



# THE THOMASIAN ALUMNI COMMUNITY

VOL. NO. 5 ISSUE NO. 1

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE UST ALUMNI ASSOCIATION, INC.

## Newsletter

### Conclusion of the Academe, Alumni, Industry, Government Transformation Summit

The National Multisectoral Summit for Educational Transformation: An Academe-Alumni-Industry-Government Collaboration (AAIG 2021) held its remaining Webinars 3 and 4 on October 1 and 15, respectively, via Zoom and Facebook live streaming. The UST Alumni Association Inc. (USTAAI), in partnership with the UST Graduate School Center for Continuing Professional Education and Development (UST GS CCPED), organized this webinar series as a commitment to stage an AAIG Summit every two years to maintain collaboration among the alumni, academe, the industry and government partners in recognizing their important roles in national development and their unique contribution in creating favorable environments and innovative pathways to help enable fresh graduates to successfully transition from their pursuit of academic qualifications to their meaningful practice of a profession or a vocation. The very first AAIG Summit was

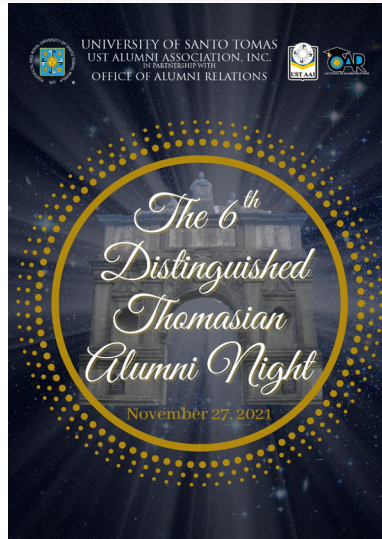
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### USTAAI, with ALPA & CEAFI, holds Advent Recollection

To usher in the Advent Season, the Events Committee of USTAAI tapped the Alumni Priests Association (ALPA) through Fr. Carlo del Rosario, and the College of Education Alumni Foundation Inc. (CEAFI) represented by Cristina Sagum, to organize the National Day of Recollection on December 4, 2021. It was the second virtual online recollection hosted by USTAAI, this time using both Zoom and USTAAI FB Live as its platforms through CBRC which provided technical assistance to the event.

The recollection began at 8:30am, with Bro. Enrico "Rix the Seminarian" Mrohon as moderator, calling all to prayer and setting the tone for the half-day event. A video presentation signaled the start of the talks.

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## USTAAI Holds 6th DTAN

The 6th Distinguished Thomasian Alumni Night (DTAN) 2021 was successfully held with 91 honorees from 20 USTAAI Alumni Associations. As in the past, this undertaking continues to inspire the alumni as they all stand together under one Thomasian spirit of solidarity. Although held virtually at this time due to the pandemic, the alumni were glad to still have gathered once again as one family and honor those among them who have gained respect and admiration in their life and work after passing through the Arch of the Century into the world.

The program opened with an invocation led by Dr. Win Medina of the UST Office of Alumni Relations, and the participants were warmly welcomed by Dr. Robert C. Sy, Chair Emeritus of the USTAAI. The Very Rev. Fr. Rector Richard G. Ang, O.P., PHD, delivered the inspirational message, and was followed by Dr. Evelyn A. Songco, UST AAI President. Representing the Honorees, the Response Message in their behalf was given by His Eminence, Jose F. Cardinal Advincula. Emceeding for the evening was Dr. Carl Balita, President of the UST Nursing Alumni Association.

Member associations believe that there is strength in numbers, that alone can only do so much, but when joining others, they know that the possibilities of what can be done become greater. This is true whether people render service to others or simply want to give back to their Alma Mater. This is the spirit that has brought the DTAN to life.

This now yearly testimonial event creates an opportunity for solidarity among the Thomasian Alumni. This practice was introduced by Dr. Robert C. Sy in 2007 in preparation for UST's 400th foundation year celebration in 2011. Since then, it has become an excellent occasion that provides an opportunity for every guest to interact with other distinguished Thomasian Alumni.

The working committee congratulated and thanked all the honored guests who graced the gathering with their presence, and specifically USTAAI's partner, the UST Office of Alumni Relations. Also cited were the different Alumni Associations for nominating from their ranks the Distinguished Thomasian Alumni, as well as the event sponsors, the CBRC VICE team, and the world-class Thomasian performers, without whom the 6th DTAN 2021 would not have been made possible. - Atty. Dwight Ramos, LLB, 1990



## From the President's Desk

### Looking Back in Gratitude; Looking Forward with Great Hope

Everyone knows that 2021 brought many challenges to all of us. Amidst those challenges, we continue to do our best to serve the alma mater, the alumni, and the community.

Very recently, we posted on our FB page and our website a summary video of what the USTAAI did in 2021. Thanks to Engr. Jonathan Peran, our indefatigable Assistant PRO, who created this video. Watching it inspires me even more to look back with gratitude and to look forward to 2022 with great hope.

At the start of 2021, we reviewed our mission and vision. We engaged in strategic planning. We identified our key result areas, key performance indicators, strategies, and targets. The six Executive Committees, namely: Academics, chaired by Nurse Ida Tionko; Advocacy, chaired by Engr. Jerenato Alfante; Events, chaired by Dr. Rollo Milante; Finance, chaired by Pharmacist Ma. Elena Manansala; Public Presence, chaired by Dr. Jocylene Mariano; and Resource chaired by Math Professor Teresita Meer separately conducted their planning workshops. The Secretariat, Chaired by Ana Marie Fernandez, another teacher, facilitated the entire process. The Council of Presidents approved the strategic plan unanimously. It was published as an effective guide for USTAAI 2021-2023 as "Dreaming, Weaving, Believing" to anchor our work as an alumni association.

USTAAI did not stop at coming up with a beautiful strategic plan. It implemented the plan and monitored how the KPI's are achieved through the monthly reports of the Executive Committee Chairs.

Indeed, the whole 2021 has witnessed the dynamism of the USTAAI. But I would like to see USTAAI beyond its dynamism; beyond

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## USTAAI and OAR give recognition to notable alumni in annual awarding night

A total of 91 alumni were recognized during The 6th Distinguished Thomasian Alumni Night (DTAN) by the UST Alumni Association, Inc. (USTAAI) in partnership with the Office of Alumni Relations (OAR) on November 27, 2021 via Zoom and FB Live.

The alumni were individually awarded the DTAN token of recognition designed after the university's national cultural treasure, the Arch of the Centuries. The design is inspired by the historic and distinct presence of the structure befitting the prominence and excellence of the honorees in their chosen field especially during these trying times.

Most Rev. Pedro R. Dean  
Most Rev. Nereo Odchimar

#### UST Law Alumni Foundation Inc.

Justice Oscar C. Herrera, Jr.  
Atty. Edward Jack C. Castañeda  
Atty. Lutgardo B. Barbo  
Atty. Benedicta Du-Baladad  
Sec. Luzverfeda "Baby" Pascual

#### UST Medical Alumni Association, Inc.

Dr. Angeles Tan Alora  
Dr. Patricia Navarro  
Dr. Antonio Say  
Dr. Milagros Santos Lopez  
Dr. Ramon Sin



UST Rector Very Rev. Fr. Richard G. Ang, O.P. during his inspirational message.

"This is an authentic testimony of what makes Thomasian professionals a cut above the rest. No matter what the circumstances are, Thomasians continue to serve and walk the extra mile for society and for the nation," said UST Rector Very Rev. Fr. Richard Ang, O.P. during his inspirational speech. He pointed out that one of the most important attributes that set the Thomasians apart from others is the values that they constantly adhere to in the practice of their profession which clearly shows whenever they deal with people in the highest standard that they set in every work they do. He gave the honorees his highest regards and congratulated them for their achievements.

The honorees were categorized by alumni association or chapter where they belong. Each participating association presented a maximum of five (5) alumni that were truly distinguished in his field, community, or the Church.

#### UST Alumni Priests' Association

His Eminence Jose F. Cardinal Advincula  
Most Rev. Diosdado Talamayan  
Most Rev. Osvaldo Padilla

#### UST Faculty of Pharmacy Alumni Association and Scholarship Foundation, Inc.

Celestina Carunungan-Ng  
Rosalinda Ang-Hortaleza  
Commissioner Aldrin Darilag  
Dr. Martin Cruz  
Carlo Ledesma

#### UST Philets and Artlets Alumni Association, Inc.

Oscar Picazo  
Tita Datu-Puangco  
Eyra Lourdes Umali  
Herman "Brod Pete" Salvador  
Julius Payawal-Fernandez

#### UST College of Education Alumni Foundation, Inc.

Clotilde N. Arcangel  
Felicitas B. Pantoja  
Felicitas R. Francisco  
Nimfa Daileg-Ekong  
Juana L. Abello

#### UST High School Alumni Alliance Foundation, Inc.

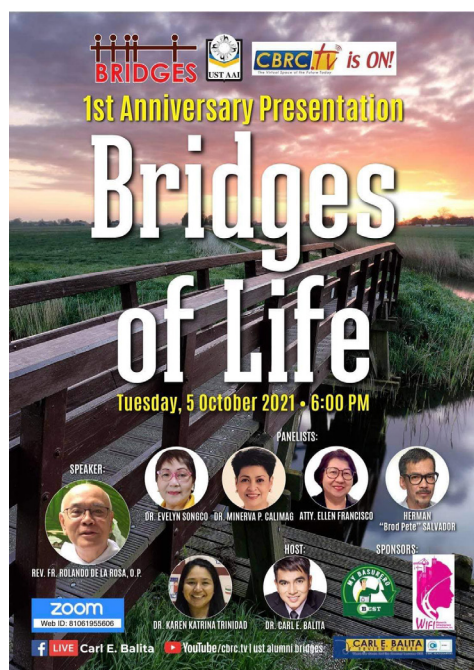
Jamie Rivera  
Edwin Santiago

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# BRIDGES CELEBRATES ITS 1<sup>ST</sup> ANNIVERSARY

Bridges reached a major milestone at the beginning of the last quarter of 2021, celebrating its first anniversary during its October 5 episode titled "Bridges of Life." Looking back to its history, Bridges was conceptualized as part of the Thomasian Academic Series (ThomAS) that provides Thomasian alumni the opportunity to share their expertise and experiences on various topics in an informal, simple, and down-to-earth manner using an online talk show format. This project hit the ground running on October 4, 2020 with its first episode titled "Values Education in the New Normal," in celebration of the National Teachers' Month. The College of Education Alumni Foundation Inc. (CEAFI) took charge of the initial broadcast, with the other UST alumni associations taking turns to host the succeeding shows. Since then, it has been attracting a growing number of viewers and has produced 56 episodes. The USTAAI's Academics Team manages its weekly online show, in partnership with the Carl Balita Review Center TV (CBRC.tv).



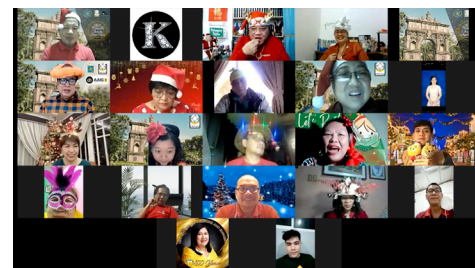
**OCTOBER 5. BRIDGES OF LIFE.** In celebration of its 1st anniversary, Bridges was broadcasted not only via the usual Facebook live, but also via Zoom, allowing an interactive participation from its audiences and selected panelists. The show began with a special song rendition of "Bridges" (Travessia) by Prof. Elisanta Cortes from the UST Conservative of Music. The episode's host, Dr. Carl Balita, president of the UST Nursing Alumni Association Inc., laid the groundwork for the show's topic by presenting highlights from previous Bridges episodes and by briefly discussing how Bridges, by the name itself, has connected the past with the present and will connect the present to the future; that it has managed to link every individual to one another; and it has continued to make a difference in people's lives.

The anniversary special's featured guest was Rev. Fr. Rolando de la Rosa, OP, who was the former Rector of the University of

Santo Tomas. He started his topic, "Bridging People Through Understanding," by narrating the origins of the UST men's varsity team's logo and the mascot Growling Tigers, being previously known as Growing Oldies. With this, he emphasized the difference between knowledge and understanding and that in order to bridge the gap, people need to have the right sense of perspective, and to understand themselves because this influences the way people think, behave, live and relate with others.

After Fr. de la Rosa's presentation, a group of distinguished Thomasian alumni selected as panelist joined the discussion. They reminisced the past Bridges episodes and talked about its relevance in bridging alumni to one another and in bridging knowledge to people. One of the panelists, USTAAI President Dr. Evelyn Songco, talked about the Bridges' maiden show and how it celebrated the National Teachers' Month. She then thanked the people behind Bridges, all its guests, and the audience who has continued to support this worthwhile endeavor. The other panelists were: Dr. Minerva Calimag, who talked about the pandemic and how frontliners, being a healthcare professional herself, become a bridge of hope especially for their patients; Atty. Ellen Francisco, who talked about her previous appearance on Bridges and how lawyers bridge their practice to people having legal concerns; Herman "Brod Pete" Salvador, who talked about the importance of social media and his role as an entertainer during this time of the pandemic; and Dr. Karen Trinidad, who, being a psychologist, shared her role in working with athletes and how maintaining a good mental health is vital during this pandemic.

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## USTAAI Celebrates Christmas

After the regular Board of Trustees meeting on December 10, 2021, committee members and volunteers joined the presidents of the different alumni associations for a virtual Christmas fellowship via Zoom. Earlier, invitees were sent GCash to get a chicken dinner of their choice so everyone could still eat together. Guests were also asked to put on a Christmas head dress, with the best awarded to Jonathan Peran and Vangie Timbang. Both were given prizes from Events Chair Rollo Milante.



To start things off, the twenty-one attendees received T-shirts donated by TALA's Angie Tuazon. USTAAI's Events co-chair Evangeline Timbang then hosted eight sets of raffle draws with P1,000 GCash and earphones as prizes, interspersed in the three bingo games that carried a GCash prize of Php 2,000 each and a copy of the Cargassus book. Winners were Gerald Casado, Evelyn Songco, and Ellen Manansala.

The evening ended with Community Singing of "Kumukutikutitap" accompanied by hand and head movements.  
- Nanette Fernandez, BSE 1976

# Conclusion of the Academe, Alumni, Industry, Government Transformation Summit

(From page 1)



With host Prof. Nanette Fernandez and Guest Speakers:  
Rev. Fr. Jay Adalem, Leo Riingen, Yoly Crisanto and Dr. Leo Aberion

held in January 2019.

Webinar 3, with its theme HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE INDUSTRY 4.0 ERA, answered the question "What is to be done by each sector to catalyze the transformation of the Philippine educational landscape towards Education 4.0?" The outcome of the discussions reaffirms a positive outlook on to the 4th Industrial Revolution in creating new opportunities despite some restrictions in the traditional way of delivering quality education brought about by the current pandemic, through increased investments in technology and skills development, and through innovative efforts by the industry and institutions to upskill the workforce. Guest speakers were Ma. Yolanda C. Crisanto (Senior Vice President for Communication of Globe Telecom, Inc.), Dr. Leo H. Aberion (Managing Director of the StudyPlex Learning and Development Training Center), Leonardo A. Riingen (President & CEO of Informatics College) and Rev. Fr. Jesus M. Miranda (Assistant Professor of the UST Graduate School and the Faculty of Philosophy, Ecclesiastical Faculties).

The webinar was hosted and moderated by Prof. Nanette O. Fernandez (Secretariat Chair of USTAAI). Distinguished guests included Dr. Marilyn L. Cano (Co-Chair of the USTAAI Academics Committee) who gave the Invocation, and Inocencia Ida S. Tionko (Vice President of USTAAI and Chair of the USTAAI Academics Committee) who gave the opening remarks.

Finally, the conduct of the AAIG 2021 Summit came to its conclusion with its Webinar 4, having the theme TOWARDS A ROBUST ECOSYSTEM FOR TRANSFORMATIVE EDUCATION. The main highlight of the webinar was the powerful recitation of the Manifestation of Solidarity, led by the USTAAI President, Dr. Evelyn A. Songco. Prior to this, a select representative from the academe, alumni, industry and government sectors gave their impressions about the AAIG2021.



Dr. Evelyn A. Songco, USTAAI President, led the recitation of the MANIFESTATION OF SOLIDARITY.

During the closing remarks, Dean Henry Tenedero, convener of the AAIG2021 Summit, summarized the high points of the whole webinar series and encouraged the harnessing of the collective expertise of the academe, alumni, industry and government toward creating a more dynamic and more prosperous level of understanding of the workplace among our students. He further iterated the importance of education and that it should be equitably distributed across the levels of the different sectors of our society.

The webinar was hosted and moderated by

Atty. Dwight M. Ramos (2nd Vice President of the UST Law Alumni Foundation, Inc), with the Invocation delivered by Monsignor Bernardo R. Pantin (President of the UST Alumni Priests Association), and the opening remarks given by Dr. Fe A. Hidalgo (Former OIC Secretary/Undersecretary of the Department of Education).

Guest Speakers were USec. Wilfredo E. Cabral (Regional Director of DepEd National Capital Region and the current Officer-in-Charge of the Office of the Undersecretary for Human Resource and Organizational Development), Dr. Jamie Metzl (Founding Chair of One Shared World), Dr. Ernesto Jay G. Adalem (President of Mount Hermon Academy and Member of the Board of Trustees of St. Clare Group of Schools), and Dr. Carl E. Balita (President of the UST Nursing Alumni Association, Chairperson for Basic Education of the Phil. Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the Overall Chair of Franchise Asia Phils.).

With the conclusion and the success of the AAIG2021 Summit, and after receiving consistent "outstanding" evaluation feedback from the large number of participants, the AAIG organizers is planning to have a nationwide Caravan series to cascade the Summit's learnings and insights and call to action, to



Dean Henry S. Tenedero gave the Closing Remarks, emphasizing on the seven high points of AAIG2021.

be undertaken at various levels - regional, provincial, city, municipal or institutional. This is part of AAIG's commitment to have continuing conversations, collaborations and initiatives with the alumni, academic, industry and government partners to create synergies, achieve successes and drum up widening awareness and interest leading up to the staging of the next AAIG Summit in 2023.

This 2-month webinar series was sponsored by Globe Telecom, CBRC VICE, Radius Telecom and Metro Rail Transit Corporation (MRTC). The recording of the webinar 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 - <https://www.facebook.com/carlbaitaful>  
USTAAI TAC YouTube Channel: <https://www.youtube.com/c/USTAAITAC>

- Jonathan H. Peran, BS ECE 1996, Secretariat, AAIG2021



# USTAAl, with ALPA & CEAFl, holds Advent Recollection

(From page 1)



THE UST ALUMNI ASSOCIATION INC.  
IN COOPERATION WITH THE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION ALUMNI  
FOUNDATION INC. AND THE ALUMNI PRIESTS ASSOCIATION  
PRESENTS

NATIONAL DAY OF RECOLLECTION

*We are* **GIFTED**  
*to* **GIVE**

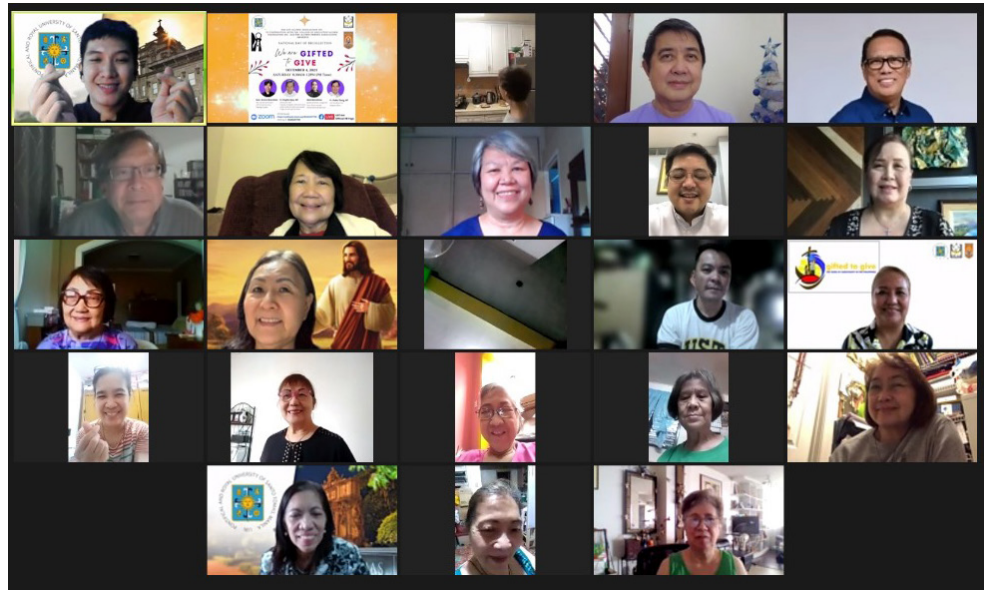
DECEMBER 4, 2021  
SATURDAY 8:30AM-12PM (PH Time)

**zoom** ZOOM Details  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83365297798>  
Meeting ID: 83365297798

**LIVE** UST AAI  
Official FB Page

At 9 am, Fr. Virgilio Ojoy, Chaplain of the Graduate School and Director of Letran Center for Intramuros, gave the first reflection talk on the theme "Gifted To Give" which echoed the call of the celebration of 500 Years of Christianity in the Philippines. Fr. Ojoy emphasized that it is in giving that we find happiness. Before ending his talk, he showed a video titled 'The Price of a Miracle.'

Bro. Rix summarized the highlights of Fr. Ojoy's talk to deepen reflection, among them: generosity is another name for love; God Himself is the source of all generosity and is present as both giver and receiver; the gifts of creation are not just for us but for generations to come (Laudato Si);



recognizing the dignity of others is also an act of generosity (Fratelli Tutti).

At 10am, Bro. Alvin Barcelona, rocker-preacher-songwriter, gave the second talk based on 2 Kings 4:1-7. During his talk, he demonstrated that God made man for giving. By asking everyone to inhale (taking in air) and exhale (giving out air), he demonstrated that if we just inhale and never exhale, we will die. He ended his talk with a moving rendition of a Bukas Palad song. For added personal reflection, he posted two questions for participants to answer.

Bro. Rix summarized Bro. Alvin's talk using Bro. Alvin's own slides and making sure that the audience was heard by reading comments from the Zoom Chat box and the comments section of FB Live. Two impromptu testimonies were also given by alumnae Marilyn Cano and Eva Lasala.

The Recollection ended with a Holy Mass celebrated by Fr. Pablo Tiong, O. P., UST Vice-Rector for Religious Affairs.

- Nanette Fernandez, BSE 1976



**TALA ng PASKO**

University of Santo Tomas Alumni Association Inc.  
and  
UST Thomasian Alumni Leaders Association (UST TALA)

A 9-DAY GIFT GIVING ACTIVITY INSPIRED BY OUR SIMBANG GABI TRADITION!

**DECEMBER**

- 16 DIOCESE OF KALOOKAN (SAN ROQUE CATHEDRAL)
- 17 DIOCESE OF NOVALICHES (ST. PETER PARISH & SHRINE OF LEADERS)
- 18 DIOCESE OF CUBAO (STO. DOMINGO PARISH)
- 19 ARCHDIOCESE OF MANILA (MANILA ARCHDIOCESEAN SHRINE OF NUESTRA SEÑORA DE GUÍA)
- 20 ARCHDIOCESE OF MANILA (ARCHDIOCESEAN SHRINE & PARISH OF STO. NIÑO DE TONDO)
- 21 DIOCESE OF PARANAQUE (CATHEDRAL PARISH OF ST. ANDREW)
- 22 DIOCESE OF MALOLOS (NATIONAL SHRINE OF OUR LADY OF FATIMA)
- 23 DIOCESE OF PASIG (IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CATHEDRAL)
- 24 DIOCESE OF MANILA (SANTISIMO ROSARIO PARISH UST)

WITH PARTNERS

UST NURSING ASSOCIATION INC. UST ATTELIER ALUMNI ASSOCIATION, INC. UST COLLEGE OF EDUCATION ALUMNI FOUNDATION  
ONE MERALCO FOUNDATION OFW PARTYLIST ZUMBARKADAS CHARLES TANEBO & MARY GRACE TAN  
KATHINKO MITSUI TRADING PHILS LTD CO PINNACLE TECHNOLOGIES INC ROBERT AND BELLA LEE ATTY ELLEN FRANCISCO

## TALA ng PASKO 2021

TALA ng PASKO, a 9-day gift-giving activity conducted by the Thomasian Alumni Leaders Association (TALA) and the University of Santo Tomas Alumni Association Inc. (USTAAl), is inspired by the Simbang Gabi Tradition.

The successful project began in 2020, but this year, it has been expanded to include the UST security guards and maintenance personnel, and by going outside Metro Manila, to Calaruega, a favorite Thomasian retreat place, and St. John the Baptist in Lian, Batangas.

The expansion is in part due to the generous support given by individuals and groups that have partnered with TALA, among them the UST Atelier Alumni Association, UST CEAFl, UST Nursing Alumni Association, Charles Cha Tañedo,



Bella Sepulveda, Zumbarkada Lily Cuaki and friends, Emma Yeung of Katinko, Jeffrey Tarayao and One Meralco Foundation, OFW Partylist Engr. Jerenato Alfante, Atty. Ellen Francisco of UST Civil Law Association, and Mitsui Trading Phils Ltd. Co.

The gift-giving activity distributed 100 packs of goods to those most in need in the areas visited, assisted by priests from the parishes where it was held. It ran from December 16-24, 2021 and was led by Angie Tuazon of TALA.

- Nanette Fernandez, BSE 1976



# THOMASIAN ALUMNI COMMUNITY RALLIES TOGETHER TO HELP CALAMITY VICTIMS

In the last quarter of 2021, for three months in a row, thousands of people were affected by both natural calamities nationwide and a fire. The UST Alumni Association, Inc. (USTAAI), which remains steadfast in its commitment to provide a disaster response for calamity victims, quickly mobilized volunteers and support through the Tomasino Para Sa Kapwa Pilipino (TPSKP) relief operation. Despite the COVID-19 pandemic, the Thomasian alumni community has always been ready and eager to help those affected the most.

In October 2021, severe Tropical Storm Maring (Kompasu) and the enhanced southwest monsoon brought heavy rains and severe flooding, affecting thousands of residents in Northern Luzon. The USTAAI Advocacy Group organized and conducted medical and relief efforts for the affected families in Ilocos Sur. This was in partnership with the Southern Ilocos Sur Medical Society, led by its president Dr. Jean Abigail Castro Caringal from Candon



City. The medical mission was held in the Municipality of Pudoc East, Tagudin, Ilocos Sur on October 16. The following day, the volunteers went to Brgy. Langaoan, Sta. Maria, Ilocos Sur and distributed 125 food packs containing bread, cheese, biscuits, coffee, bottled water.

UST TALA member and UST Faculty of Pharmacy Alumni Christopher Ong, which donated bread, and the UST Atelier Alumni Association, through its president Marissa Pe Yang, which donated rubber slippers.



On December 16, 2021, Super Typhoon Odette (Rai) made several landfalls in the Visayas and Mindanao regions and caused large devastation in several areas. This time, USTAAI and UST TALA, along with other alumni member associations, partnered with Froilan Alipao from the UST Simbahayan to conduct another TPSKP disaster response activity.

A month later, a fire hit a residential area in G. Araneta, Barangay Manresa in Quezon City. According to the Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP), a total of 120 houses burned and more than 300 individuals were affected. As a response to this incident, USTAAI partnered with the UST Thomasian Alumni Leaders Association (UST TALA) and conducted a TPSKP outreach activity to help out the affected families. The activity was held on November 23, 2021 and was headed by UST TALA Chairman Emeritus Angeli Tuazon (BS Pharmacy 1992). She was joined by fellow TALA leaders Doland Castro (AB Journalism 2000) and Atty. Minerva Retanal (BS Commerce, Economics 1992). A total of 300 families were given food packs and other supplies that were distributed at the corner of Sto. Domingo Street and C3 Sgt Rivera Street with the help of Barangay Captain Bong Tambis, Barangay Admin Liezel Tambis Enriquez, Kagawad Andy Batula and Kagawad Amboy Loba. This outreach was made possible thanks to the donations from UST alumnae Maureen Mocky Bollozos Pickering, Atty. Ellen Francisco, and the Quezon City Dynamics Lions Club. Other sponsors included Baker's Fair, through

On December 24, 2021, relief goods were distributed to the communities of various municipalities in Southern Leyte, which included Tomas Oppus, Libangon and Anahawan. At the same time, an initial shipment of canned goods and other foods items and cash intended for the communities of Bilar, Bohol was sent to the Dominican Daughters of the Immaculate Mother through Sr. Eva Abellano, OP. Part of the cash donation was used to buy a brand new generator.

Then on December 27, 2021, with the help of the Angels on Wheels from Tacloban, another batch of relief goods was sent to Sogod, Leyte and distributed with the help of the Philippine Army. A fund drive is still ongoing and the relief operation in other areas will continue over the next month. - Jonathan Peran, BS ECE 1996







# The 6<sup>th</sup> Distinguished Thomasian Alumni Night

November 27, 2021



Thomasian Alumni Night hosted by UST Alumni Association, Inc. and

hosted by UST Alumni Association, Inc. and UST Office of Alumni



ATTY. DWIGHT M. RAMOS



# CLICKER RAZZI



6<sup>th</sup> Night hosted by UST Alumni Association, Inc. and UST Office of Alumni











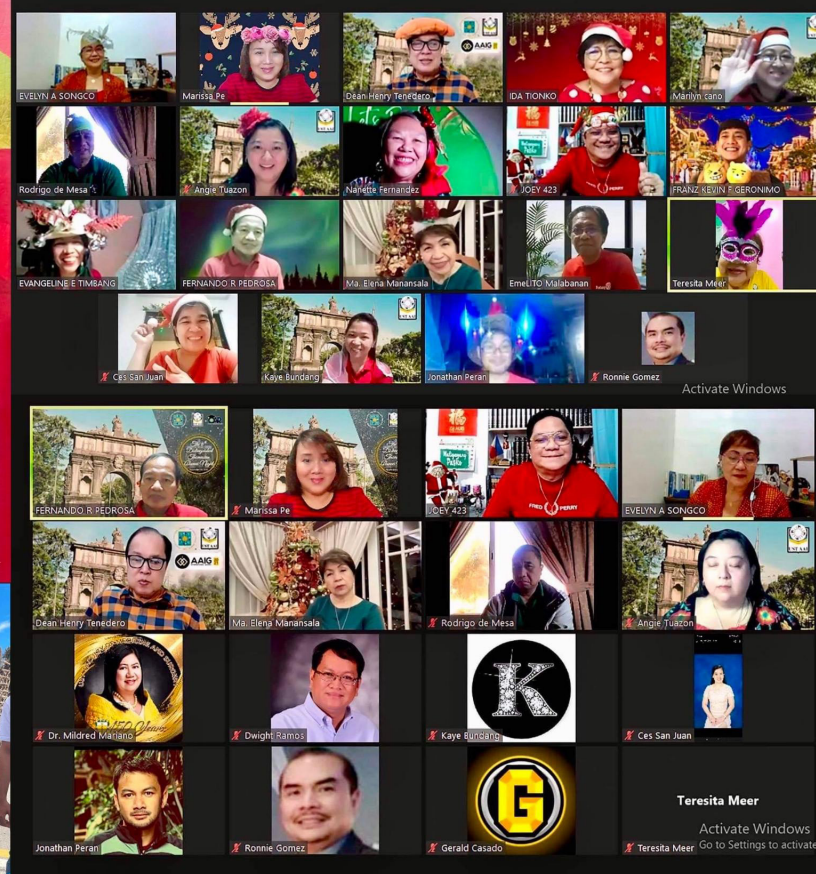
Disyembre 2021

MULA SA USTAAI

# Maligayang Pasko at Masayang Bati sa Isang Mapayapa at Masaganang Bagong Taon



CHRISTMAS ART BY  
MR. ROMEO E. GUTIERREZ, CAFPA PAINTING '68





# BRIDGES CELEBRATES ITS 1<sup>ST</sup> ANNIVERSARY

(From page 3)

**OCTOBER 12. MUSTA SI ATTORNEY.** The show's topic focused on the lawyer-client relationship, mainly on what clients should expect from their lawyers.

The guest speaker, Judge Josefina Farrales, is a UST alumna with a degree in AB Journalism, cum laude, from the Faculty of Arts and Letters, and who received her Juris Doctor degree, magna cum laude, and Master of Law from the UST Faculty of Civil Law. Judge Farrales started the discussion with an overview of the lawyer's Code of Professional Responsibility. She said that lawyers have a duty to inform and communicate with their clients and to provide transparency and honesty; that, when money matters are involved, they are expected to work in a professional manner, to provide the same level of service for both paying and non-paying clients, and to explain to clients the reason/s for declining a case. She explained that as a general rule, attorney's fees are negotiable and that they already include consultation fees, acceptance fee, filing fees, appearance fee, retainers fee, and contingent fee; and that the amount of fees usually depend on the type of cases, location, the length of time, research and analysis, time loss, level of difficulty, and other incidentals. She further explained that clients with limited or no financial capacity can seek assistance through the Public Attorney's Office (PAO) which offers free legal services, the Integrated Bar of the Philippines (IBP) which provides legal aid, the Clinical Legal Education program where law students,

under the supervision of a member of the IBP, are allowed to practice law without any fee, or to submit a "litigate as pauper" application in court. On the other hand, she shared that not all cases need lawyers such that minor cases are normally resolved in the barangay level, or through Court-Annexed Mediation (CAM) or the Judicial Dispute Resolution (JDR). Judge Farrales said that if lawyers do not perform their duties to their clients, the clients can file a complaint with the Supreme Court, or have it coursed through the IBP. Once filed, the complaint is always pursued and not dismissed by the Supreme Court; it will run its course regardless whether the client and lawyer come to an agreement to resolve the issue. Finally, she said that admonition and fines are normally done by the IBP, which provides the Supreme Court with its findings and that suspension and disbarment are elevated to the Supreme Court by the IBP Board of Governors for review and resolution.

Infrastructure or simply SMCI. Atty. Almeda said that any country will have a difficulty in attaining progress if there's a lack of new and improved infrastructures to be used, and that its government should have a good infrastructure program. He then talked with optimism about SMCI, the infrastructure arm of SMC that handles the construction, management, and operation of the country's largest infrastructure network.

Atty. Almeda informed the audience that SMCI is at the helm of building worthwhile infrastructures projects that will benefit the country and the people in the years to come. It currently has projects that are in partnership with the government, including the South Luzon Expressway, Skyway Corporation, NAIA Expressway, Boracay Airport, Tarlac-Pangasinan-La Union Expressway (TPLEX), Bulacan Bulk Water Supply, and its flagship project, the New Manila International Airport.

He added that MRT-7 is a 22-kilometer rapid transit line, currently under construction, that will have a total of 14 stations and will serve thousands of commuters from North Ave., Quezon City to San Jose Del Monte, Bulacan. It is fully funded by SMC as concessionaire, under a build-operate-and-transfer (BOT) agreement.

He elaborated that the new Manila International Airport was proposed by SMC with two parallel runways which will help decongest Ninoy Aquino International Airport (NAIA). It is currently under construction in Bulacan, Bulacan and will be connected by rail to the MRT-7 line.

According to him, TPLEX is a recently completed project and is now fully operational. It connects the Subic-Clark-Tarlac Expressway (SCTEX) and La Union that further reduces travel time between Metro Manila and Baguio to just approximately three-and-a-half hours.

Finally, he said that aside from road infrastructures, SMCI is also into other infrastructure projects, like the currently under-construction Bulacan Bulk Water Supply project that intends to supply treated water to districts in the Bulacan province to help meet the increasing water demand of its consumers.

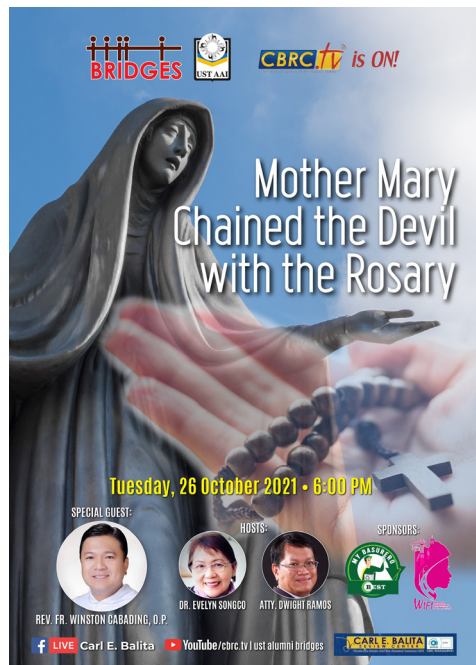
In this episode, the panelists also talked about the public-private partnership (PPP), which is a mechanism used by the

**OCTOBER 19, INFRASTRUCTURES OF DEVELOPMENT.** This episode talked about infrastructures, one of the backbones of development needed to support the country's economy and to improve the quality of life.

Atty. John Voltaire Almeda, the invited guest speaker, graduated from UST in 2007 with a Bachelor of Laws degree and is currently a Legal Counsel of San Miguel Holdings, Inc., now technically known as San Miguel Corporation (SMC)



government to help fund the country's infrastructure projects. The government acknowledges that, most of the time, it lacks the financial resource and that it will need to work with its private partners to help close this gap. It is a win-win solution, that is, the government will have minimal spending to accomplish new projects, while the private sector can have a reasonable return of investment.



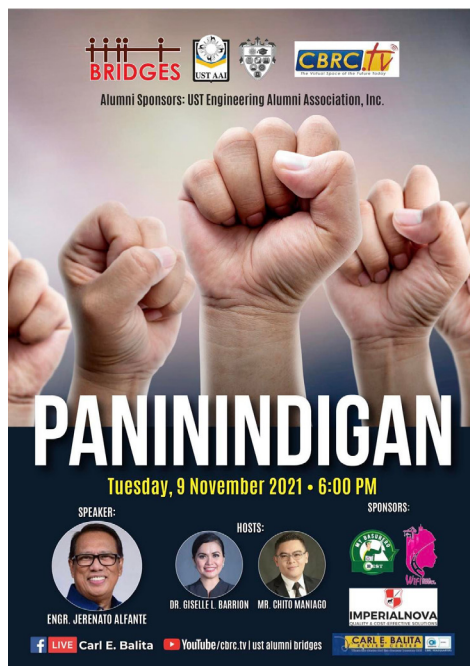
**OCTOBER 26. MOTHER MARY CHAINED THE DEVIL WITH THE ROSARY.** This episode delved into the topic of exorcism, with special guest Rev. Fr. Winston Cabading, O.P., a faculty member of the UST Sacred Theology and one of the exorcists in the Archdiocese of Manila.

Fr. Cabading started the discussion with a quote from Pope Francis, "Mary joins us, she fights on our side. She supports Christians in the fight against the forces of evil .... through the Rosary." He said that according to the Catechism of the Catholic Church of 1673, exorcism is the process by which the Church asks publicly and authoritatively in the name of Jesus Christ that a person or object be protected against the power of the Evil One and be withdrawn from his dominion. He clarified that it is Jesus Christ who can banish evil spirit, that when He ascended to heaven, He gave this power to the Holy Church and thus, the object of exorcism is directed at the expulsion of demons or at the liberation from demonic possession through the spiritual authority which Jesus Christ entrusted to his Church.

Fr. Cabading emphasized that the role of an exorcist is only entrusted to Catholic Church, as opposed to what most people think about the role of an "albularyo" (witch doctor) in performing exorcism. He

explained that a catholic priest is expressly appointed by the Diocesan Bishop to exercise the ministry of exorcism on behalf of the Catholic Church, while strictly observing the rules established by the Church and that in the Philippines, there are about 180 Catholic exorcists. Fr. Cabading narrated how he started and prepared for his role as an exorcist, and how the rosary helped him during his first experience as an exorcist in evicting demons from a 3rd year UST student who suffered from a demonic possession. He said that the rosary, which is normally used for healing and meditation, is also a powerful weapon for spiritual battle, that based on a Dominican belief, the rosary was given to St. Dominic de Guzman in an apparition by the Blessed Virgin Mary. The Holy Rosary of our Lady is holy because it was she who gave that devotion. Fr. Cabading said the devil hates our Lady and her rosary. He then explained the theological meaning and significance of the rosary: it is through Mary that the Word became Flesh to accomplish our salvation; Mary undid what the devil was able to accomplish when he deceived Eve; Mary is the fulfillment of the prophecy made by God in the Garden of Eden; the Rosary proclaims the truth - the total sovereignty of God, the Incarnation, the Virgin Birth, the Salvation of Man, the forgiveness of sins, and the triumph of God.

Finally, Fr. Cabading stressed the importance of praying the rosary regularly, that repetition develops habit, that a good habit becomes virtue, and that virtue is perfection. Finally, he said that people should always remember that God gave them a most loving Mother.



**NOVEMBER 9. PANININDIGAN.** This episode is about the inspiring life story of the invited guest, Engr. Jerenato Alfante.

Here, he chronologically narrated his experiences from being a struggling student to becoming a very successful businessman. He also shared how he overcame hardship and self-doubt to drive positive changes in his life. A son of a carpenter, Engr. Alfante grew up in Butuan City. He moved to Manila and enrolled in UST where he graduated with a Civil Engineering degree in 1984. While in college, he became a working student to support his studies by working at the Philippine National Oil Company.

After graduating from college, he struggled to find work in Manila. He had to forego taking the board exam and moved to Cotabato where he landed a job, not in the engineering field, but rather in a rice mill. After saving enough money, he decided to go back to Manila to take the board exam. Despite passing the board exam, he still found it difficult to find work related to his field. He instead worked as a house-and-lot salesman and then later on worked in a design company. With persistence and hard work and with enough savings, he started a small construction company. He also started another venture, this time, a trading company dealing with plastics. He later branched out and opened other companies, including Pallet Master Corporation and Model Coup International.

Currently, he is the President and CEO of Macro Wiring Technologies Co. Inc., one of the biggest wire harness manufacturing companies. Having spent a significant amount of time doing business inside the Cavite Economic Zone, previously under the Export Processing Zone Authority (EPZA), he earned the moniker "Batang EPZA." He is also the President of Superstar Packaging Corporation and of the Butuan Global Forum, Inc. based in Metro Manila.

After establishing himself as a successful businessman, but not forgetting his humble beginning, he started working on his advocacies. He opened a technical school, St. John Bosco Faith Training Center that gives out-of-school youth the opportunity to study and to eventually find work. Most of the students come from Iloilo, Butuan City, Cavite, Quezon, Laguna and Batangas.

Engr. Alfante is also a very active alumnus of UST. He served as president of the UST Engineering Alumni Association, Inc. (USTEAAI) from 2016 to 2019 and the vice president of USTAAI from 2018 to 2019.

During his term as president of USTEAAI, he managed to get support from other alumni to increase the number of scholars from 2 to 14, eventually reaching as high as 23 after he left. As part of USTAAI, he helped in

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## BRIDGES CELEBRATES ITS 1<sup>ST</sup> ANNIVERSARY

(From page 11)

giving scholarship to students with financial difficulties, categorized as "terminal case," meaning, those with parents who are sick or have no work, and those who are orphaned. Currently, he is the chair of the USTAAI Advocacy Committee, where he oversees the disaster response through relief and rehabilitation. He also helps in the improvement of mission schools and advocates for environmental sustainability.


At the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, he spent time and donated money for the improvement of the Logistic Indoor Service Assistant (LISA) robots and was instrumental in the deployment of these robots to various hospitals nationwide. LISA robots help protect medical frontliners by minimizing face-to-face interaction between the medical practitioner and the patient. Despite having already helped a lot of people through his advocacy work, Engr. Alfante continues to pursue his passion to bring meaningful changes to people's lives through social reforms.

At present, Engr. Alfante is the Chairman of the One Filipinos Worldwide (OFW) Partylist. He was first appointed as a political adviser after being initially invited to join the group by its president Marissa del Mar. The OFW Partylist caters to all Filipino workers, both local and overseas.

is an expert in the field of guidance and counselling, an Associate Professor at the UST Graduate School and a consultant of the UST Psycho-trauma Clinic. Fr. Egai, as he is commonly known, talked about the positive and negative effects of the pandemic on the families nationwide. On the positive side, the pandemic has brought closer together the members of the family. People began to value their time being with the family, as they now have more moments of bonding and intimacy. Also, because of financial constraints, people have realized that they can live a much simpler life than before. At the other end of the spectrum, there's the psychological aspect that has affected everyone, including the children. Majority of the people experienced difficult adjustments. The COVID-19 pandemic has branched out to other forms of pandemic: pandemic of fear, pandemic of anxiety, pandemic of loneliness, and pandemic of depression. It is a pandemic of fear because COVID-19 affects our health. It is a pandemic of anxiety because it is life threatening. It is a pandemic of loneliness because people have lost family members and friends. And it is a pandemic of depression because it takes so long to recover from grief, because being on quarantine kept people away from attending their loved one's wake and funeral. Fr. Egai added that depression causes other health issues, including post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD).

He then talked about the symptoms of depression: inability to fully function in daily lives, low energy level, inability to sleep, eat and work well, inability to move about well and for some, difficulty in breathing. Fr. Egai stressed that people suffering from depression need professional help, and that psychologists/psychiatrists can only determine depression but that this can promote open discussion, communication, and sharing.

On the bright side, Fr. Egai acknowledged that Filipinos are resilient and have a great sense of humor and that most turn to social media to help them with their depression. Fr. Egai said that in order to cope with the effects of the pandemic, people should be comfortable being with family members. Parents need to take control of the situation and should comfort their children. They need to make adjustments to cope with the lack of physical interaction with the outside world. Social media plays a big part in communicating with the outside world as they bring comfort and consolation. Instead of having a sense of meaninglessness, people should help themselves spiritually to help find meaning in life. Fr. Egai ended his talk with a powerful message: Everyone needs HOPE - Hold On, Pain Ends. Our faith will help us overcome this pandemic.



**TILL DEBT DO US PART**

Tuesday, 23 November 2021 • 6:00 PM

**SPEAKER:** ATTY. JOSEPH CEREZO

**HOSTS:** DR. EVELYN SONICO, ATTY. DWIGHT RAMOS


**SPONSORS:** BRIDGES, USTAAI, CBRC, IMPERIALNOVA, CARL E. BALITA

Facebook: Live Carl E. Balita | YouTube: /cbrc.tv / ust alumni bridges

**NOVEMBER 23. TILL DEBT DO US PART.** This episode discussed the married couple's property and their legal obligations regarding debts contracted during the marriage

Guest speaker Atty. Joseph Cerezo is a graduate of the UST Faculty of Engineering 1987 and obtained his Master of Law, summa cum laude, from the UST Faculty of Civil Law 2020. He has been active in civic organizations and parents-teachers' associations, aside from working on family cases. Atty. Cerezo said that in the olden times, couples did not usually talk about property relations prior to getting married. They considered this as a taboo and was only discussed by those belonging to wealthy families, including politicians and those working in the movie industry. According to Atty. Cerezo, property relations pertain to the following: the complete separation of property done through prenuptial agreement; conjugal partnership of gains that pertains to anything acquired during marriage and is the default regime (arrangement) prior to the implementation of the Family Code; and the absolute community of property, introduced with the implementation of the Family Code. In this modern time, especially after the implementation of the Family Code, couples started to become more open to the idea of having pre-nuptial agreements regardless of their status in society. Without coming to any agreement, property relations will fall in the "absolute community of property," where each party is entitled to half of the couple's combined assets immediately after marriage.

He explained that regarding debt, without any prenuptial agreement, property regime takes over, for both conjugal partnership



**ANG PAMILYA SA PANDEMYA**

Tuesday, 16 November 2021 • 6:00 PM

**SPEAKER:** REV. FR. EDGARDO DE JESUS

**HOSTS:** EVANGELINE TIMBANG, MR. CHITO MANIAGO

**SPONSORS:** BRIDGES, USTAAI, CBRC, IMPERIALNOVA, CARL E. BALITA

Facebook: Live Carl E. Balita | YouTube: /cbrc.tv / ust alumni bridges

**NOVEMBER 16. ANG PAMILYA SA PANDEMYA.** This episode focused on the family in the midst of the pandemic.

Guest speaker Rev. Fr. Edgardo De Jesus



of gains and the absolute community of property. This means that if any of the party acquires debt, their common property regime will be the one liable in paying off the debts incurred by the offending spouse. This is usually a major cause of marital issues, especially if one party tends to acquire more debt than the other. But still, a vast majority of couples getting married nowadays don't end up with prenuptial agreements, despite them being open to it and knowing their benefits; only about 10% of today's married couples having prenuptial agreements. Nevertheless, Atty. Cerezo emphasized the importance of having open communication and that couples should have constant and regular discussions about their finances. Lastly, he encouraged couples having marital issues that are rooted in debt to seek help through marriage counselling.

**DECEMBER 7. PASKO NA! KUMANTA AT MAGSAYA.** This episode of Bridges had two parts: a night of musical performances in anticipation of the Christmas season and a book-launching.

The first part featured four Thomasian choral groups, with each group rendering two delightful performances.

**Liturgikon Vocal Ensemble**, represented by Dr. Eugene de los Santos, conductor. The group was established in 1987 and mainly focuses on music related to liturgikon (a collection of prayer used by priests and deacons for the liturgy). He gave a brief information about the group and presented recorded videos of the group singing a Pinoy Christmas Medley arranged by Neo Hernandez III and "Diwang Pasko" composed by Ed Parungao;

**Coro Tomasino** represented by Dr. Ronan Ferrer, conductor and music director. Coro Tomasino was founded in 1987 by Prof. Ricardo Mazo, Jr. and is composed of students from the UST Conservatory of Music. The group is especially distinguished for their performances of major works such as Handel's "Messiah" and Mozart's "Requiem Mass." For their video presentation, the group performed "O Magnum Mysterium" composed by Ronaldo Raz, and "Bibingka" which was popularized by the folk pop/pop rock band Ben & Ben.

**UST Marian Evangelization Community (MEC)**, represented by Krissell Joy Sabado, choir coordinator. MEC started from a small group of students from the UST Conservatory of Music and eventually became the official choir of the UST Center for Campus Ministry. Through the guidance and leadership of the late Assoc. Prof. Richard Pazcoguín, MEC was able to expand its music ministry outside the university. The group presented video performances of "Tuloy Na Tuloy Pa Rin Ang Pasko" by Andrei Dionisio, and a Christmas Medley arranged by Vincent Oliver Fernandez.

**UST Chorus of Arts & Letters**, represented by Mark Agpasa, musical director. Also known as AB Chorale, the official choral group of the UST Faculty of Arts & Letters. The group celebrated its 25th year in 2020. Their video performances included Ryan Cayabyab's "Heto Na Naman" and "Kumukutikutitap."

The second part of the episode was the book launching of *SPORTS* in the Philippines: History, Values, Spirituality. The book's author, Fr. Edgardo Alaurin, O.P., was invited as guest. He published a book in 2020 entitled "Cargasus," a beautiful storybook inspired by the Filipino culture and tradition and which won Gold in The People's Choice - Excellence in Customer Empowerment category, in the recently concluded 2021 PANAta Awards. His latest book is about sports in general and sports in the Philippines, in particular. It narrates the history of sports and how it was introduced to by the Greeks in 776 AD, the start of the Olympic Games. His book also traces back the games, amusements and entertainment in Asian civilization and how sports came in the Philippines. Also contained in the book are the culture, sociology and philosophy of sports, as well as their spiritual aspects (with biblical basis). It is a must read for children and a good material for values education for teachers, parents, coaches, and mentors. The book will be available in the market in early 2022 through the UST Publishing House. However, there are limited copies

already available and can be purchased from Fr. Alaurin, edalaurin@yahoo.com, cellphone 09189005232, or via Facebook messenger Edgardo Alaurin.

#### **DECEMBER 14. CHOIR OF THE WORLD: THE FACES, VOICES AND PASSION.**

Bridges ended the year with highlights of the UST Singers' vocal performances throughout the years.

The special guest was Prof. Fidel Calalang, a graduate of Bachelor of Music in Piano Performance and Master of Arts in Music from the UST Conservatory of Music. The Thomasian professor is the conductor and founder of the critically acclaimed group, the UST Singers, and has led the choir in 36 international concert tours in Europe, the United States of America, Canada, Asia, Australia, and Mexico. The group has won a total of 70 top prizes in various international choral competitions, including a two-time grand prize win in the much coveted Choir of the World competition.

Prof. Calalang shared how he started the UST Singers in 1992 during his early years at the UST Conservatory of Music. The group began with a small number of Thomasian singers. At first, he was reluctant to learn about chorale music, but ultimately was motivated when he got acquainted with people from another university's choral group. The UST Singers eventually increased its size, all because of his hard work, commitment and discipline, and by allowing his members to see his vision for the group. Despite initially having a lack of financial support, the group started competing in the international arena. They began their first European tour with the help of Rev. Fr. Rolando de la Rosa, who was at that time the Rector of UST.

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# THE HOLY ROSARY COLLEGE FOUNDATION LANDSCAPE DEVELOPMENT MASTERPLAN



**Photo #1:** The USTAAI and USTGCSAAI On-site inspection team at HRCF dated 26 June 2021.



**Photo #2:** A photo taken from the on-site inspection at HRCF dated 26 June 2021.



**Photo #3:** Special Project Committee, USTGCSAAI inspirational figure for the approach in revitalizing HRCF.

## OVERVIEW

The Holy Rosary College Foundation (HRCF) Landscape Development is a collaborative work between the members of the UST Alumni Association Inc (USTAAI) and the UST Golden Cross Alumni Association Inc, (USTGCSAAI). From the USTGCSAAI end, the project started as a tree-planting activity for the USTGCSAAI Special Projects Committee initiated by its Director-in-Charge Brian Fill and headed by USTGCSAAI President Dr. Rodrigo de Mesa. The tree-planting activity evolved into a collaborative endeavor with USTAAI President by Dr. Evelyn Songco, as USTAAI was tasked to provide aid and assistance to the Dominican Sisters of Our Lady of Remedies, represented by Sister Marlene Villar, in revitalizing the Holy Rosary College Foundation (HRCF) site in Caloocan.

## SITE INSPECTION AND ANALYSIS

The Holy Rosary College Foundation has 29 hectares of land located in North Caloocan and was once known as the Tala Leprosarium. It is situated in a highly urbanized city surrounded by dense residential, commercial, and institutional facilities. It is run by the Dominican Sisters of Our Lady of Remedies, providing primary education catering to the local community.

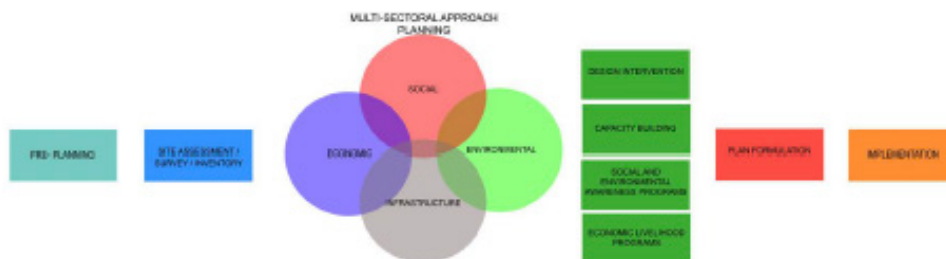
USTGCSAAI and USTAAI conducted an initial ocular on June 26, 2021. Then, USTGCSAAI was tasked to prepare an assessment based on the site inspection and came with 12 observations: (1) the area has dense vegetation with full grown trees all throughout the area; (2) it has a slightly steep terrain with relative slope of 8.6% from the road and at the bottom end of the property is a creek; (3) the main entrance is located north of the site which is adjacent to a major thoroughfare and public transport route; (4) adjacent to the creek south west of the site are the local indigent communities who are well acquainted with the community of the nuns; (5) the area is rich in biodiversity, despite its location; (6) the site is at the fringe of the forest cover of Sierra Madre mountain range, with migrating birds traveling from the uplands through the vegetation and the open space corridor left in the city; (7) the site is covered with thick vegetation for an urban setting, which also induces its own cool microclimate; (8) the general topography has a relative slope of 8.6%, slight downward slope from the road to the end of the property; (9) the lush vegetation covering most of the site needs plant species tagging and identification and there was almost no defined paths that pedestrians can access to see the whole of the site; (10) the entrance needs enhancement and the site signage needs design improvements; (11) it is also suggested that proper vehicular access and standard driveway / lay bay / PUV stops / pedestrian waiting sheds be added at the front of the site; and (12) the site needs to be cleared and prepped for the development.

## DESIGN PRINCIPLES AND PHILOSOPHY

With the 12-point site observation under the general goal of the USTAAI in "revitalizing the Holy Rosary College Foundation," USTGCSAAI was tasked with the following specific goals: (1) to define what is to be accomplished in the design; and (2) to know how to approach the design. USTGCSAAI adapted some principles, philosophy, and routes to guide the provision of the necessary design interventions, capacity building, and livelihood programs needed for sustainable development. Photo #3 became the inspiration for the approach in revitalizing HRCF. The image shows several helping hands seen as the foundation of the individual. The lady is seen to be promoting healing from within, self-cultivated with the growth of the nature coming upon her own hands. From that image, the key design principles were derived heading into the design process: (1) designing with nature; (2) presence of healing in nature; and (3) empowering the community. The famous quote from John Heywood "Many hands make light work" was also incorporated to be one of the guiding principles of this project.

## DESIGN PROCESS AND APPROACH

Deriving from the above-mentioned design principles and philosophies, the approach on

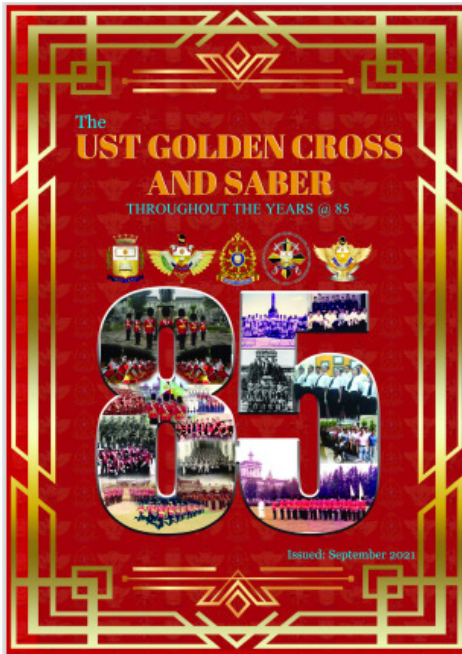


**FIGURE #1:** Design Strategy

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# UST ROTC Graduates: Through the Years @ 85



The UST Golden Cross and Saber Alumni Association, Inc. (USTGCSAAI) celebrated its 85th Diamond Foundation Anniversary and Annual General Assembly on September 26, 2021 via blended event - Zoom and face-to-face. With the theme "UST ROTC Graduates Through the Years @ 85," the venue for face-to-face was at Ben's Farm Resort, Floridablanca, Pampanga.

The event started with a prayer, followed by the singing of the National Anthem, roll-call of the members and honoring the RMs who have moved on. The program was led by this writer, being the president of the Association.

The event celebrated, featured and honored the graduates of the UST ROTC who wore that Red Gala uniform during the ROTC days. We call ourselves as RedMan or RM.

We recalled the history of the Golden Cross and Saber and the stories of its members



which cannot be told without going into the colorful history of the UST Golden Corps of Cadets. The UST Golden Corps of Cadets takes great pride in its tradition of service, patriotism, volunteerism, and most of all, loyalty to the Motherland. The tradition started in 1780 when the Rector Magnificus of the then Colegio de Santo Tomas, Rev. Fr. Domingo Collantes, O.P., organized a composite battalion of Thomasian and Letran students to stand ready against an anticipated British invasion.

In recognition of the fidelity of the members and compliance with the Spanish Royal Crown, King Charles III of Spain granted the institution the title Real (Royal) and Muy Leal (Very Loyal) on January 10, 1785. To this day, the title Muy Leal has transcended from a recognition of loyalty to the full embodiment of brotherhood by the members of the UST Golden Corps of Cadets and hence, the UST Golden Cross and Saber Association. Muy Leal is now an all-encompassing term expressing esprit de corps.



The ROADMAP of the USTGCSAAI was also presented. This is the basic mechanism that guides the Board of Directors of the Association to be of service to the RM. The roadmap function according to the Four (4) Phases: Phase 1 - Organize, Phase 2 - Registry, Phase 3 - Treasury, Phase 4 - Continuum from the series of events, all Phases have reached its success to produce the R-O-T-C Products: Registry - 142 Registered RMs from total count of 945 RMs.

We also recalled the structure of the

organization:

Organize: Vision, Mission, Objectives, Capability, Functions. On record were the following:

Treasury - 89 RMs paid their Annual Dues 2020-2021 out from 142 Registered RMs and from this year onwards, RM annual dues were reduced.

Continuum - Communication through social media and articles.



From the Roadmap to R-O-T-C products, our C4 Project was created. C1 - Charity benefited 3 RMs; C2 - Calamity benefited 1 RM; C3 - Covid benefited 7 RMs; C4 - Cares benefited 6 RMs. The numbers reported started from October 2020 to September 2021.

For the information of everyone, we reported that the number of RM

benefactors have been increasing where the USTGCSAAI gives C4 Project to RMs in need in the amount of 5K Php and RM dependents at 3K Php; mass cards and flowers for the deceased and posted in social media for support to the RMs in need. The Triangulation of Registry-Treasury-Continuum is the key to sustain within the USTGCSI. This triangulation would not have helped RMs in need without the support coming from the RMs. The pleasure received from the bull rings, the medals, decals, certificates, bingo, statuette, T-shirts,

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# PHILETS & ARTLETS AAI PROJECTS LAUNCHED



As parts of the celebration of its Quasiquicentennial Foundation Anniversary of the Faculty of Arts & Letters, the Philets & Artlets Alumni Association, Inc., together with the Faculty Administration, Faculty, and the AB Student Council, launched on November 20, 2021 two lead projects, the Artlets Leadership Competency Map and the Adopt-an-Artlets Scholarship Fund.

A legacy project of batch 1969, the Artlets Leadership Competency Map supports the strategic plan of Dean Malu Madrunio and aims to contribute to the overall competitiveness and success of Artlets graduates through the identification of Core Leadership Competencies within the context of a Volatile, Uncertain, Competitive and Ambiguous (VUCA) World. Ms. Eyra Umali, a Human Resource Management and Organizational Development (HRM-OD) Consultant, shared in her presentation that job performance in the current environment is greatly impacted by competencies within the knowledge, attitude, skills, and observable behavior frames. Ms. Umali, together with Ms. Tita Datu-Puangco, also a HRM-OD Consultant, conducted focus group discussions (FGD) with representatives of the faculty, student leaders, and the alumni to determine the competencies an Artlets graduate should possess in order to thrive in the VUCA world and excel in his/her career. The recommendations gleaned from the FGDs would then be presented to Dean Madrunio and may be considered in mapping curricula and faculty development programs.

The Adopt-an-Artlets Scholarship Fund, spearheaded and presented by Oscar Picazo, (AB Economics, 1969), aims to address the immediate needs of students who were forced to file leaves of absence this academic year as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The program may be funded either individually, batch, class or corporate support. The support will greatly aid the students, some of who are in their final year, and may be considered for a medium-term sustainable fund for the scholarship.

During the two-hour online launch, three alumni, Ms. Puangco, Mr. Ed Pamintuan (AB Political Science, 1969), now Chairman of Clark Development Corp., and Dean Henry Tenedero, shared the story of their journey from AB to where they are now, focusing on the values the Faculty inculcated in them.

In her opening remarks, Dean Madrunio highlighted the importance of these two projects and how they will support the faculty. She believes, "that it is important to partner with alumni who are with the academe, industry, and government. This helps ensure success in the activities that we plan. Not only will they find ways to assist us so that our plans come to fruition but also ensure that there is continuity in our undertakings to achieve our vision." She also expressed her gratitude to all who were part of these projects and said that she looked forward to more collaboration with the alumni. – Joy Viray-Gatmaytan, AB Translations, 1980

## 80 Grateful Years

On November 07, 2021, the UST Pax Romana Alumni Association and UST Pax Romana Central Coordinating Council organized a program to celebrate the organization's 80th founding anniversary. The program, held via Zoom on November 07, 2021, started with the recitation of the Rosary and the celebration of the Holy Eucharist presided over by Rev. Fr. Victor Calvo, O.P., Prior of the Saint John Lateran Convent. He related the enduring mission of Pax Romana to the Gospel reading of Mark. Fr. Calvo emphasized that no matter how scarce the resources of people may be, so long as they are given with a grateful and cheerful heart, God will reward them.



Dr. Egidio P. Elio, President of the UST Pax Romana Alumni Association, opened that program after the mass. This was followed by an AVP which highlighted the history and goals of UST Pax Romana, and some information about the organization. Rev. Fr. Ronaldo Banaria, CMF delivered an inspirational talk. He emphasized how the spirit of a Paxie should be lived out in everyday life. Then, an alumnus, Ferdinand Dumlaog, inspired the audience with his rendition of Lift Up Your Hands. Very Rev. Fr. Richard G. Ang, O.P., Rector of the University of Santo Tomas then gave an inspirational talk. He emphasized how the virtues of a Thomasian is lived out in professional practice and how UST Pax Romana can make an impact. He shared his experience as a member of the AB Unit and the contributions this organization made in his life.

Award-winning composer and UST alumnus Jimmy Antiporda rendered a medley of popular songs from his band, Neocolours. His songs helped relive some great memories of some of the members. The alumni attendees made the UST Pax Romana Pledge, led by UST Pax Romana Alumni Association Board of Trustees Mary Jane Mateo-Tesoro. Certificates of appreciation were given to the speakers,

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# UST Alumni Australia Comes Alive Down Under

At long last, UST Alumni Australia (USTAA) now exists.

Inspired by Philippine Ambassador to Australia, H.E. Ma. Hellen B. De La Vega, a Thomasian herself, the USTAA wheels were set in motion.

The official launch and Induction of Officers were held on December 6, 2021 at the Philippine Embassy, Canberra with HE De La Vega as the guest of honour. Dr. Evelyn Songco, President of UST Alumni Association, Inc. Philippines was also a special guest, via Zoom. Fr. Loi Viovicente said the opening prayers and gave the blessings for the group. Interstate members joined also via Zoom.



Before this, series of meetings were conducted, after which the following were elected to office: Ms. Benjie de Ubago, President; Vangie Leones, Secretary; Tess Sayas, Treasurer; Albert Prias, PRO; and, Rosemarie Hamilton, Auditor. To reach out to Thomasians throughout Australia, a vice president was elected to represent each Australian State and Territory. They are Dr. Myrna Jover, NSW; Cecilia Flores, ACT; Teresa Cardona, QLD; Marina Ruivivar, VIC; and, Cielo Franklin, WA. VP seats for South Australia, Tasmania and Northern Territory have yet to be filled. Kate Andres is the association's adviser.

The officers, dubbed as Team 21, is a dynamic group of individuals, award winners of different disciplines and all living by UST's core values. They all are compassionate, competent professionals and committed to serve.



Ma. Elena de Jesus-Manansala, President of UST-FPhAASFI handed the check of donation virtually to Fr. Rector and Dean Aleth Therese L. Dacanay, PhD giving her message of thanks.

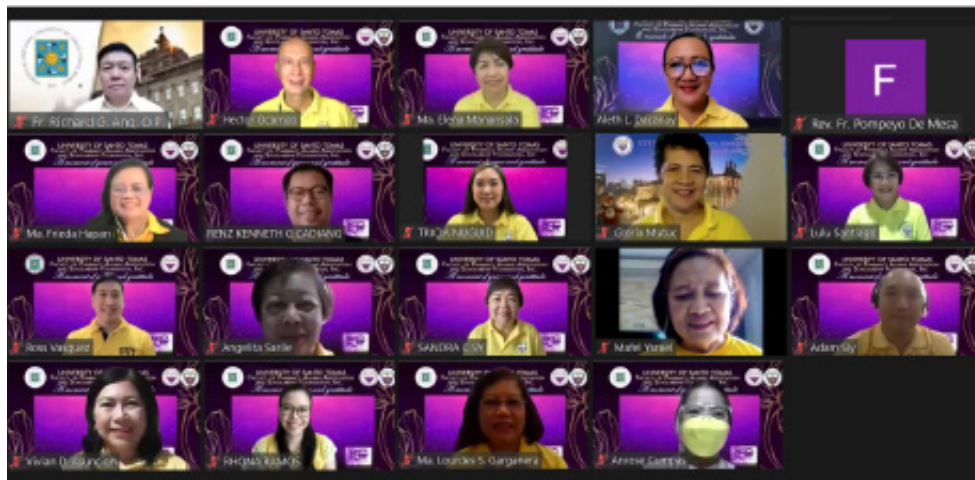
## UST - FPhAASFI Turns over Donation to UST

The University of Santo Tomas Faculty of Pharmacy Alumni Association and Scholarship Foundation Inc. turned over to Rev. Fr. Richard G. Ang, O.P., Rector of UST, a cash donation of one million pesos (PhP1M) for the ongoing renovation of the UST Botanical Garden. The turnover was done in a virtual program entitled "A Moment of Grace and Gratitude" on October 22, 2021.

Special guests for the occasion were the Faculty of Pharmacy Distinguished Alumni. The donation came from the proceeds of the publication of a coffee table book entitled "The Luminaries of the Faculty of Pharmacy," a project of UST-FPhAASFI for the 150th Founding Anniversary of the Faculty of Pharmacy of the University of Santo Tomas. The project also raised funds for scholarships of 10 students and financial assistance to 30 students for the Academic Year 2021-2022 amounting to 1.5 million pesos.

After the turnover ceremony, USTFPAASFI ratified its constitution and bylaws, after 10 years, with more than 50% +1 registrants affirming it. - Ma. Elena De Jesus Manansala, BS Pharmacy 1971

## UST-FPhAASFI Holds 2nd General Alumni Assembly



The UST Faculty of Pharmacy Alumni Association and Scholarship Foundation Inc. (UST-FPhAASFI) virtually gathered the alumni for a three-part Second General Alumni Assembly "Recharge, Reboot, Reconnect" on December 4, 2021.

It began with the Holy Eucharistic Celebration officiated by its adviser, Fr.

Pompeyo de Mesa, O.P. During this first part of the Assembly, he asked the alumni to be an integral part of the Faculty of Pharmacy, to give their support amidst the many challenges, and admonished them to be true to their profession which will always make UST proud.

(Continue to page 21)

(Continue to page 21)



## **From the President's Desk Looking Back in Gratitude; Looking Forward with Great Hope**

*(From page 2)*

the events that it has successfully brought into fruition. Girding such dynamism I can see faith, hope, and love come alive in an alumni association composed of men and women from diverse backgrounds with different characteristics and convictions who are willing to come together to serve. The presidents of the member associations and the volunteers continue to contribute according to how much time, treasure, and talent they can give.

I am amazed at the dedication of Team Bridges composed of Ida Tionko, Marilyn Cano, Marie Pe Yang, Fernando Pedrosa, Atty. Dwight Ramos, and Maureen Pickering. The Team holds a regular meeting every Tuesday at 8 am to discuss the episodes for the program Bridges. This meeting has become a habit to them. From these meetings their loving friendship has bloomed. Ida's enthusiasm permeates in leading the Team.

The Team Disaster Response has been doing a fantastic job in bringing relief to disaster victims. The latest recipients were the victims of typhoon Odette from Southern Leyte, Dinagat Island in Surigao, Siargao, Kabankalan in Negros Occidental. The moving spirit behind all these is Angie Sobremonte -Tuazon. With the invaluable support of Bianca de Mesa, an alumna from the Faculty of Arts and Letters; Architect Ian Dungganon, an alumnus of the College of Architecture who provided; and Patricia Pomoy, a 3rd year Nursing student from Siargao, our relief goods reached their destinations. The Parish priests in the area helped in the distribution of these goods. Our group chats dedicated to Typhoon Odette response were very busy monitoring the movements of the delivery trucks and the incoming donations.

Our performance in promoting our public presence has greatly improved, reaching beyond our targets for our FB page, website, and YouTube channel. If you have not checked any of them out, please like and subscribe. We owe this to Engr. Jonathan Peran and Dr. Jo Mariano, President of the UST Medical Alumni Association.

I deeply appreciate the great support of Dr. Carl Balita, President of the Nursing Alumni Association. Because of him, USTAAI was able to engage the public in its activities such as the Academe, Alumni Industry, Government (AAIG) Multi-sectoral National Summit: Toward Transformative Education and the Distinguished Thomasian Alumni Night (DTAN).

Behind the overwhelming success of the AAIG 2021 were Dean Henry Tenedero, the President of the Faculty of Arts and Letters Alumni Association who served as the Convenor of the Summit; Dean Jocelyn Agcaoli, President of the College of Rehabilitation Sciences Alumni Association; Ida Tionko, Vice President of USTAAI; and Engr. Jonathan Peran, USTAAI Assistant PRO, who served as the Head of the Secretariat. The AAIG 2021 catapulted the USTAAI to greater height as it helped catalyze transformation in Philippine education.

I believe the Distinguished Thomasian Alumni Night (DTAN) was able to inspire many. Once again, we were able to honor our distinguished alumni for their significant contributions to the community. Atty. Dwight Ramos, the Chair of DTAN, ably led the Committee in charge of this event. Atty. Dwight is the Second Vice President of the Law Alumni Foundation Inc. In his usual cool and endearing way, Atty. Dwight was unfazed by all daunting challenges of the pandemic. Thanks to the unwavering support of Dr. Robert Sy.

We always believe in the power of prayers. The Flores de Mayo, the November 2 mass for our dearly departed, and the National Day of Recollection brought the Thomasian alumni together in prayer. Monsignor Bernie Pantin, President of the Alumni Priests Association (ALPA) together with Fr. Carlo del Rosario, Vice President of ALPA played important roles in ensuring the success of these religious activities. Dr. Rollo Milante, the Coordinator of Tomasining Bikolano, effectively led the planning and execution of these events even from a distance, thanks to technology.

Our prayers have always been coupled with our actions. The TALA ng Pasko, a gift giving activity of the Thomasian Alumni Leaders Association (TALA) and the USTAAI, and the Tomasino para sa Kapwa Pilipino relief missions are both expressions of our loving care for the lost, the least, and the lowly. Through these activities, we have provided opportunities to our alumni to serve others as volunteers and/or donors. This year, the ALPA did a great job

of identifying the 9 pilgrim churches where the TALA ng Pasko gift giving activities were conducted.

The Editorial Staff of the Thomasian Alumni Community (TAC) Newsletter, I believe, is doing an incredible job. Despite being deadline driven, they patiently wait and gently remind the member alumni associations for the submission of the articles. Deeply dedicated to produce each issue are Joy Viray Gatmaitan, Mitos Araneta, and Eli Cinco, all alumni of the Faculty of Arts and Letters; Ana Marie Fernandez, an alumna from the College of Education; and Alex, an alumnus of the College of Fine Arts and Design. These experts quietly and humbly serve the association.

Dr. Teresita Meer and Ma. Cecilia San Juan, both alumni of the College of Education, are responsible in gradually enlarging an exchange network for the Thomasian Alumni Community Exchange (TAC Exchange), an online marketplace solely dedicated to the Thomasian alumni. They also unceasingly search for Thomasian alumni donors.

Ma. Elena Manansala, our Treasurer, who is the President of the Faculty of Pharmacy Alumni Scholarship Foundation, and our Compliance Officer Emelito Malabanan have both been very efficient. With them, I am confident in the integrity of our financial stability. Because of the support from Engr. Jerenato Alfante and Engr. Frederick "Pakoy" Parayno, our scholarship program and operations remained stable in 2021. Similarly, Dr. Robert Sy has been always a phone call away whenever we need help.

We have been gifted with Katherine Keyser Bundang, our very proactive Executive Assistant who has been extremely busy the entire year. The addition of Gerald Casada to our staff boosted the manpower of the Secretariat.

Indeed, 2021 was daunting as we entered the second year of the pandemic. But it gave us time to reflect, to recharge, and to resonate with the realities of life. I cannot help but look back to it with gratitude in my heart. The synergy of the men and women in the USTAAI keeps all of us going, because it was always directed toward the mission and vision of the Association, never to themselves. With God's blessings, I pray that the output of such synergy be heard not only by the ears, but also by the minds and hearts of the alumni, the University, and the community. Let us all have a blessed 2022!



## USTAAI and OAR give recognition to notable alumni in annual awarding night

(From page 2)

Atty. Milagros Isabel Cristobal  
Dr. Minerva Calimag  
Eric Anthony Pineda

### UST College of Architecture Alumni Association, Inc.

Ar. Catherine B. Carunungan  
Ar. Norma I. Alarcon  
Ar. Ma. Rebecca M. Peñañiel  
Ar. Ramon S. Mendoza  
Ar. Wilson B. Deomampo

### UST Graduate School Alumni and Grants Association, Inc.

Karen Katrina V. Trinidad  
Rev. Fr. Rolando S. Dela Goza, C.M.  
Prof. Aleth Therese L. Dacanay  
Cielo R. Macapagal-Salgado  
Estrella De Leon

### UST Conservatory of Music Alumni Association, Inc.

Assoc. Prof. Herminigildo Ranera, Ph.D.  
Prof. Gloria Dizon Coronel  
Rene Dalandan

### UST Nursing Alumni Association, Inc.

Dr. Amelia Buencamino Rosales  
Dean Clarita Curato  
Sr. Agnetia Naval, SFIG  
Rev. Fr. Julius Paul Factora, OP, RN, JCD  
Dr. Charito Consolacion

### UST Education High School Graduates' Association

Manuel S. Salumbides  
Federico N. Nartates Jr.  
Arturo G. Gungon  
Emmanuel German V. Plan II  
John M. Simon

### UST College of Rehabilitation Sciences Alumni Association, Inc.

Dr. Joel H. Buenaventura  
Atty. Howard M. Calleja  
Dr. Nilo C. De Los Santos  
Asst. Prof. Karen S. Ongtangco, MRS, MSOT  
Victor Lee Wu

### UST Atelier Alumni Association, Inc.

Roderick Macutay  
Justino Suntay Nuyda  
Nemesio Miranda  
Jesus Flores  
Remy Boquieren

### UST Thomasian Alumni Leaders Association

Harry G. Uy

Prof. Clarence M. Batanm PhD  
Dr. Walter Randolph C. Jalgalado  
Xialeemar T. Valdeavilla  
Dr. Joseph Rylan G. Flores

### UST PMT / CAT Alumni Association

CEO Alfredo E. Pascual  
PMGEN Franklin S. Alfabeto  
PBEN Noel V. Manabat  
Dr. Jose Fernando Syquia  
Dr. Erwin P. Erfe

### Tomasinong Bikolano

Eriberta B. Nepomuceno  
Jose Antonio A. Amparado  
Msgr. Francisco Monje

### Tomasinong Kapampangan

Dr. Miguella Santiago  
Rodolfo S. Olaso  
Edgardo F. Garcia  
Atty. Edgardo D. Pamintuan  
Dr. Bernadette D. David-Aguilar

### Tomasinong SOCCSKSARGEN

Dr. Sergio Ramos Demontaño, Jr.  
Engr. Arturo B. Uy

### UST Golden Cross and Saber Alumni Association, Inc.

Atty. Andrew James S. Ibarra  
Benjamin Joseph E. Velarde  
Allan M. Sison

TD TAN was founded by the then USTAAI President Dr. Robert C. Sy during the Rectorship of Rev. Fr. Rolando de la Rosa, O.P. in 2009 to gather all prominent graduates and associate alumni of the university to drumbeat the Quadricentennial celebration in 2011. The success of the event has motivated the associations to continue commemorating its alumni every year to showcase them to younger generations of Thomasians to be their inspiration and role models.

## BRIDGES CELEBRATES ITS 1<sup>ST</sup> ANNIVERSARY

(From page 13)

The group will be celebrating its 30th anniversary in 2022.

Prof. Calalang presented a selection of recorded videos of the UST Singers' choral performances including some award winning performance, which chronicle the journey of the UST singers for the past 29 years. The videos included the group's rendition of "One Day More" from the classic hit musical Les Misérables by Claude Michael Schoenberg, presented at the Winner's Concert of the 2002 Festa Musicale International Choral Competition

in the Czech Republic; "Gabaq-an", a composition by Ruben Federizon which speaks about the retaliation of earth spirits against the wrongdoings of men, and was performed at the 2010 Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod where they bagged the Choir of the World grand prize; "Isang Dugo, Isang Lahi, Isang Musika," a UST Singers Alumni inspirational tribute at the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020; "Family" from the film Dreamgirls, performed at the UST Singers 28th Anniversary Choral Festival "Amor-Y-Amistad 2020"; "Permission to Dance," music popularized by the Korean pop group BTS, performed virtually last October by the current batch of the UST singers as part of their "After Hours" project; and finally "Munting Sanggol" by Ryan Cayabyab, another virtual performance.

Toward the end of this Bridges episode, a collection of short Christmas video greetings was shown. They were sent by Thomasian alumni from different parts of the world, including Rome, Ireland, UK, Liechtenstein, Saudi Arabia, Canada, USA, Korea, and Christmas greetings from the USTAAI officers and Execom.

Bridges airs live every Tuesday, 6pm via [www.facebook.com/carlbaltafull](https://www.facebook.com/carlbaltafull) and [www.facebook.com/USTAAI](https://www.facebook.com/USTAAI). - Jonathan H. Peran, BS ECE 1996

## UST ROTC Graduates Through the Years @ 85

(From page 15)

camaraderie, laughter, and The challenge was written for the RMs, "Should it be the more that we support the USTGCSAAI the more we extend help to RMs in need, the more pleasure and happiness we receive, the more our organization will live and survive the test of time."

85 <sup>th</sup> DIAMOND FOUNDATION ANNIVERSARY 6 <sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY <small>"HOME, 'NOT PARTS' ASSOCIATES THROUGH THE YEARS @ 85"</small>	
PROGRAMME	
<b>PART 1 - 8530H - 1700H</b> Annual Meeting	<b>PART 2 - 1730H - 1900H</b> Anniversary Celebration
• Call to Order	• Invocation
• Rules of the Meeting	• Singing of National Anthem
• Roll Call	• Welcome Remarks
• Prayers to Unknown Soldier	• Awarding of Outstanding Alumni
• Welcome Remarks	• Awarding of Jubilarians
• Reading of Previous Annual Minutes of the Meeting	• Message from the Jubilarians
• Reading of Treasurer's Report	• Anniversary Greetings
• National Commander's Annual Report	• Introduction to Guest of Honor and Speaker
• BEO Registration/AOI and BI	• Speeches of Guest of Honor and Speaker
• Other Matters	• Presentation of Memorico
• Adjournment	• Photo opportunity
	• UST Hymn
	• Adjournment
	• Fellowship

The message of the UST Father Rector, Rev. Fr. Richard G. Ang, O. P., was about discipline, that paying tribute to the men and women of the UST ROTC Graduates through 85 years, who exhibited exceptional comportment as reserved

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## Featured Thomasian:

### Emma Ruivivar Yeung: The Quintessential Entrepreneur

(From page 23)



*1st row extreme right: daughter Melissa Yeung-Yap, her son Yevin, and husband Christian Tell Yap; 2nd row seated L-R: second son John Philip Yeung, Jerry Yeung, Emma Yeung with granddaughter Gabrielle Lucia Jean on her lap, grandson Mikael Emmanuelle, and daughter-in-law Ehra Madrigal-Yeung; 3rd row standing L-R: daughter-in-law Kristine Yeung, grandsons Daniel Jerry and Nathaniel Anthony, and eldest son John Thomas*

From 1988-1998, Emma became the Proprietor of Taka Drug Store which first sold Katinko products in the Philippine market. During this same time, Emma became the Proprietor of Chinsui Salon.

As an Educator, Emma taught college algebra and trigonometry to freshmen at the College of Philosophy of SAN CARLOS SEMINARY in 1975-1979. Among her students was Socrates Villegas, now Archbishop of Lingayen-Dagupan, Pangasinan and a very active voice in the Church, teaching the faithful to take a stand for the truth and for what is right.. During the same period, 1975-1979, she also taught elementary algebra and trigonometry to high school students of the Guadalupe Minor Seminary. In UST, she taught college algebra and trigonometry at the College of Pharmacy & Medical Technology in 1972-1974.

At present, Madam Emma Ruivivar-Yeung - our Quintessential Entrepreneur - delights in passing the baton to her children, especially upon Melissa, who is now the Proprietor/Director of their family company.

Now, whenever you use any KATINKO

product for relief of muscle and joint pain, for discomfort, for dizziness or for colds, think EMMA YEUNG! - Prof. Myrna Plata Hilario-Munda, Litt. B. Journalism, 1967

## Thomasian Nurse: Stepping up in a Leadership Role

A Thomasian nurse has been elected as the National President of the Mother & Child Nurses Association of the Philippines (MCNAP) with over 30 chapters from Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao. A 2003 graduate, Ms. Aileen Ongleo will be leading at the national level to promote and sustain quality maternal and child practice, education, research, and community service especially amongst nurses and allied health professionals. MCNAP is one recognized strong and premier organization of and for nurses to standardize and work excellently toward safe and wholistic practice of maternal and child nurses in the country.

Ongleo started serving MCNAP in 2018 as



an election officer and acted as the Vice President for Finance in 2020-2021. She led the numerous projects of the organization to live up to its vision and fulfill its mission.

"I am grateful for the gift of leadership, and I desire to make my UST College of Nursing (CON) family delighted for this chance to work for the mother and child nurses here in the country," said Ms. Ongleo, who will take the forefront of MCNAP leadership for the next two years. To add, she is also the Public Relation Officer for the UST Nursing Alumni Association Inc.

Ms. Ongleo believes that today's leaders need to be adept not only in leading and managing people but also in understanding the heart of those around them. This in essence is the crux of that challenge of leading a prestigious organization. Nursing leadership translates to great opportunity to serve, create better outcomes, and continue with professional development. She adds that dedication, compassion and leadership guided by Thomasian core values makes the real difference. - Ida Tionko, BS Nursing, 1970

## 80 Grateful Years

(From page 16)

performers, and volunteers by Dr. Ferdinand Martinez, member of the UST Pax Romana Board of Trustees.

Capping off the night, Dr. Jesus Querubin Jr. led the attendees to a virtual toast in celebration of event. Engr. Frederick Parayno, Vice President of the UST-Pax Romana Alumni Association Inc., delivered the closing remarks. - John Derick de Recto, BS Accountancy, 2019



## UST ROTC Graduates Through the Years @ 85

(From page 19)

officers becoming the epitome of discipline that the UST Golden Cross and Saver is widely known for.

In the same tone, in his message, Senator Win Gatchalian emphasized that he considered the celebration as a victory for upholding hard work, integrity, fidelity, and devotion in training and service that never cease in influencing others and continue to inspire many more individuals in the pursuit of excellence. It is the desire of the good senator to continually promote excellence in training as ROTC graduates.



We quoted from the greetings of the USTAAI President, Prof Evelyn A. Songco, PhD. " The Golden Cross is the legacy of the ROTC composed of members who are able and ready to share their time, talent, and treasure to the cause of serving their alma mater, their fellow alumni, and the community. Its anniversary symbolizes the colorful stories of its members during their student days and as professionals."

We also recalled that in October 2020, the Golden Cross renewed its commitment and affiliation to the following organizations: UST Alumni Association (USTAAI); UST Office of the Alumni Affairs (USTOAR); Department of Military Science and Tactics (DMST); UST Honorary Corps of Sponsors (HCOLS); UST Golden Corps of Cadets Alumni Association International (USTGCCAI); and the National ROTC Alumni Association Army Chapter Incorporation (NRAAI).

The office of the USTOAR similarly sent their message, Asst. Prof. Fredeswindo R. Medina, Director UST Office of the Alumni Affairs stated that the USTOAR will be with the Golden Cross in fulfilling its mission with the wish that despite the difficult situations of the pandemic, the Golden Cross will continue to shine just like the brightness of a drawn saber. The greetings of the UST DMST Commandant COL

(Continue to page 22)

## UST Alumni Australia Comes Alive Down Under

(From page 17)



HE De La Vega congratulated the group and expressed how impressed she was with the speed by which the organization was formed. In her speech, she said, "The timing to establish USTAA in 2021 is auspicious. The year is not yet over and we're still commemorating the 500 years of Filipino Christianity. I thought the 500 years would be made extra meaningful with the establishment of the USTAA. After all, the University of Santo Tomas is recognized at national and international level as the pontifical, royal and catholic university of the Philippines."

The USTAA officers may be reached through: [ustalumniaustralia@gmail.com](mailto:ustalumniaustralia@gmail.com) and on [facebook/ustalumniaustralia](https://www.facebook.com/ustalumniaustralia). - Benjie de Ubago, BA Communication Arts 1976

## UST-FPhAASFI Holds 2nd General Alumni Assembly

(From page 17)

Part 2 was a talk on "Reprogramming the Mind for Physical and Mental Wellness Amidst the Pandemic" facilitated by Dr. Monina G. Cruz, FPPA, Head of Psychiatry Department of St. Luke's Medical Center, Quezon City. She said that to foster post-traumatic growth, one coping mechanism is self-care by having self-compassion. She said the acronym BACE stands for the four pillars of self-care. Body having good sleep, diet and regular exercise; Achievements where daily victories produce serotonin which makes one feel emotionally stable; Connectiveness with loved ones; and Enjoying the tasks one does. Dr. Cruz gave simple exercises to practice self-compassion and gamely answered questions during the open forum.

The Certificate of Appreciation was given by UST-FPhAASFI Asst. Treasurer, Anrose Cumpas. As an intermission number, Pharmacy Glee Club members Lian Garcia and JC Gatbonton entertained the audience with a song.

Part 3 was the membership meeting, the election of the 15 Board of Trustees, Bingo Socials and Raffles. Ma. Elena De Jesus-Manansala, President of the Association, delivered the terminal report while Gloria Tullao-Mutuc, Treasurer, presented the financial report. While waiting for the final results of the election, bingo games and raffles were conducted to promote camaraderie and excitement among members. - Angelita S. Sarile, BS Biochemistry 1975

## Filipinisms



= common words or phrases that are either loose translations of their English equivalent or are grammatically erroneous.

When COVID-19 began, two expressions commonly shared are:

1. Congratulation which should be congratulations. Note the "s" at the end.
2. Sending my sympathy which should be sympathies. Again, let's keep the "s" at the end.

Still on the "s," when using the phrase "one of the," the formula is: one of the + plural noun/pronoun + singular verb. Example: One of the students was awarded outstanding student last week."

Some other expressions that have become very common are:

1. For the meantime - In the meantime, please.
2. Open the computer - We turn on the computer, technicians open it. This is true for light, TV, cellphones and other similar appliances and gadgets.

Now, a common error in Filipino / Tagalog:

News reporters frequently say ang dalawang magkapatid, referring to two siblings. *Dalawang magkapatid* already means four siblings because *magkapatid* refers to two.

See you next issue....



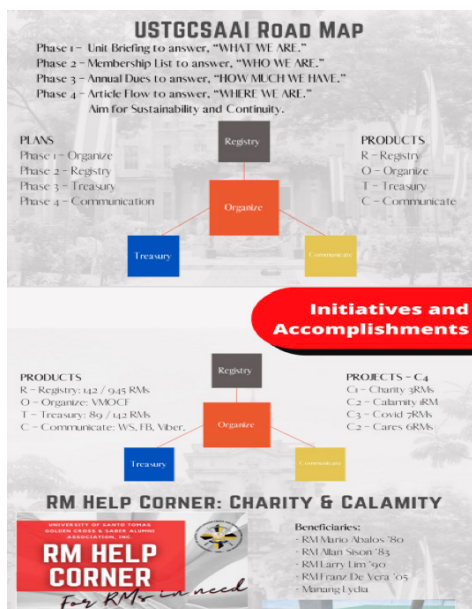
the planning and pre-planning stages was viewed from different development sectors and sub-sectors. The approach is presented in Figure #1 and was presented to the USTAAI via zoom on September 30, 2021. After the initial presentation of the USTAAI and USTGCSAAI design strategy, various groups pledged support and assistance for the HRCF. As defined in the principles mentioned above, the “revitalization of HRCF” is a multi-sectoral approach needing



all aspects of help in whatever shape or form.

from all parties, but the overwhelming enthusiasm of the different organizations, stakeholders, and individuals involved is seen to contribute to the accomplishment of the project, its sustainability, and success. - *Special Projects Committee, USTGCSAAI*

(From page 21)



RMs all over the Philippines and the world. There were exchanges of pleasantries and the event was graced by the Army Reserved Command Commanding General, MGEN FERNANDO FELIPE, PA as the Guest of Honor and Speaker who delivered his speech live via zoom with his greetings as a laudable feat for the Golden Cross in achieving 85 years devoted to upholding the tradition of service, patriotism, volunteerism, and loyalty to the nation among its alumni.

Readers who may want to know more about the organization may visit: <https://ustgoldencrossandsaber.org/about-us/history/>

Dr. Rod de Mesa, BS Bio 1988

VICTOR M LLAPITAN, MNSA congratulated the Golden Cross letting the milestone be the reminder that the true Thomasian ROTC service and identity will commit to the path of giving excellent service to the country and the Filipino people.

Greetings were delivered as well by RM Danilo C.A. Orino, President of the USTGCCAAI, 2020-2022; RM Ariston Yvan A. Pagulayan, Past National Commander of the USTGCSAAI 2018-2020; BGEN QUIRINO S CALONZO, PA (Ret) Board of Director, NRAACPI; Asst. Prof. Josephine Aguilar-Placido, Dean of Sponsor HCOLS 1995-2000 and 2004-2014; RM Rex Salazar, Class 1971 Golden Jubiliarian member; and RM Christopher Cueto, Class of 1996 Silver Jubiliarian member.

The event culminated with the awarding ceremony of the outstanding RMs, followed

[illegible]

# Awards

**OUTSTANDING  
REDMAN AWARD**  
(GOVERNMENT SERVICE)

**OUTSTANDING  
REDMAN AWARD**  
(NON-GOVERNMENT SERVICE)

**OUTSTANDING  
REDMAN AWARD**  
(ABROAD)

**OUTSTANDING  
REDMAN AWARD**  
(CLASS)

# Special Redman Awards

**PAST NATIONAL  
COMMANDER AWARD**

**NEWLY PROMOTED  
STAR RANK RM**

**NATIONAL  
COMMANDER AWARDEE**

# Outstanding Red Awards

## Materials and Criteria of Awards Selection

### Nomination and Selection Standards

All active members for the individual and for the Class awardees demonstrate the following Values and Character:

- 1. Value of Honor:**  
An individual or class who by their character, presence or action imbue the traditions of the Corps of Honor and Loyalty and contribute positively to its reputation and good name; is bringing pride to our Alma Mater. The nominee must be an authority or a respected member in high esteem; is not chosen field of expertise as an individual or collectively as a class.
- 2. Value of Leadership:**  
An individual or class who makes significant contributions to building a sense of unity and purpose as he or her community or military aid. The nominee must demonstrate the ability to build stronger communities (for civilian nonmilitary) and integrated military unit (for uniformed personnel) through the pursuit of a common mission, the promotion of personal growth and development and the preservation of human dignity.
- 3. Value of Social Responsibility:**  
An individual or class who assists and helps others in improving their lives and building their communities through outreach, charitable or volunteer programs by forming, helping, building or enhancement of communities in general, social groups, outreach programs of centers, agents programs or after school programs, school facilities, community livelihood and the like. The nominee should have contributed to at least one community program or initiative in a year with measurable results of how they impacted on the target participants.
- 4. Value of Positive Influence:**  
An individual or class who demonstrates positive attitudes and behaviors that influence others to succeed and a person or class emulated by others through their example. The nominee should have evidence of instances during which they have mentored, advised or developed individuals, units or groups or community in a positive and forward moving manner. Or individuals or a Class who by their example has prompted, urged or moved others to perform similar acts of generosity, help and an outreach hand to assist others.



# FEATURED THOMASIAN

## Emma Ruivivar Yeung: The Quintessential Entrepreneur

"NEVER IN MY WILDEST DREAMS!" Emma Yeung raised her voice in apparent defiance when I called her "The Katinko Queen." But any Thomasian alumnus cannot deny the fact that in almost every Thomasian alumni event - Alumni Homecoming, Distinguished Thomasian Alumni Night, TOTAL Awards, exhibits of products by Thomasian entrepreneurs, Thomasian Alumni Advent Recollection, among others - there is the ubiquitous presence of Katinko products as giveaways, courtesy of Madam Emma.

Who is Madam Emma? She is the elegant lady in her usual black evening gown - hair coiffed a la Lady Pompadour, with a sweet gracious smile, as she places on the registration table her Katinko products for everyone. She is the lady who, during USTAAI Board of Trustees meetings, is always ready to share her Katinko products with her fellow Trustees.



Emma and Jerry Yeung

On the personal side, if one would dare open my handbag, (perhaps only for the avante garde), he would surely find a Katinko Oil Liniment (one of my favorites). And, on my dresser, as well as on the dressers of the females in our family, he would find a Katinko product as well

EMMA PEREZ RUIVIVAR-YEUNG graduated from UST in 1972 with the degree of Bachelor of Science in Education, Major in Math, co-Major in Theology, cum Laude. She is married to Keng Huan Jerry Yeung, and have three children: John Thomas R. Yeung, UST B.S. Pharmacy 2003, AIM Master in Entrepreneurship 2008; John Philip R. Yeung, U.P. Political Economics 2005, AIM Master in Entrepreneurship 2007, San Beda LAW 2019; Melissa R. Yeung-Yap, Ateneo de Manila University AB Development Studies, AIM Master in Entrepreneurship 2008, Harvard Business School; Owner/President Of Greenstone Pharmaceutical (Katinko).

Emma was elected President of the UST College of Education Alumni Foundation Inc. (USTCEAFI) in 2008 and served as such up to 2012. She was also the Treasurer of the USTAAI from 2010-2012. She still sits at present in the USTCEAFI Board as a Trustee Emeritus. As a lay Church leader, she was a member of the Ministry of Lectors, Holy Family Parish, from 2004-2019; member, Associates of the Missionaries of the Immaculate Conception; Servant Leader, St. Kateri Tckakwitha Philippine Chapter; Servant Leader, Joy in Jesus, Mary, and Joseph Community.

Going back to Katinko, Emma smiles and says, "Katinko is my first love, actually, because it was invented by my husband. and of course, since I fell in love with my husband, it follows that I love everything about him!" As shareholder and Director of Greenstone Pharmaceutical, since 2006, Emma helped her husband set the company's direction, vision, and values while he continued to work on product-improvement and product modification/diversification. She has been sitting in the Company Board since they founded it in 2006.

In 2008, Katinko joined the HK Asia Pacific Holdings, Inc., & Affiliate Group Of Companies, where Emma sits in the Board meetings and gives her inputs on acquisition, development, and expansion plans. In 1981-1984, she worked in the Accounting & Remittance Division of the Philippine National Bank Hongkong Branch.

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