, first, distance learning did not confine learning resources in the four walls of the classroom but it provided infinite spaces for learning and that it opened the possibilities of connecting with resource persons around the globe. The second “blessing,” she said, was the use of smart technology for learning, which encouraged teachers to learn and maximize technology to improve student’s learning experiences to achieve better learning outcomes. She iterated that more than the technical skills, core values were developed and translated into understanding, support, trust, appreciation, and love. She left the viewers with the final message of gratitude, reminding all that one will never know what blessings are if one doesn’t know how to be grateful.



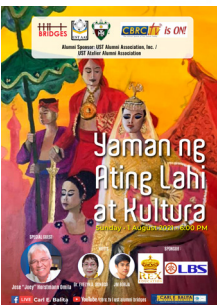
July 11, Urban Farming: Growing our Own Food at Home. *Plantitos* and *plantitas* were once again treated to an interesting topic on hydroponics farming as Emmanuel Alivio, a distinguished UST alumnus, talked about what started as a hobby for him. This hobby grew into a social enterprise, helping other people set up their own urban community farm. The speaker shared his vision of having urban community farms in every barangay, municipality, or city to fill the lack of fresh produce brought about by the pandemic. He also talked about the steps his team is taking to develop the growing community farms. He said that, first, they identify a community and train the people how to start their own urban farms. Next, they look for a location and set-up the farm. Finally, they identify the produce the people want to plant. He emphasized that the most important aspect of all these steps is to ensure the community farm’s sustainability from planning, production, and profit. The speaker also shared the basics of how to begin a hydroponics farm. He ended his talk by recommending the viewers to have their own hydroponics garden for personal consumption for healthier living.



July 18, Unsafe in Lockdowns: Child protection against online sexual abuse and exploitation during the pandemic. Discussing this very serious topic was Atty. Alexandrino Mallillin. Atty. Mallillin works for the International Justice Mission (IJM), the largest anti-modern-day slavery organization in the world based in Washington, D.C. It has field offices in Manila and Cebu, where they focus on online sexual exploitation of children (OSEC). Atty. Alex explained what acts are considered OSEC and how these crimes increased during the pandemic. While the Philippines is the epicenter of such crimes, it is also at the forefront in the fight against cybersex trafficking. He cited the study done by the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) that said that there has been a 28% increase in incidents, from 16.9 M reported in 2019 to 21.7 M in 2020. He mentioned that due to the hardships encountered during the pandemic, it is the children’s own parents who are perpetuating these crimes. He explained that since OSEC is a global crime, it thus requires a global response and since it is a technological-enabled crime, it needs a technology-enabled solution. He added that social media is the most commonly used platform as it is also the most accessible by anyone around the world. He mentioned that last year, the Philippine Internet Crimes Against Children Center (PICACC), an inter-agency collaboration, conducted 79 law enforcement operations, rescued or safeguarded 231 victims, and arrested 41. A video of a survivor of child trafficking was shown where the victim showed her resilience despite the trauma she experienced at a young age, proving that the past should not define one’s future; the experiences even served as an example of restoration and healing. In conclusion, Atty. Mallillin reminded the viewers to be vigilant about what they see in social media platforms, to join the fight against human trafficking and to report any cybercrimes, especially child trafficking.



July 25, Draw and Write your Stress Away. Dr. Sheila “Shake” Marie G. Hocson started the discussion by saying that stress is like a pressure cooker, that if one has already too much on his/her plate and doesn’t know which one to prioritize, stress can happen and that when stress already affects our day-to-day life, then it is something alarming. She further discussed how stress can affect a person’s behavior, affect, soma, and cognition and that negative thoughts also add to stress, so it is very important to have people one can talk to and lean on, to help him/her identify whether his/her worries are valid or just exaggerated in the head. Dr. Shake also introduced a new study on digital citizenship and well-being, where technology is not necessarily an effective way to reduce stress because social media is a double-edged sword in the sense that it can be used as a positive and negative influence. So instead of using digital apps or mobile games, Dr. Shake recommended drawing and journaling that can be a catharsis to reduce one’s tension and release pent-up emotions. According to her, some of the benefits of creative and expressive arts are that it creates a safe space, which calms a person down and it gives hope and peace of mind. She added that it helps one process thoughts, identifies the pros and cons of one’s actions, and most importantly, it provides one with self-insight. In writing, those with mental health concerns should not write down anything that triggers them negatively. The speaker also shared several structured activities like using vision boards, graphing feelings, and identifying sources of strength. Dr. Shake ended her talk with the message that our strength is inherent and it starts with a good mind, heart, and actions.



August 1, Yaman ng Ating Lahi at Kultura. The guest speaker, Joey Omila, shared with us his story on how he spread Philippine culture around the world. He shared that despite living in the US for several years, he hasn’t forgotten his Filipino roots. He found a deep love for our culture, from the Tibilos and Manobos of Cotabato, to the Sinulog of Cebu up to the time he became one of the pioneers of UST’s Salinggawi Dance Troupe. He also shared how people from around the world appreciate our culture and rich history through dance, fashion, and other forms of art. Mr. Omila also described the various exhibits that they display in the Bayanihan Center, popular among schools and in events, bringing a little bit of the Philippines to America. He urged the audience to be proud of being Filipinos, of our traditions and culture.



August 8, Wacky Wika, Alien! This was an episode filled with laughter as our guest speaker, Herman Salvador, more popularly known as Brod. Pete, talked about the topic. The episode started with the speaker talking about how he got his moniker Brod. Pete, jokingly saying that he looked like the Hollywood actor Brad Pitt. Despite the pandemic, Brod Pete emphasized the importance of laughter and that only people have the gift to laugh. He further said not to take things too seriously. Then he discussed about his passion for comedy, and how he wanted to share how he also wanted others to laugh. He shared that how to make people laugh is to connect with them, to know them and their language. There is no such thing as an expert in comedy and comedians should keep learning. One should also absorb as much information around him and to keep updated, and focus on the funny side of everything. Comedy is not as simple as it seems, because it involves various disciplines such as psychology and sociology. He explained how he wrote comedy for other people and how powerful a tool language is, which can be used for good or bad. He further elaborated that language should be used as a medium of instruction, stating that effective communication doesn’t cover correct grammar, but more importantly, if the message is clearly received and understood. A short video, with him as one of the actors, also provided as an example of how language can be used how to present a serious topic in a lighthearted way, but remaining very informative. He advised people who want to be comedy writers to really make sure they have a passion for it, to study and research, and to keep working on their craft. Throughout his talk, Brod. Pete has proven he has not lost his comedic

(Continue to page 8)

A REDMAN, AND WHAT IT TAKES TO BE ONE

This an excerpt from the discourse of Dr. Rory Tuazon, MD, MHA, FPCS, DPBS, FPSGS, FPSO, past National Commander of the UST Golden Cross and Saber Alumni Association and a member of the Mandrigma Class of '85. He delivered this during the National Conference of the UST Advance ROTC / UST Golden Cross and Saber Alumni Association International held online on 14 August 2021. Dr. Tuazon is a 1985 graduate of BS Biology.

Before a global audience of UST ROTC Alumni, Dr. Tuazon highlighted the essence of the Association and the pride that each member carries from the moment they start their journey as Cadet Officers of the UST Golden Corps of Cadets:



We have always been proud to be a part of and product of the UST Golden Corps of Cadets- truly a Redman by heart. We have always been proud of our Thomasian heritage- solidified and inculcated into our system even more by the cadet corps. It is because of this distinctive way of carrying ourselves in public that inquisitive minds from outside of the "Goldies' Circle" often wonder about what runs inside a Redman's mind. Why is he ever loyal to his Golden Corps? Why is he so committed to always be his brother's keeper? Why does he keep every symbol of the corps on top of a pedestal? What does it take to become a Redman? How does one become one?

There is a phrase which keeps reverberating in my mind every time I think of the corps and I could not exactly remember who posted this in one of our email exchanges. If my memory serves me right and without fear of being far off, I think it was RM Gil Noel David from the



UST ROTC Class of '74, who said, "at first you try to become a part of the corps, and then eventually, the corps becomes a part of you."

(Continue to page 17)

Bridge to Lifelong Learning

(From page 7)



touch. Alien! Raise the Roof

August 24, What it takes to be an Olympian: Mindset, Experiences, Struggles, and Success. This was a very timely episode as it aired just after the country won a first 2020 Olympics gold medal, courtesy of Ms. Hidilyn Diaz. The guest speaker, Dr. Karen Trinidad is part of Team HD, as a sports psychologist. She shared with the viewers Hidilyn's journey to the Olympics, as well as how important every member of the team is crucial to cover all the needs of an athlete. Dr. Karen discussed how an athlete's success in sports no longer lies in luck, but more on science, and that how an individual performs in sports is now a combination of physical preparation, technical skills, and psychological readiness. She also discussed the different attributes, focusing on the psychological attributes such as, confidence, concentration, consistency, and control; and neglecting any of the four can interfere with an athlete's performance. The stories behind the scenes that Dr. Karen shared proved that being an Olympian is now a holistic preparation. To wrap up her discussion, Dr. Karen thanked Hidilyn for shedding light on the importance of sports psychology to athletes and welcomed more people who are interested in this field to be able to breed more award-winning Olympians in the future.

August 31, And There Shall Be Heroes. Historian-guest Dr. Jose Victor Torres talked about what it really takes to be a hero, sharing how he compartmentalizes writing history and plays, and it is his ambition to combine both. He considers writing history as non-fiction but still a literary product, where he writes history like a story, explaining the term "kasaysayan." He discussed the concept of a hero through the eyes of a writer as one who can sacrifice things he loves and values to spread dignity to others. According to him, heroes can change depending on the situation, just like the heroes during the pandemic; they are those who sacrifice their life for the health and safety of others. Further, he reminded everyone that heroes are just ordinary people with weaknesses and flaws, but who have done something extraordinary. Dr. Torres also said that the first part of being a hero is conquering one's fear, because one has to conquer himself first.

September 7, Heritage Conservation. Assoc. Prof. Eric B. Zerrudo, Ph.D., of the UST Graduate School Center for Conservation of Cultural Property and Environment in the
(Continue to page 18)

Father Rector and the UST Alumni Association, Inc. Meeting

(From page 1)



Meer; Team Public Presence by Mr. John Peran; and the Secretariat by its Chair, Ms. Nanette Fernandez.

Ms. Ida Tionko gave the presentation for Team Academics. She lengthily discussed how the USTAAI, through Team Academics, hopes to work closely with the University in the attainment of the Father Rector's 7-Point agenda particularly in the area of fostering a stronger industry-academe-alumni partnership.

The key result areas of the team which are curricular review, research and innovation and life-long learning and their strategies of implementation were discussed. The member alumni associations are expected to collaborate with their respective colleges for the implementation of USTAAI's academic pursuits. It was reported that some alumni associations have already started the work of collaboration especially in the area of curricular review and the setting up of the Alumni Speakers Bureau.

After the presentations, the different member Alumni Association presidents also had the chance to give their personal greetings. Fr. Ang gave his message afterwards and he exhorted the group to put into practice the 3-fold mission of the University which are teaching, research and community service. Therefore, the USTAAI can work with the University not only in the field of academics and research but also in community service which is the thrust of Team Advocacy. He gave emphasis on the importance in his agenda of stronger industry-academe-alumni partnership and collaboration. Further, he expressed his expectation that the alumni would work closely with the University towards this end and to coordinate more closely as well with the Office of Alumni Relations particularly in the gathering of alumni data from the past several years.

He ended his message to the group with this statement, "UST is looking up to you, especially during this pandemic. We have to work more closely together; we have to work a lot in collaboration. It is quite difficult at this time but if we have the initiative, if we really love the University, nothing is impossible."

The meeting ended with a prayer led by Monsignor Bernie Pantin, O. P. - *Ida Tionko, BS Nursing, 1970*



CEAFI Welcomes New Set of Board of Trustees 2021-2023

The College of Education Alumni Foundation, Inc. (CEAFI), after electing its 15 trustees to its board last 19 July 2021, had its first virtual induction of officers and board of directors last 4 August 2021. Asst. Prof. Fredeswindo R. Medina, Director of the University of Santo Tomas Office of Alumni Relations and fellow Education alumni, graced the event as inducing officer.

The program saw the induction of the 15 newly-elected officers and board of directors of the Foundation:

President:	Evelyn A. Songco
Vice President:	Marilyn Cano
Secretary:	Ana Marie Fernandez
Treasurer:	Maria Cecilia D. Lobo
Auditor:	Cristina C. Sagum
Public Relations Officer:	Symon Lagao
Board of Directors:	Maria Mercedes C. Buendia
	Joyce Javier
	Marielyn Quintana
	Pearl Villamarzo
	Loreto S. Sauz
	Emma Yeung
	Evangeline Timbang
	Lily Chua
	Maria Cecilia San Juan

President Songco also inducted the appointed Chairs and Co-chairs of each committee under CEAFI: Apostolate, Fellowship, Membership, Prayer, and Study. With their extensive experience and passion for service, the board aims to form a strong and synergistic linkage with the Education alumni community. - *Symon Lagao, BLIS 2015*

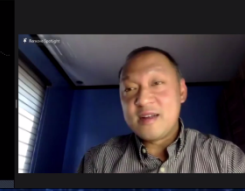


UNESCO COVID-19 Educational Disruption and Response Taskforce, through its Global Monitoring Report

1.2 billion young learners



education 4.0 → industry 4.0

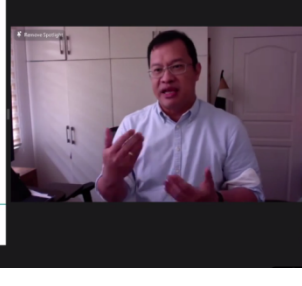
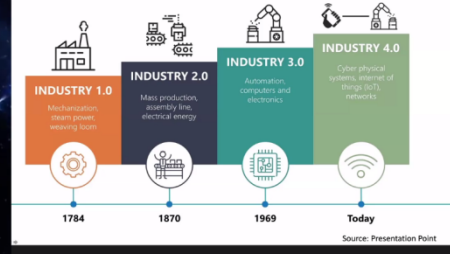


Industry 4.0 Workshops

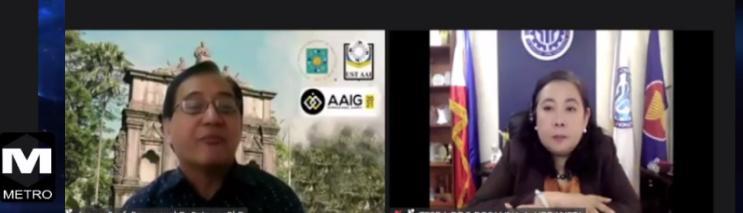
Conducted Industry 4.0 Workshops to more than 200+ C-level company executives of leading manufacturing firms in the Philippines to introduce Industry 4.0 concepts and technologies and discuss how these can be leveraged to future-proof their factories.

Sectors: automotive, electronics, aerospace, chemicals, food manufacturing, and the construction materials sectors.

dti



AAIG 2021 INTERNATIONAL SUMMIT

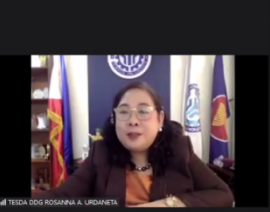


TVET

Responding to the Challenges of Industry 4.0 and the New Normal and Beyond

ROSANNA A. URDANETA
Deputy Director General for Policies and Planning
National Education and Skills Development Authority

National Multi-Sectoral Summit for Educational Transformation
17 September 2021 | Via Zoom, FB Live



BASIC EDUCATION LEARNING CONTINUITY PLAN

Titled **LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES SHALL BE AVAILABLE: The Basic Education Learning Continuity Plan (BE-LCP) in the Time of COVID-19**, the BE-LCP provides guidance to all levels of governance of DepEd (Central Office, Regions, Divisions and Schools), and to education partners, in fulfilling our responsibility to provide learning opportunities to our children.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION





LARO MO, TULONG MO: ZOOM BINGO



TALA
Pagmamahal

UST TALA salutes the
**PHILIPPINE ARMY
RESERVE COMMAND
Frontliners**

UST Thomasian Alumni Leaders Association (UST TALA)
A member of UST Alumni Association Inc.

UST LAFI: Lending a Helping Hand to Thomasians



UNIVERSITY OF STO. TOMAS
LAW ALUMNI FOUNDATION, INC.



ANNOUNCEMENT!

The UST Law Alumni Foundation, Inc. announces the continuation of its scholarship program to support and encourage Thomasian college graduates who wish to become Thomasian lawyers.

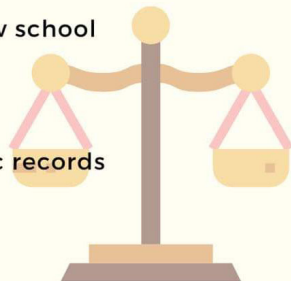
The foundation will reward scholarships to five (5) highly qualified candidates for the 2021-2022 academic school year.

ELIGIBILITY

1. Open to Thomasian undergraduates in any field of study
2. Must be an incoming freshman enrolling in the Faculty of Civil Law by the start of the academic year
3. Must be enrolling for the first time in law school

REQUIREMENTS

1. Duly accomplished application form
2. Photocopy of the transcript of academic records
3. Certification of Ranking
4. Certificate of Good Moral Character



BENEFITS

Full or partial discount on tuition and miscellaneous, book allowance, monthly stipend



Justice RONALD B. MORENO
Chairman, Committee on Scholarship
UST-Law Alumni Foundation, Inc.
Cell No.: 09218403888
Email: lafi2021.ust@gmail.com

www.ustalumniassociation.org

/USTLawAlumniInc.

/8406-1611 Loc.8589

The UST Law Alumni Foundation, Inc. (UST LAFI), now headed by Atty. Maria Elena Go Francisco, has always been true to its mandate to promote, organize and conduct projects and programs for a more effective exchange of information among alumni, among which is the sponsorship of scholarships for deserving law students of the Faculty but are financially challenged. For the past several years, the UST LAFI offered fully-funded scholarships and had, in fact, produced numerous scholar-graduates.

This year, the Foundation's Board offered to this writer the Chairmanship of the Committee on Scholarship. After accepting the offer, I

immediately thought of ways on how to foster closer relations between the alumni and students. Emboldened by my belief in the capability and competence of the Thomasian, I suggested to make the scholarship available exclusively to Thomasian undergraduates. To my mind, the proposal would be a good incentive for the University's finest graduates who are planning to pursue a law degree to consider the Faculty as their primordial choice. The ultimate goal, of course, is for the Foundation to be able to choose the best qualified students who could best represent the core Thomasian values of competence, commitment and compassion.

The suggestion to limit the applicants to Thomasian undergraduates opened up an academic and, at times, animated discussion on the matter. Limiting the scholarship to Thomasian graduates would, indeed, deprive the Faculty of brilliant graduates from other schools. However, with much persistence and resolve, I was able to eventually convince the Board that making the scholarship exclusive to Thomasians could - in the long run - help the University retain its own 'bright minds. Indeed, making Thomasians a priority - especially during this pandemic - would be a noble and practical idea considering that the Foundation's funds are pooled mainly from the generous contributions and resources of Thomasian alumni.

In formulating the guidelines for evaluating scholarship applications, the Committee wanted to emphasize competence and exemplary academic performance. As such, the Committee incorporated into the Guidelines the allocation of corresponding points for those with Latin honors, as well as those who excelled academically during their undergraduate studies.

As an added incentive, the Committee also put points to applicants with a history of Thomasian education in their family. In order to additionally gauge the qualification of the applicants vis-à-vis their character and values, qualifying written exams and interviews were set, with the corresponding percentile depending on the applicants' performance on these exams. For clarity, the criteria - which were shown to the applicants - are as follows:

Summa Cum Laude	50
Magna Cum Laude	50
Cum Laude	40
Belongs to 10% of the upper class	30
Belongs to 15% of the upper class	25
Both parents are Thomasians	20
One parent is Thomasian	10
Top scorers in qualifying exam	
1-5	20
6-10	10
11 and below	5
Top scorers in qualifying interview	
1-5	20
6-10	10
11 and below	5

The Announcement posted in the University's website in the first week of August essentially stated that the Foundation "will award scholarships to five (5) highly qualified candidates for the 2021-2022 academic school year" and that they would be entitled to full or partial discount on tuition and miscellaneous expenses, book allowance and monthly stipend. It enumerated the following eligibilities: (a) open to Thomasian undergraduates in any field of study; (b) must be an incoming freshman enrolling in the Faculty of Civil Law by the start of the academic year; and (c) must be enrolling for the first time in law school.

Twelve applicants submitted their requirements. It is surprising to note that some of the

applicants were not incoming freshmen, but incoming third year and fourth year students who wished to avail of the scholarship due to financial struggles brought about by the current pandemic. Notably, all twelve applicants possessed impressive academic credentials: most were recipient of Latin honors, and a few already even passed the Board exams of their respective undergraduate courses.

The qualifying exam, administered on August 7, 2021, consisted of 36 questions and had a time limit of three hours. The questions were meant to gauge the applicants' ability to express themselves in writing, think critically, make judgments based on premises, and make choices based on circumstances.

The applicants then had written interviews before a 30-minute online interview conducted on August 15, 2021. The questions in the interview covered a wide range of topics, but emphasized mainly on why they are applying for a scholarship, why they are choosing UST over other schools, how they could be an asset to the University, and how they could give back to their alma mater. The Committee also made follow up questions on their written answers and asked them to expound on some answers.

After a meticulous process, the Committee eventually chose seven (7) applicants to be the LAFI's scholars for the school year, namely:

1. Marc Angelo Galvez Santos;
(Magna Cum Laude, BS Accountancy;
No.5 CPA Board)
2. Ianna Nicole Basilio Lucas;
(Cum Laude, BS Accountancy)
3. Mikaela Gabrielle Estalilla Fernandez;
(Magna Cum Laude, AB Communication Arts)
4. Sophia Marianne Soliman Salonga;
(Cum Laude, AB Behavioral Science)
5. Alaiza Agatep Adviento;
(Magna Cum Laude, BS Accountancy)
6. Kirby Anne Cesario Renia;
(Cum Laude, AB Political Science) and
7. Elaine Denise Hermogeno Marallag
(Dean's Lister, AB History)

The final interview, also done online, was held last August 19, 2021. In this meeting, the scholars were informed that they should be able to maintain a quotient point index (QPI) of 85% to keep their scholarship. The Committee purposely set a high standard in order to ensure that the Foundation's scholars will make their law studies their utmost priority. The selection process was indeed time-consuming but a necessary one if the Committee were to select the best and most qualified (i.e., 'cream of the crop') applicants who will best manifest the core values and ideals of the University.

This is the Foundation's own way of helping Dean Nilo T. Divina in his quest to have the UST Faculty of Civil Law regain its former glory. To be sure, the groundwork had already been laid as evidenced by the remarkable passing rate of the Faculty in the Bar Examinations during the past several years, highlighted by three topnotchers in both the 2017 and 2019 Bar Exams.

Truth be told, this writer was initially hesitant to accept the designation to be the Chairperson of the Committee. However, after the scholars had been selected, he could honestly say that the whole process brought personal fulfilment. Hearing the stories and struggles of the applicants and witnessing their dedication and commitment to achieve their dreams was truly a gratifying moment. Gratitude is extended to the Foundation for the trust, opportunity and experience.

Gratitude is equally extended to the other members of the Committee - Atty. Frankie Magsalin III and Atty. Joseph Cerezo for their invaluable assistance and insights. Through discussions and differences in ideas, everyone worked in unison towards our goal to lend a helping hand to our fellow Thomasians. Indeed, and as Martin Luther King, Jr. said, "Somewhere along the way, we must learn that there is nothing greater than to do something for others." - Justice Ronald Moreno, LL.M., DCL, Associate Justice, Sandiganbayan; Faculty of Civil Law, 1995; Master of Laws, 2006; Doctor of Civil Law, 2019



The UST Pax Romana Alumni Association is inviting the public particularly the Thomasian alumni to join its regular religious activities.

Mondays - 8 am Manila Time: Holy Rosary hosted by its US-Canada Chapter.

Wednesdays and Fridays - 8 pm Manila Time: Holy Rosary.

Sundays - 8 pm Manila Time: Holy Rosary followed at 8:30 pm Manila Time: Holy Mass.

These activities are aired live on UST Pax Romana Alumni Facebook and YouTube pages.



UST - EHS SCHOLARSHIP PROJECTS

Every student's story is different from another student's, but the financial gap in paying school fees is present in a lot of cases. That is why scholarships and grants are introduced and made available to students who are academically qualified and deserving, but who need assistance to complete their studies in time.

Their stories are no different from some UST Education High School students. They also seek for whatever assistance is available from institutions and individuals.

It is in this light that some generous and blessed UST Education High School alumni give out assistance willingly through outright financial aid and special projects. With the help of Assoc. Prof. Marielyn Quintana, LPT, PhD, principal of the UST-EHS, the selection process has been made easier.

Full or partial tuition fees were extended by alumni from batches '70, '71, '76, '80, '90 and 2000, with the assurance to these students that they will be able to see it through the school year.

Batch '63 had a different avenue in helping out. They shouldered book allowances of some students. Batch '80 made sure that these students will be aided in coping with the academic requirements by providing them with computer desktops while batch '84 thought of giving out student allowances.

The support these alumni extended to their alma mater instills a greater sense of belongingness and motivation for these promising and hopeful students to focus on their goals and make it through higher education.

May these generous and compassionate alumni's tribe increase. As the saying goes, "Generosity is a state of the heart, not of one's wallet." We rest in the knowledge that God is the provider of all things."

- Marilou Madrona-Mendoza, EHS, 1984

AB IS NOW BA



The Faculty of Arts & Letters and its programs are now referred to as Bachelor of Arts or BA.

Prior to the previous academic year, these programs were called AB, like AB Journalism or AB Mass Communications, and the Faculty itself was more popularly known as AB rather than Arts & Letters. Then, the students would say "AB" while students of the College of Education referred to their faculty or program as "Educ" and those from the Faculty of Engineering, "Eng."

According to Dean Marilu Madrunio, the change was for "consistency purposes and to align the nomenclature with the programs offered in offshore universities." The abbreviation AB stands for "artium baccalaureus," the Latin term for Bachelor of Arts or BA. Dean Madrunio further explained, "This BA degree, which is a liberal arts program, puts emphasis on the humanities and social sciences. In the sciences, the Latin name for the degree is "scientiae baccalaureus" or SB. Since the programs in Science follow the abbreviation BS, it would be better to call our programs BA for purposes of consistency."

The Faculty now offers 13 majors or programs. These are: BA Philosophy and BA Literature, both recognized by the Commission of Higher Education (CHED) as Center of Excellence; BA Literature, BA Communication and BA Journalism, Center of Development; BA Asian Studies; BA Behavioral Science; BA Economics; BA Legal Management; BA Political Science and BA Sociology. BA in History and BA in English Language Studies were established in 2011 and BA in Creative Writing, in 2018.

It will be a culture change for the UST student population, and perhaps the stakeholders, to adopt the habit of calling the Faculty and the programs as BA. While in the previous years, the answer to "What college are you from" was "AB," it may now be "BA," unless the change moves to "Arts & Letters."
- Joy Viray-Gatmaytan, *AB Translations*, 1980.

	 <p>Adobung Kamaru</p> <p>Dr. Ma. Salve C. Olalia Vice President Tomasinong Kapampangan</p>		 <p>SISIG</p> <p>Dr. Leticia Cordero-Yap Adviser Tomasinong Kapampangan</p>
	 <p>Tocino</p> <p>Dr. Mildred Mañalac-Mariano President Tomasinong Kapampangan</p>		 <p>Asadung Matua</p> <p>Dra. Leleng T. Santiago Assistant President Tomasinong Kapampangan</p>

TOMASINONG KAPAMPANGAN FOOD VLOG

Pampanga, being the Culinary Capital of the Philippines, is famous for its delectable, appetizing, exciting and exotic delicacies. If you want to experience the distinctive Kapampangan cuisine, come to our province. Mekení malau skayu Pampanga! Basta Kapampangan, MANYAMAN! (If it's from Pampanga, it surely is delicious!).

On September 26, 2021, the Tomasinong Kapampangan doctors who are members of the UST Medical Alumni Association (USTMAA) Pampanga Chapter had an eight-minute food vlog on how to prepare and cook well-known Kapampangan delicacies titled "RX Cook 'n Eat as Directed" (Food

(Continue to page 15)

USTAA-UST HRD-USTCCPED Collaboration

(From page 5)

HR Department of the University, Atty. Jacqueline Lopez-Kaw last August 9, 2021. The meeting discussed the proposed collaboration of the three groups for the on-going development/training of the university employees related to their soft skills and hard skills.

Atty. Kaw presented to the group the three types of training sessions planned for the employees: the Plenary Learning Session (PLS) which involves soft skills training and is open to all, the Sectoral Learning Session (SLS) which is based on sectoral/cluster training needs, and the Enhancement Learning Session (ELS) which is developmental and open to all those who are interested.

She also discussed the programs included in the different learning sessions. Inasmuch as the training program plan has been done and is all set for implementation, the provision of resource speakers was what was requested as needed by the alumni. The most urgent need is a resource speaker for the October seminar on "Overview on Retirement" which USTAAI agreed to give. To assist in the search for resource speakers, the HRD agreed to provide USTAAI & CCPED with their training plan, TNA tool and result, and calendar.

The meeting ended with high hopes of a productive partnership among them
- Ida Tionko, BS Nursing, 1970.

TOMASINONG KAPAMPANGAN FOOD VLOG

(From page 14)

Trip sa Pampanga). This was presented in the USTMAA Webinar "Kulinarya, Kainan at Huntahan."

The following delicacies were featured:

1. Sisig - By Dr. Leticia Yap
2. Adobong Kamaru (Mole Crickets) - By Dr. Ma. Salve Olalia
3. Betuteng Tugak (Stuffed Frog) - By Dr. Aleni Araullo
4. Tocino - By Dr. Mildred Mariano
5. Asadung Matua - By Dr. Miguela Santiago
6. Tibuk-Tibuk - By Dr. Lea Marie Angeles

The other culinary delights worth mentioning because of their mouth-watering and exquisite taste are *halo-halo*, *palabok*, *duman*, *turrones de casoy*, *sansrival*, *San Nicolas biscuits*, *bulanglang*, *tabang talangka*, *burong talangka*, *buro o tagilo o balo-balo*, and *bringhe*.

Dacal pung salamat. - Mildred Mañalac-Mariano, M.D., Faculty of Medicine and Surgery, 1990



USTNAA -ILLINOIS CHAPTER's 50th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

A momentous history has been made – USTNAA's Golden Jubilee! Amid a backdrop of a dreadful pandemic and many obstacles, USTNAA IL Chapter began intense preparation in late May when the local government and city officials opened up businesses and public venues to 100% capacity. Undeterred by strict compliance to health protocols and through sheer courage, strong organizational unity and support, and loads of prayers, the officers delivered 'WOW' moments for three days. The 2021 celebration also paid homage to the frontline heroes, essential workers, and all golden celebrants.

This very special event took place at the iconic luxury hotel in downtown Chicago – the JW Marriott Hotel with Thomasian Nurses from Illinois and the nearby states joining them in the celebration.

Day 1 – August 27, 2021 – Welcome Night: "Philippine Fest 2021." Fr. Julius Paul Factora delivered the Invocation in our national language. Entertainment numbers followed that included dance numbers by select groups, group singing of the song "Ako Ay Tomasino" and also class performances. Guest speakers were Dr. Evelyn Songco, USTAAI President and Dr. Carl Balita, USTNAAI President who sent video messages.

Day 2 – August 28, 2021 – Gala Dinner Dance: "An Affair to Remember." The Illinois Chapter officers were dressed in elegant evening gowns. The event was highlighted by the presence of Fr. Paul Factora and Dean Rowena Escolar Chua who delivered inspiring messages. Awards were given to the oldest and youngest alumni attendees, USTNAA and USTNAAI Past Presidents, and to the Jubilarians from years 2020 and 2021. The dance floor was packed with happy gyrating Thomasians and friends. The entertainment numbers came from the talented Nursing Thomasians.

Day 3 – August 29, 2021 – Sunday Thanksgiving Mass. This was the time to give thanks to God for the successful celebration of USTNAA Chicago's Golden Anniversary. "Kaya Natin!" USTNAA did it! rang loudly in their hearts. Fr. Paul officiated the Mass and his homily inspired the group to continue illuminating the world of health care with their heart for excellent service. - Jane Macagba, BSN 1975



UST FACULTY OF ARTS AND LETTERS IS 125 YEARS OLD: A CELEBRATION OF GRANDEUR AND GLORY

The Faculty of Arts and Letters of the University of Santo Tomas traces its roots from the founding of the Faculty of Philosophy and Letters in 1896. With the exception of wartime years, the Faculty is in continuous operation as a constituent academic unit of the University of Santo Tomas, thus it is celebrating its 125 years anniversary this year of our Lord 2021.

The quasiquicentennial or 125 years has for its theme Life, Love and Lore Brimming Full in honor of the University, the nation and the Lord.

The yearlong celebration, from March 2021 – March 2022, started with a virtual Holy Eucharist last April 19, 2021 con-celebrated by Fr. Rodel Aligan, OP and Fr. Christopher Jeffrey Aytona, former Regent and Head of the UST Communications Bureau, respectively. The line-up of activities was drawn up by the Faculty's admin, program chairs, student organizations, students in general and the alumni.

Program-initiated activities

According to the Faculty's Dean, Dr. Marilu Madrunio, among the Institutional Program-led activities identified and currently being conducted are the following: Legal Management's webinar on How to Become a Happy Lawyer; Philosophy's monthlong series of Philosophy conferences; Behavioral Science's The Healthy Positivity Program: A Compendium of best HR Practices; History's *Tomasinong Historyado: Nassan na Tayo*. Journalism's *Natatanging Gawad Tomasinong Mamamahayag*, Launch of the Centennial Journalism Education in the Philippines (2028) and UST Leadership in Journalism Lecture; Modern Languages' *El Encuentro con Los Becarios de Auxiliares de Conversación en Inglés* (Webinar with the Language Assistant); English's International Conference on Forensic Linguistics and ELS: the 10th Re-Imagination; Sociology's *UST Sosyolohiya Tayong Manlalakbay* Action Research; Literature and Creative Writing's The Paz Latorena Memorial Lecture; Economics' Economics of a Global Pandemic: Economic Outlook of Selected Countries; Asian Studies' A+: Young Professional Asian Studies Career Talks; Political Science's Outstanding Political Science Alumni Awards; Communications Arts' Ramon Osorio Memorial Lecture and International Webinar on Communication Success in Expanding Frontiers of Knowledge.

Apart from Program-led activities, the Faculty of Arts and Letters administration will also run the

following activities, namely: Academic lectures of faculty who recently completed their PhD Degrees in offshore universities; The Teodoro Valencia Professorial Chair in Journalism Lecture and The Fr. Valentin Marin, OP Professorial Chair in Communications, both in partnership with the Secretary-General's Office; The St. Thomas More Lecture; and Special Recognition Honoring AB's past Deans and regents.

Artlets Batch 1969 Quasiquicentennial Competency Legacy Project

The Faculty of Arts and Letters batch 1969 reuniting after fifty (50) years drew nostalgia among batch members to look back at their cherished UST memories. Armed with their collective stories of success working in different fields and industries such as social work, advertising, education, politics, journalism, entrepreneurship, banking, among others, the class decided to do something valuable and impactful but different from typical ways of raising funds.

This gave birth to the conduct of **Competency Identification Mapping Project** designed and implemented by 1969 batchmates Eyra Lourdes Umali, Economics graduate, and Tita Datu-Puangco, Literature major in Journalism graduate, as the batch's legacy project contribution in line with AB's Quasiquicentennial celebration.

The Competency Inventory is envisioned to be integrated into the curriculum or leadership development initiatives programs thereby facilitating more purposive career planning efforts for and by the graduates. The projects support the strategic thrusts of Dean Madrunio and the Quality Management System or QMS campaign program of the University wherein competency-based learning and developmental program is a QMS requirement.

The following core competencies were culled from the sharing of life stories of batch 1969, validated and assessed through five batches of Focused Group Discussions (FGDs), namely: AB admin, non-teaching staff, faculty, student leaders and alumni.

The identified Core Competencies are anchored on the following: Value-based self-leadership; Quality orientation; Communication skills (English) and relevant local languages; Big picture thinking; Innovation; Service orientation; Ecosystems thinking; Love of country; Managing



change; Integrity; Managing capability; Information technology skills; Passion for work; Problem solving and decision making; Leading performance; Events management; and Learning and development.

The AB Competency Mapping Identification Inventory Study will be launched on November 20, 2021.

"Adopt an Artlets" Scholarship Fund (AASF)

Like other Filipinos, students in the faculty of Arts and Letters have had to struggle to meet the financial needs of going to school given the bleak pandemic environment. The Faculty is experiencing a marked increase in the number of students filing for a leave of absence (LOA), an indicator of financial hardship.

As a matter of solidarity, the AB Alumni Core Group, sees the need to provide financial support to students who are unable to continue their studies due to the prevailing economic circumstances occasioned largely by the pandemic.

AASF is headed by Oscar Picazo, Economics graduate of batch 1978. The principles, nature, scope of AASF are the following: Solidarity, Inclusivity and Participation; Formal Organization and Management; Transparency and Integrity; and Sustainability and Fairness.

The possible sources of funding for AASF are expected to come from alumni individual contributions, corporate contributions, class or batch group contributions, specific endowments or trust funds.

AASF will also be launched on November 20, 2021.

Quality alumni engagement is key and would result to an inclusive, sustainable and meaningful school-to-real world transition for our students whom we aptly refer to as alumni-in-residence. - Henry S. Tenedero, AB General, 1980

A REDMAN, AND WHAT IT TAKES TO BE ONE

(From page 8)

This is quite right, albeit an understatement, because once you become a phalanx of The Lone Red Line, you will never get the corps out of the windmills of your mind and out of the blood that flows through your veins, maybe until you breathe your last or until the last drop of blood trickles away from you.

Is it by accident?

By unexplained incidence, or, by fate, we responded to the same beacon which by far has enticed brave and daring men and women who have come before us and who have responded to the same bugle call in the same manner that we did.

Was it really a calling?

Let us put it this way. Macroscopically, out of millions and millions of Filipinos, how many are privileged to join the corps? Or, better yet, viewing it from a more microscopic perspective, out of the 20,000 plus students in the Royal and Pontifical University of Santo Tomas, how many are brave, daring, and adventurous enough to join the Golden Corps of Cadets? Maybe just a handful, because fate has singled us out and destiny has lured us out from a vast pool of men and women and led us to our precious destination whilst paving the road to our future.



The Alumni Association

The University of Santo Tomas Golden Cross and Saber Alumni Association, Inc. (USTGCSAAI), is an exclusive organization whose members are former Cadet Officers who have finished the SCO or COCC training and/or graduates of the Advance ROTC of the university's ROTC Unit, The Golden Corps of Cadets, from 1936 up to this present time.

Living up to the Thomasian virtue of excellence, the USTGCSAAI continues to produce men and women of exemplary character and leadership both in the military and civilian sectors of society.

Its Vision is "A reputable cradle of Gentlemen and Ladies of the Finest Order." On the other hand, its Mission is, "to constantly produce gentlemen and ladies of the finest order, by preserving the colorful traditions and standards of excellence of the UST ROTC, promoting camaraderie and esprit d' corps among its members and their families, and upholding and perpetuating Thomasian virtues of honor, dignity, loyalty and integrity."

The Benefits of Being a Redman

Professionalism. Membership in a respected organization is seen as a plus factor by most sectors of society. Your association with the Cross and Sabers sends the message that you are serious about your profession, and that you have the leadership skills and are well trained to handle difficult situations that justify the trust and confidence they put in you. Because they know of your background, sometimes they give you the most difficult and demanding jobs, which of course you will surpass - banking on the training that you have had.

Recognition. The Alumni Association sponsors awards for its outstanding alumni. These awards are important because they shine a light on outstanding work that should be showcased and emulated by other brothers and sisters.

Networking. The real power of an organization lay in the opportunities it affords for local networking. We are a heterogenous organization. We have members from the military, the police, the government, the private sector, captains of industries, doctors, lawyers, engineers, architects, etcetera who are more than willing to help and provide assistance. Getting our family and friends connected to the corps too will further broaden this network of opportunities and interconnectivity. As a help, we can patronize the products and services of our brothers and sisters and their relatives. For those in sales, etc., the GCSAAI is an instant market. Also, if we need the services and help of other brothers and sisters, we can always count on our interconnectivity.

Camaraderie. The tale of the handshake tells it all. People will help each other because there is a sense of camaraderie that springs up, which is a survival tactic. You help them not only because you know you might need their help later, but more importantly because you belong to the same breed of gentlemen and ladies. When you are a member of the Cross and Sabers, life isn't only about you. As part of a circle of brothers who depend on one another, you watch one another's back and remain loyal to that ingrained concept of brotherhood.

(Continue to page 18)

Bridge to Lifelong Learning

(From page 8)

Tropics (CCPET), was the guest for this episode. He talked substantially about "Heritage Conservation," and expounded specifically on the topic of cultural mapping which is "a mode of inquiry and a methodological tool that aims to make visible the ways local stories, practices, relationships, memories and rituals constitute places as meaningful locations." In essence, according to Dr. Zerrudo, cultural mapping is a method to identify the heritage of the place, or to pinpoint what the place already has in terms of its basic resources, and likewise its material and non-material culture. In line with this, several Local Government Units in the country, like Samar, Leyte and Iloilo, among others, have availed of the services of Dr. Zerrudo and his team from the Graduate School regarding cultural mapping.

September 14, "Together, We Can Save Lives." Episode 45 featured the "Hospital on Wheels" (HOW) with Dr. Juan "Jim" Sanchez, its founder and CEO, as guest. Dr. Sanchez is a TOTAL awardee, a two-time CNN Hero nominee and multi-awarded for his professional and community services. The HOW was born with Dr. Jim's strong desire to help others and for community service and to help address the country's health needs. With the help of committed sponsors and organizations, HOW has conducted more than 280 medical and surgical missions all over the Philippines, mostly in Luzon, from the time it was launch in September 17, 2007 to March 15, 2020 before the Covid-19 pandemic. Dr. Jim shared that his team of volunteer doctors, nurses and other health team members has served more than 18, 000 surgical patients, 400,000 medical patients, 10,000 dental patients and 10,000 optical patients. The patients were also provided free medicines and free reading glasses as needed. Along with these missions, HOW has also provided education and training to doctors, nurses and other health professionals through lectures, seminars and on-the-job training during the missions. This is what Dr. Jim has dedicated his life for and he said that this is where he found his meaning and purpose. The pandemic has not deterred the HOW in continuing its mission. Charity surgeries continue at Dr. Jim's Surgical Center in Quezon City. The HOW has even opened further its community service to the Healthy Lugaw on Wheels (HELOW) Feeding Program. His team has a newly-acquired a minivan customized for the weekly feeding program, serving porridge with boiled eggs in depressed areas in Montalban, San Mateo, Quezon City, Manila and Caloocan. Dr. Jim has also set up the Home Management Program for COVID-19, a First Aid Call Center and Emergency Medical Service to help address the overwhelmed health care system for families and people afflicted with this illness. With the very encouraging contribution the HOW has done for the health of the people, Dr. Sanchez said that he has a big plan to build a prototype of the HOW Mission Hospital in every region of our country. Indeed, the fire in the heart of this compassionate Thomasian doctor is inextinguishable - to serve and help improve people's lives.

Bridges airs live every Tuesday, 6pm via Carl E. Balita's YouTube/cbrc.tv/just alumni bridges.

- Marilyn L. Cano, PhD, BSE English, co-major in Philosophy, 1970 and Fernando R. Pedrosa, Ph.D., President, Graduate School Alumni & Grants Assoc., Inc. (GSAGAI) and member, AAI Team Academics

A REDMAN, AND WHAT IT TAKES TO BE ONE

(From page 17)

BOODLE FIGHT AND DINING. We partake of the food on the table to celebrate our coming together as members of the Lone Red Line. A boodle fight, in the context of Filipino Culture is the military practice of eating a meal. It dispenses with cutlery and dishes and diners instead practice "kamayan." Upperclassmen and underclass men partake of the food together sans ranks and seniority, as a symbol of brotherhood, camaraderie, and equality.

On any Redman table, not only wine is a-plenty, but you also get drunk from endless tales of heydays and glory days and "during my time stories" and most of the time, accompanied by boisterous sounds of laughter and delightful music of happiness.

The Responsibility of Every Redman.

"Alone, we can do so little; together we can do so much" is a phrase by Helen Keller. The sword is a symbol of command. It is also a symbol of responsibility. Our membership in the fraternity and the organization carries with it a responsibility-a great responsibility at that! The productivity of a group seems to depend on how the group members see their own goals in relation to the goals of the organization. A famous US President once said, ask not what your country can do for you, but ask instead, what you can do for your country. Interpolating this phrase, allow me to summarize our responsibility into three words - responsibility to God, responsibility to Country, responsibility to Corps, each represented by the three letters closest to our hearts- GCC!

In service to God, country, and corps (GCC). Driven by this commitment to be of service to GCC, members of the Golden Cross and Sabers rise to every occasion when the need arises to extend a helping hand to those in need. When we perform good deeds for our countrymen, we also serve God in doing so. Humanitarian missions have become one of the most important projects of the association throughout the years.

Towing the line for a brother. As part of our inherent responsibility towards a brother, we "tow the line" so to speak, for a brother in need. In line with our relief operations for communities, we make sure that our own brethren affected by the same calamity is also cared for. Furthermore, we also provide financial assistance to our medically incapacitated brethren. Those in the medical field provide their services, pro bono.

Roof over the head and food on the table. It is a responsibility of every Redman to provide a roof over the head as well as food on the table and a drinking well akin to an oasis in the middle of a desert for a travelling brother.

Sharing of expertise. Finally, another responsibility to a brother is to share one's expertise and talent when beckoned by another brother, for the benefit of learning and augmenting the bag of knowledge of concerned individuals and in the service of other stakeholders in society.

One Mind. One Corps. One Move.

Our Obligation. The greatness of the corps is most accurately measured by the compassionate actions and strength of its members.

It is not enough that we belong to the Cross and Sabers, but what would be more important is to fulfill our obligations to assure the sustainability of our organization and provide fuel and energy for all its endeavors, to devote time, join activities and with tenacity.

Last, but definitely not the least, it is our obligation to be forever Muy Leal to the University of Santo Tomas Golden Corps of Cadets and the UST Golden Cross and Sabers Alumni Association!!

Let me end with the words of one of my favorite characters, Gen. Douglas MacArthur, in his speech before the cadets at West Point, "When I cross the river, my last conscious thoughts will be of The Corps, and The Corps and The Corps.

For more information about the UST Golden Cross and Saber Alumni Association, please visit us at www.ustgoldencrossandsaber.org. - Dr. Rory Tuazon, BS Biology 1985

ATTY. EDWARD JACK DEL CASTILLO CASTANEDA: THE QUINTESSENTIAL THOMASIAN LAWYER

(From page 20)

Manila Gas Corporation, at which time he was able to resolve with success the labor disputes there. In 1980, he joined one of the famous law firms at that time: the Sabido, Sabido, & Associates (Sen. Pedro Sabido & Cong. Roberto Sabido). Because of his skill and exposure to labor relations, (aside from being as Associate Lawyer), he was appointed to an additional position of Industrial Relations Manager of both the Sabido, Sabido & Associates, and The Manila Gas Corporation. At age 36 when his boss Atty. Robert Sabido passed on, he applied and was hired as Human Resources Manager of Bacnotan Cement Company owned by PHINMA, a group of companies. He was about to leave for La Union when his former bosses at the Manila Gas Corporation invited him to come back, offering him the same salary and benefits as PHINMA's.

In 1984, he assumed these positions in Manila Gas Group of Corporations: Admin & Legal Manager, Corporate Board Secretary, and Secretary of the Executive Committee. In 1986, Atty. Jack was promoted to Group Manager with the rank of Vice President, overseeing the Administrative, Legal, and Purchasing Departments.

Going back to law practice, however, has been consuming him for quite some time, so that in 1986, he founded a law firm with two Thomasian lawyers and one Atenean lawyer: Castaneda Macaraeg Angeles & Francisco Law Firm. In 1993, however, Atty. Jack was appointed by President Fidel Ramos as Commissioner of the Energy Regulatory Board – which position he held with diligence, commitment, competence, and compassion (Thomasian Core Values) up to 1997. From 1999 to 2004, he was with the law firm GAVEC LLB. In the year 2000, he was elected as a member of the Board of Directors of the Integrated Bar Of The Philippines (IBP), Pangasinan Chapter.

At present, Atty. Jack is with his Atenean law partner, Atty. Redemberto Villanueva, in the RRV Legal Consultancy.

In his lighter moments, Atty. Jack confesses that he enjoys doing some "Apostolic work" (when needed) with his five grandchildren. His first marriage did not last long, however, when Sonia succumbed to an ailment. He had a second nuptial with a fellow Thomasian Lawyer, Atty. Maria Teresa Ramirez (Terry, UST Law, 1991), with whom he has one child – Marrion (23 years old), now in her second year law proper at the UP College of Law.

His children with Sonia are: Vincent – lives and works in Australia with his wife and 3 daughters; Edward Jr. – lives and works in Manteca City, California USA, with his wife and 1 son; Clare Anne – works at San Miguel Corporation, has 1 son.



Atty Jack's children: Edward Jr, Clare Ann, Marri-on, Vincent

Due to these COVID 19 Pandemic times, like all the other professions and businesses, lawyering suffered too; courts of law have been scaled down; the Court of Appeals and the Supreme Court are manned by skeletal teams only. The Supreme Court has allowed virtual hearings, where all parties and their counsels must be present and the same Rules of Procedure are observed.

His advice to young lawyers and students of Law: "Continue studying even during these times. New opportunities in the New Normal may come your way; don't panic. Law remains as the noblest of all professions. Under all systems in the world, lawyers are always needed not only to litigate cases or to render legal opinions. Legal issues such as "Who is at fault?", "Who was deprived of his rights and entitled to restitution?" are areas where only lawyers can be retained to do their task.

Atty. Edward Jack Castaneda prays to God Almighty for this pandemic to end soon, and for our men and women of science to find, once and for all, the exact medical procedure to fight this deadly virus and restore us all to our health and full economic recovery. - Prof. Myrna Plata Hilario-Munda, Litt. B. Journalism, 1976

LET'S LOOK BACK

Let the Thomasian Alumni Community Newsletter take you back to your days in the campus. Send us pictures of your days in UST – alone, with friends and / or teachers. We will post them, as long as they were taken anywhere inside the campus. They may be pictures of you while studying in the library, celebrating the mass in the chapel, having your snack of cheese sandwich in the canteen, or in the classroom....

Send us these photos with the appropriate caption and the approximate year. Identify yourself as the sender of the photo please, with your program and batch. Including your ID number will be great!! Let's look back and enjoy reminiscing the UST days.

WHAT'S NEW IN TWENTY-TWENTY TWO

In line with our goal of continuously improving our newsletter, we are happy to announce two new sections in the TAC Newsletter starting the first issue in 2022:

- Filipinism – phrases used inappropriately by a lot of Filipinos. This section will help us still improve ourselves – no one is too old to learn – and help us help others.
- Alumni section - features submitted by any of our alumni – an essay, a poem, or a narrative. This shall, of course, pass through language editing. Let's encourage our former classmates to submit their works.

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FEATURED THOMASIAN

ATTY. EDWARD JACK DEL CASTILLO CASTANEDA: THE QUINTESSENTIAL THOMASIAN LAWYER

When I first joined the UST Alumni Association, Inc. (USTAAI) as a Trustee in 2015, the first person who welcomed me with a warm smile and a firm handshake was a good-looking man in a business suit – whom I later came to know as Atty. Jack Castaneda, the Vice President of the USTAAI. From then on, I have been a witness to his being a dedicated and hard-working Thomasian alumnus as he ably supported our President, Engr. Frederick “Pakoy” Parayno, in all the projects and activities of the USTAAI. He actively served in the AAI Board from 2009 to 2020, also working diligently with the succeeding AAI President, Dr. Evelyn Songco. During his term, he was also the AAI’s Legal Adviser and a member of the screening committee of the UST TOTAL Awards Program.



Atty Jack with his second wife: Atty. Maria Teresa Ramirez, UST Law '91

Atty. Jack is everyone’s smiling friend in the august halls of the Thomasian Alumni Center, (BGPOP Bldg.), from the Office of Alumni Relations (OAR) to the AAI Conference Hall, to the Dr. Robert Sy Grand Ballroom, to the TAC Lobby for certain events and spectacles, and so on. A busy body, he was elected as Trustee of the UST Law Alumni Foundation (USTLAFI) of the Faculty of Civil Law in 2009 and still is at present. He was its 3rd VP, 2nd VP, and 1st VP; and in 2016, he took over as President, serving the unexpired term of then President Justice Oscar Herrera, Jr. He was thereafter elected the USTLAFI President in 2017 for a three-year term.

Under his watch as LAFI President for 4 years, and in tandem with the UST Civil Law Dean Nilo Divina, their best and tireless effort and support to our UST Bar candidates yielded the following laurels for the UST Faculty of Civil Law:

2017 Bar Exams: TOP 5 Places (6th ; 9th ; 10th ; 13th ; 18th)

2018 Bar Exams: TOP 2 Places (1st and 3rd)

2019 Bar Exams: TOP 1 Place (UST LEGASPI) (6th)

In grateful recognition of Atty. Jack’s tireless efforts and unselfish services rendered to both Thomasian Alumni Organizations, he was awarded the following:

USTAAI - PLAQUE OF GRATITUDE AND APPRECIATION –given on February 13, 2021 at the Champaca Room of Club Filipino in Greenhills, San Juan City

USTLAFI - TESTIMONIAL OF APPRECIATION – given on January 16, 2021 at Pavillon and Cabana, Club Filipino, in Greenhills, San Juan City.

Atty. Jack’s full name is Edward Jack C. Castaneda, as appearing in his birth certificate. However, when his mother enrolled him in Grade School, she dropped the “Jack” because of its length; hence, all his succeeding documents were in the name of Edward. But he decided to use “Jack” as his nickname, anyway. A very unassuming person, he is just plain “Jack” to everyone.

Atty. Jack is a native of Lingayen, Pangasinan; born to lawyer & dean Ernesto Aquino Castaneda and school teacher Regina Del Castillo. He finished his elementary education with honors (Number 1) at the Lingayen Central Elementary School in 1959; and finished high school in 1964 at the Pangasinan Provincial (now National) High School. He took up pre-law with an Economics degree at the University of the East in 1968. Soon after, he got married to his first love Sonia, with whom he had three children: Edward Jack Jr., Clare Anne, and Vincent. His first job was with Manila Gas Corporation.

Inspired by the thought that higher education brings better opportunities in life, he pursued the dream of becoming a Thomasian Lawyer – which came true when he easily passed the admission exam in UST, finished his law proper, and successfully clinched the Bar Exams in 1976. In the following year, he was promoted to Asst. Dept. Manager of the Legal & Administrative Dept. of the

(Continue to page 19)

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