



THE THOMASIAN ALUMNI COMMUNITY

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE UST ALUMNI ASSOCIATION, INC.

Newsletter

Vol 5 No 2

Historic USTAAI Twin Events Held

The twin events for the Conferment of the Title Chairman Emeritus to Dr. Robert C. Sy and Launching of the Thomasian Alumni Community Foundation were held on March 25, 2022, Friday, from 9:00 in the morning to 2:00 in the afternoon at the Centennial Room, Club Filipino Greenhills, San Juan.

Finally meeting face to face after a long while because of the pandemic, the participants were warmly welcomed by Dean Henry S. Tenedero, USTAAI Chairman. Calling these historic events, he emphasized how they augur well for the continuity and sustainability of alumni projects, activities and initiatives. Engr. Frederick Parayno then went on to present the honoree, Dr. Robert C. Sy who was formally conferred his title as USTAAI Chairman Emeritus.

In responding and accepting the honor given, Dr. Sy traced back the history of USTAAI, particularly how the Thomasian Alumni Center came into fruition through the generosity and hard work of Thomasians around the world. He also thanked USTAAI and all the officers and members for their continued dedication and service to the University.



The program continued as Engr. Parayno formally introduced the Thomasian Alumni Community Foundation, with the mission to financially support the advocacy programs of the USTAAI that includes among others its scholarship program, disaster relief and rehabilitation and environmental sustainability. The founding members and trustees were also introduced, before Dr. Ma. Elena DJ. Manansala proposed the celebratory toast for the successful launching and Dr. Evelyn A. Songco formally closed the program.

- Atty. Dwight Ramos. Bachelor of Laws, 1992

USTAAI Holds Review and Planning Program in Tagaytay



In its first face to face meeting since the pandemic, 14 USTAAI officers, Execom representatives and secretariat members gathered in Tagaytay on February 28, 2022 to review its 2021 performance and to plan for its activities this year. The strategic plans composed of each committee's Key Result Areas and Key Performance Indicators contained in the Vector 2021-2023: Dreaming, Believing Weaving and Inspiring were used to monitor and review activities as well as plan for the future.

With an early start from UST, the first stop was at Caleruega for Holy Mass at the Gazekubo,

concelebrated by Fr. Jeffrey Aytona, OP and Msgr. Bernie Pantin. After breakfast and a ten-minute ride, the group arrived at the Tagaytay Royale Estate Clubhouse where Engr. Jerry Alfante hosted the planning meeting and lunch.

USTAAI President Evelyn Songco gave the welcome remarks followed by the Execom presentations. Those who gave their team reports were VP Ida Tiongko (online) for Academics; Engr. Jerry Alfante for Advocacy; Msgr. Bernie Pantin for Events; Treasurer Ellen Manalastas for Finance; Engr. Jonathan Peran for Presence; Maureen Pickering, Ces

San Juan, and Emelito Malabanan for Resource; and Nancy Tabirara for the Secretariat which was also in charge of organizing the event. Those attending via Zoom were VP Ida Tiongko, Advocacy Co-chair Angie Tuazon and Resource Chair Teresita Meer. Other participants were Atty. Dwight Ramos, OGie Magahis, Carmen Alviar and Kaye Bundang. Apart from Team Presence which said it would adjust some of its targets, all the teams indicated that they would pursue their original strat plans.

Additional input was given by SEC Compliance Officer Emelito Malabanan regarding the status of USTAAI's standing with the Security Exchange Commission. President Evelyn Songco also took the opportunity to announce the appointment of Atty. Dwight Ramos as Assistant to the President as part of Structural Positioning.

To end the meeting and to celebrate USTAAI's achievements thus far, everyone held hands as they sang "We Hold On Together," the inspiration for the theme of the program and the vector primer 2021-2023: Dreaming, Believing Weaving and Inspiring.

- Nanette O. Fernandez, BSE English 1976

Mass and Blessing for Thomasian Candidates in May 2022 Polls Celebrated



The USTAAI, through its Events Committee, organized a Eucharistic Celebration and Blessing for Thomasian candidates running for local and national posts in the 2022 national elections on March 17, 2022 at the Santissimo Rosario Parish or UST Chapel. The event that took place at 11am was organized to express the Thomasian alumni community's stand for clean, peaceful and honest elections. This was also live-streamed through the Facebook pages of the parish and the USTAAI so that candidates who could not be physically present could join in.

The Holy Mass was concelebrated, with parish priest Fr. Paul Talavera, OP as main celebrant, and UST Secretary General Fr. Louie Coronel, OP; CBCP Secretary General and ALPA president Monsignor Bernardo Pantin; and CBCP Assistant Secretary General Fr. Carlo del Rosario, who was the homilist.

In his homily, Fr. Carlo thanked God for gathering the Thomasian alumni community as one to celebrate the Eucharist and to pray for Thomasian candidates who have competence, commitment, and compassion. Drawing from the Gospel reading of Luke 16:19-31, he

talked about how we should love the poor and the lowly as the key to heaven. He said that as Thomasians, but specially for candidates running for local and national positions, we should have two qualities: "*Dapat may PAKI-ALAM sa nangyayari sa paligid*" (concern) and "*may PAKIRAMDAM*" (sensitivity). He said that we are given many opportunities to create meaningful relationships with the "Lazarus" we find in our midst because these are the relationships that draw us out of our selfishness and give us life. He emphasized that our lack of concern and empathy for the poor around us will condemn us to hell. In closing, he addressed the candidates, "*Kaisa at kasama ninyo kami, tulong-tulong tayo: alalahanin ang mga dukha, abutin ang mahihirap, I-angat natin ang antas ng buhay ng ating kapwa. Amen.*" ("We are one with you. Let us help one another in remembering the poor and reaching out to them, in uplifting their quality of life.")

Although only eleven candidates turned up for the Holy Mass, the names of the Thomasian alumni candidates, their college/degree, and the post they were running for were read before the Mass started.

The Thomasian candidates in the May 2022 polls are:

For Senator

Dr. Carl Balita, College of Nursing
Atty. Lutgardo Barbo, Faculty of Civil Law
Guillermo Eleazar, Faculty of Engineering
Joel Villanueva, College of Commerce

For Congressman

Atty. Lorenz Defensor, 3rd District, Iloilo;
Faculty of Civil Law
Dr. Peter Miguel, 1st District, South Cotabato;
Faculty of Pharmacy & Faculty of Medicine

Atty. Pascasio Joshua Maria H. Vicario III
1st district, Northern Samar; Faculty of Civil Law

For Governor

Gerard Espina, Biliran; Political Science
Ferdinand Ledesma Hernandez, South Cotabato

For Board Member

Atty. Samuel Abola, 2nd District, Zambales;
Faculty of Civil Law
Ananias Canlas, 3rd District, Pampanga;
Faculty of Civil Law

Atty. Erlene Luz “Pechay” dela Cruz, Bulacan;
Faculty of Arts and Letters
Atty. Domingo Diviva V, 2nd District, Zambales;
Faculty of Civil Law
Dr. Egidio P. Elio, Antique; High School,
BS Gen. Science, Faculty of Medicine & Surgery
Atty. Ramon “Monet” Posadas, Bulacan;
Faculty of Civil Law

For Party List

Engr. Jerenato Alfante
#49 OFW Party List (One Filipino Worldwide);
Faculty of Engineering
Dr Emilio Francisco Berberabe Jr.
Buklod Filipino Partylist # 78; Faculty of Medicine
Dr. Raymond John Naguit
Akbayan Party list Representative; College of Nursing

For Mayor

Atty. Kevin Anarna, Silang, Cavite;
Faculty of Civil Law
Cristy Angeles, Tarlac City; College of Science
Joaquin Concha, Kalamansig, Sultan Kudarat
Cotabato; College of Engineering
Maria Cristina Cuello - Angeles, Tarlac City;
College of Commerce
Atty. Imee Llado de Guzman, Sto. Domingo, Nueva
Ecija; Faculty of Civil Law
Carlo Eleazar, Tagkawayan, Quezon; Civil
Engineering
Atty. Rommel Gecolea, Cabuyao, Laguna;
Faculty of Civil Law
Dr. Walter Jalgado, Capalonga, Camarines Norte;
College of Science & Faculty of Medicine
Honey Lacuna, City of Manila; College of Science
Retired General Ricardo Padilla, Bongabon, Nueva
Ecija; College of Engineering
Former Mayor Meynard Sabili, Lipa, Batangas;
Masters of Law
Caroline Cua Sy-Reyes, Pilar, Sorsogon;
Faculty of Pharmacy
Rowena Rachelle Tan-Uy, Cabautan, Isabela;
Faculty of Pharmacy

Dr. Antonio Uy, Marinduque; Faculty of Pharmacy &
Faculty of Medicine

For Vice Mayor

Atty. Enrique dela Cruz, Baliwag, Bulacan;
Faculty of Arts & Letters and Faculty of Civil Law
Jake S. Espina, Kawayan, Biliran;
Communication Arts
Amy Navarro, Santiago, Isabela; College of Nursing
Maria Rosario Sy-Alvarado, Hagonoy Bulacan;
College of Science
Rex Manuel C. Tanjuatco, Tanay, Rizal;
College of Commerce

For Councilor

Doland Castro, Quezon City; Faculty of
Arts & Letters
Atty/Engr. Joseph Cerezo, 2nd District, Quezon
City; Faculty of Engineering and Faculty of Civil Law
Atty. Fe Enrique Dizon, Arayat, Pampanga;
Faculty of Civil Law
Edson Paul D. Flores, Claveria, Cagayan;
BS Hotel & Restaurant Management
Pamela Fugoso-Pascual, City of Manila;
UST High School
Dr. Lugerna Lipumano-Garcia, Olongapo City
College of Science & Faculty of Medicine
Mary Del A. Jasa, Marilao, Bulacan; Economics
Justin Manrique, Boac, Marinduque; Political Science
Charles Clifford F. Matta, Cavinti, Laguna;
BS Hotel & Restaurant Management
Emilio Leonardo Padilla, 1st District, Quezon City;
College of Commerce
Guammer Partosa, Marilao, Bulacan;
College of Commerce
Jester Ivan Ricafrente, Mariveles, Bataan;
Political Science
Herman “Brod Pete” Salvador, 1st district, Marikina;
Faculty of Arts & Letters
Atty. Maricar Torres-Maralit, Malabon City;
Faculty of Arts and Letters
Mayie Verano - Salvacion, Masbate City;
BS Hotel & Restaurant Management

Other Thomasians running for posts in the next election but who remain unknown to the organizers were also included in the mass intentions.

The congregation, composed mainly of USTAAI officers, friends and supporters of the candidates, prayed the CBCP Prayer for the 2022 National and Local Elections after Holy Communion. USTAAI President Evelyn Songco then thanked the concelebrants, organizers and volunteers, and everyone who joined the

Mass. Afterwards, the candidates were called in front of the altar to receive a special blessing.

Multiple photos to remember the historic event were taken. This is the first face-to-face event of the association members since the pandemic, and the first time the USTAAI sponsored an activity that recognized Thomasian candidates running for public office.

- Nanette O. Fernandez, BSE English 1976

Atty. Dwight Ramos Appointed Assistant to the President

On March 12, Atty. Dwight Ramos was appointed as the Assistant to the President at the University of Santo Tomas Alumni Association Inc. His appointment took effect on March 14.

In this role, he will primarily be helping the President in coordinating the different activities and events of AAI and of the member Alumni Associations, in smoothly implementing plans and programs, and in liaising with the members of the Council of Presidents.

Aside from his affiliation with the USTAAI, Atty. Dwight is currently the Senior Vice President of Basic Environmental Systems & Technologies, Inc., Executive Director of the Solid Waste Contractors Association of the Philippines, and Spokesperson

of the Coalition of Solid Waste Management Providers.

He was also a former in-house legal and business development head for leading companies in the country and a senior tax consulting staff at the SyCip Gorres Velayo & Co. At the publicly-listed IPM Holdings, his group received the Asia CEO Awards Circle of Excellence for the 2019 Executive Leadership Team of the Year.

Also, he served as the President of the Institute of Management Consultants of the Philippines in 2010 and 2011.

He also became the Governor of the Rotary International District 3780 in 2016-2017 and served as Director of the Philippine College of Rotary Governors. Also, he was a Paul Harris Vocational Excellence Awardee in 2013.

He graduated 'cum laude' from the University of Santo Tomas with a Juris Doctor degree, where he was awarded as an outstanding alumni awardee in 2015 by the UST Law Alumni Foundation. He pursued his master's degree in Public Administration at the Polytechnic University of the Philippines and bachelor's degree in Political Science at Saint Louis University in 1986.

Lastly, he taught at the UST Faculty Civil of Law and De La Salle-College of Saint Benilde and wrote the book "Business Licensing and Registration." Also, he is past President of the Ateneo Schools Parents Council and second Vice President of the UST Law Alumni Foundation.

- Emmanuel Luis Abrera, BSE English, 2022





THOMASIAN ALUMNI ITEMS THAT CONTRIBUTE TO USTAAI'S ADVOCACY



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

Scented Alcohol	Price / Dozen
50ml	Php 524.40
100ml	Php 852.15
500ml	Php 2,163.15

Unscented Alcohol	Price / Dozen
50ml	Php 368.00
100ml	Php 655.50
500ml	Php 1,769.85

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

FOR ORDERS PLEASE CONTACT
TESS MEER 09178490467 / CES SAN JUAN 09157813035

Newly Elected Officers of UST Faculty of Pharmacy Alumni Association and Scholarship Foundation Hold Oathtaking and Strategic Meeting



On February 19, 2022, the UST Faculty of Pharmacy Alumni Association and Scholarship Foundation, Inc. held a virtual oathtaking of its newly elected officers via Zoom. The event was led by Dr. Evelyn Songco, President of the UST Alumni Association Inc. and witnessed by Faculty of Pharmacy Dean Aleth Dacanay.

A strategic meeting was later held on March 19, 2022 at the USTAAI Conference Room at the Buenaventura G. Paredes, OP Building Thomasian Alumni Center to discuss its upcoming plans and align objectives with its mission and vision for the next two years.

The meeting commenced with an opening prayer led by James N. Pasamonte followed by a discussion of the mission, vision, and objectives by newly elected president Ma. Lourdes S. Garganera. The different committee chairs and their members presented their plans for approval of the board in terms of increasing membership, continuing scholarship grants, and planning more continuing professional development courses in coordination with the UST Career Placement Bureau. Goals include to help the alumni, create the Sunshine Committee, strengthen multimedia promotion, and continue community service and advocacy. The meeting was attended by Rev. Fr.

Pompeyo De Mesa OP, Dean Aleth Dacanay, and past president Prof. Elena Manansala.

- Angeli Sobremonte Tuazon, BS Pharmacy, 1993



University of Santo Tomas
Alumni Association Inc.

HOLY MASS & BLESSING
for
THOMASIAN CANDIDATES
FOR THE 2022 NATIONAL AND LOCAL ELECTIONS

17 March 2022, 11:00AM
Santissimo Rosario Parish Church
University of Santo Tomas
Caferino Gonzales Dr, Sampaloc, Manila

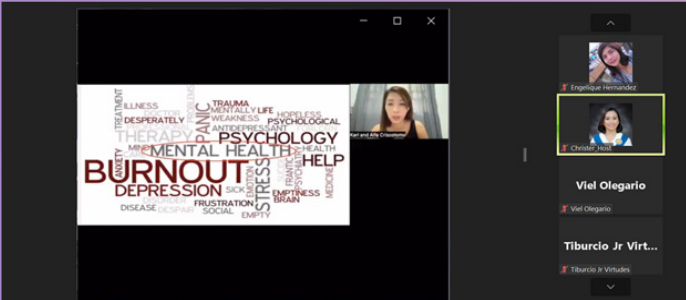
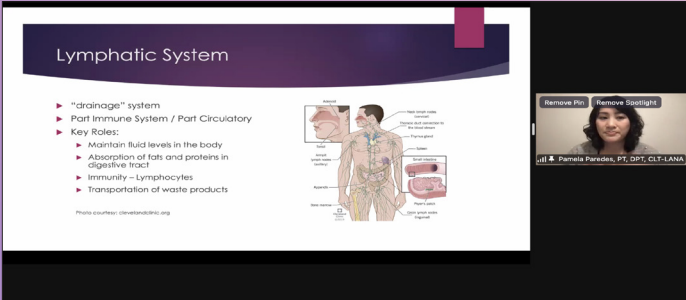
CLICKER RAZZI



CRS Celebrates Women’s Month with Summit

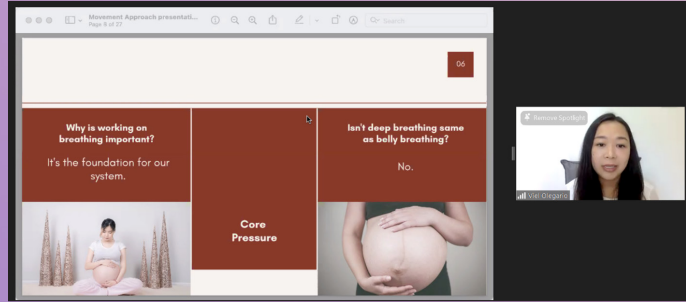
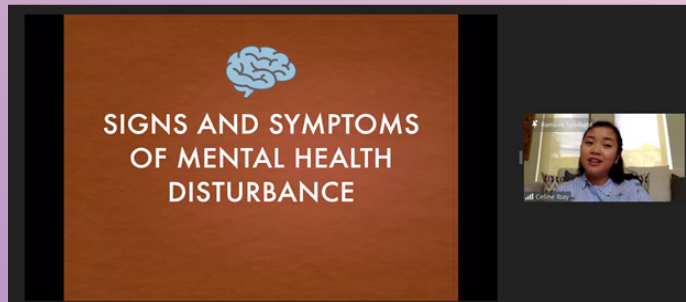
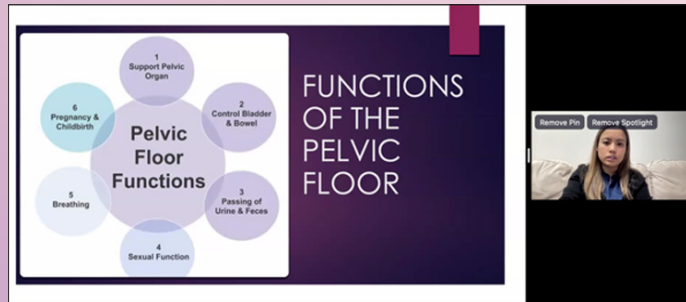
In celebration of women's month, the University of Santo Tomas–College of Rehabilitation Sciences Alumni Association, Inc (UST-CRSAAI), in collaboration with the College of Rehabilitation Sciences and CRS Faculty Club, concluded a two-half day virtual women's health summit on March 19-20, 2022. The speakers were all UST CRS alumni. The summit aimed to provide the participants with evidence-based approaches and treatment to common women's health issues. All proceeds from the event will raise funds for the UST College of Rehabilitation Sciences Scholarship Fund.

The program started with a prayer. Then, Johann J. Dela Paz, PT, MS, Chair of the Organizing Committee, provided the participants with an overview of the summit. Soon after, Assoc. Prof. Jocelyn F. Agcaoili, MSPT, MHPed, PTRP, President of the UST-CRSAAI, delivered her welcome remarks and Assoc. Prof. Anne Marie C. Aseron, MSPT, PTRP, Dean of the College of Rehabilitation Sciences gave her opening remarks.



The summit's first day focused on the rehabilitation assessment and interventions for pelvic pain, breast cancer, and lymphedema. The first speaker, Alreen Day Alfonso, PT, DPT, OCS, CIMT, CMTPT, CKTP, talked about pelvic pain assessment, treatment, and pelvic health in aging women. She discussed and demonstrated specific exercises that can help prevent pelvic dysfunction and improve overall pelvic health. This was followed by a discussion on breast cancer and lymphedema by Pam Paredes, PT, DPT, CLT-LANA. She also explained how to perform manual lymphatic drainage and demonstrated the bandaging technique.

The second day of the summit revolved on the movement approach to perinatal and postpartum care, physical and mental wellbeing of mothers during the



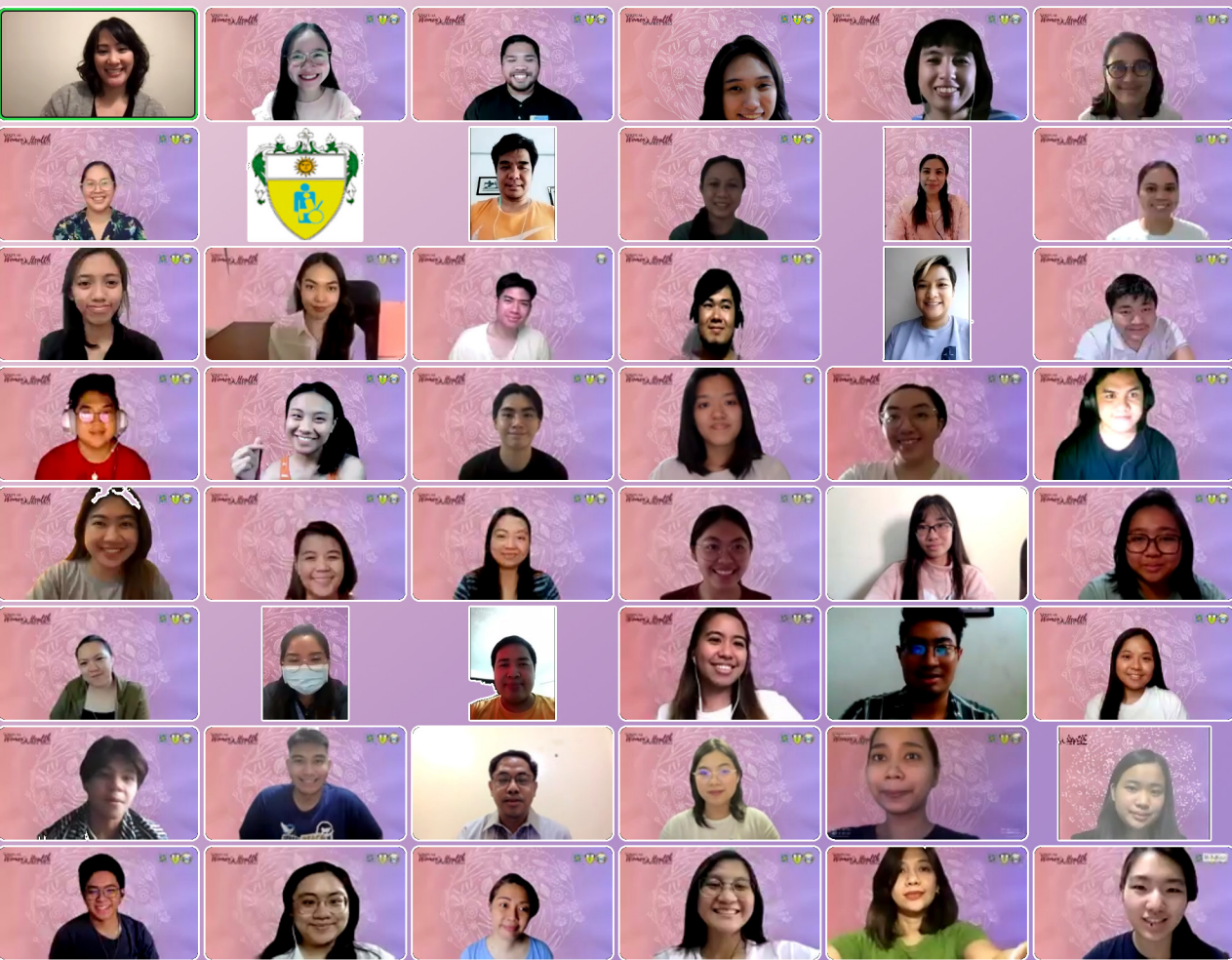
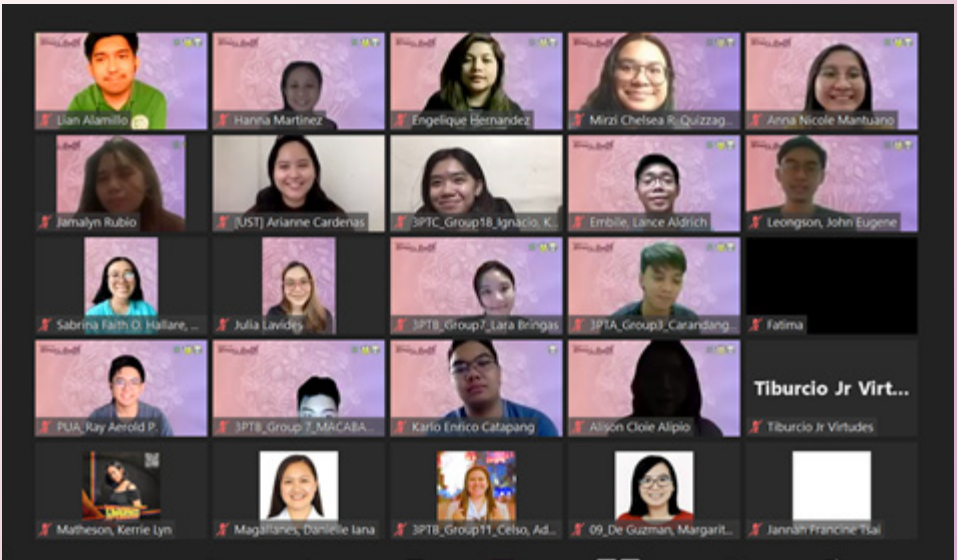
pandemic, and how to care for your child and oneself. Anne Marieviel Olegario, PTRP, DOMTP, ERYT-500, discussed some perinatal and postpartum exercises that can be used in designing exercise programs for pregnant women. She asked the participants to perform some of these techniques in their own homes to get

a better feel of the exercises and to understand them. After this, Coach Alfa January Crisostomo provided several parenting tips that can help mothers care for their physical and mental health amid the pandemic. Lastly, Cecilia Anne Ibay, OTRP, talked about some mental health exercises and tips, such as the simple

appreciation of things that are commonly encountered in daily lives, yet which are sometimes ignored due to work and other concerns.

The summit, a success with 229 attendees, was granted 7 CPD units by the Professional Regulatory Commission–Continuing Professional Development (PRC-CPD) Council for Physical Therapy.

- Ken Ervin Sosa, BS Physical Therapy, 2013



Editor's Note: Starting this issue, we are publishing articles by our alumni as they look back on their experiences as students. We invite everyone to share their memories (and photos) of UST.

❧ Campus Memories ❧

At Seventeen

(50 years ago)

Not knowing exactly what course I wanted to take up after High School, my parents decided that the University of Santo Tomas was the ONLY school for me. The thought of going to the state university was definitely remote. My father called it "hub of Communism!"

So I did take the admission examination for Freshmen at the Faculty of Arts and Letters with the objective to graduate with an AB degree.

On the first day of class, I found myself in the company of friendly, wide-eyed, innocent-looking young men and women aged 16-17. All of us were in this awkward stage between childhood and adulthood.

Most of them introduced themselves as having graduated Valedictorian or Salutatorian or with honors. All I could have said, when asked what my credentials were, was that I have a Gold Loyalty Medal for studying at St. Theresa's College Manila and Quezon City for 12 years.

The class I got into was the special class, the Honors Class. It was made up of the 35 who topped the admission examination for freshmen, from over hundreds of examinees.

We all came from different schools of the different regions of the country and from different family backgrounds but we blended well with one another as we respected each other's uniqueness and idiosyncrasies.

Our class adviser was Ms. Perla Queyquep. She taught us Freshman English for two semesters. She encouraged us to come up with our very own class paper. And so, TRACES was born.

For the first semester, we also had Romy Abulad (Logic), Araceli Murillo (Algebra), Fe Palafox (History of Europe) and Pedro Abella (Political Science). In the second semester, we had Cesar Martinez (Statistics), Magdalena Villaba-Cue (Dialectics), Vida Madrigal (History of Southeast Asia), Lourdes Bautista (Filipino Literature) and Corazon Cantos (World Geography). The time when Prof. Bautista took a temporary leave of absence, Prof. Milagros Tanlayco took over. She would bring her own chalk which had to be the same color as her outfit.

Our Dean was Rev. Fr. Dr. Frederik Fermin, formerly a Dutch diplomat. For years, the Faculty of Arts and Letters was the only college which had a Dominican priest for a dean. The others had priest Regents and lay persons as deans. Fr. Fermin and I would nurture a friendship that lasted for decades. We exchanged letters and from time to time, he would call to check on the family. He retired in Baguio (away from the 'chismis' as he would say) until he passed on in 2014. He was the second Filipino Rector of the University.

What we found odd in the Commerce Building was that there were separate staircases and canteens for the ladies and the gentlemen. This was to be strictly observed.



Left to right

Kneeling: Joey Arcilla, Leo Eduarte, Sonny Escobar, Bong Osorio, Jun Sebastian

Second Row: Peps Villanueva, Marge Ignacio, Sr. A Fe Panaligan, Sr. B, Adviser Ms. Perla Queyquep, Elizabeth Marcelo, Sr. C, Marissa Calpo, Claire Datoyan, Hermie Ryes, Ago Torres

Third Row: Mary Ann Tonolet, Evelyn Sy, Portia Congman, Bernadette Saboter, Nel Tagulinao, Gigi Lopez, Alice Martinez, Estela Sy, Linda Lao

Fourth Row: Judy Tan, Chato Solatan, Wilma Villanueva, Rebbie Angeles, Myrna Malixi, Eva Goyena, Beth Javier, Luisa Musngi

Last Row: Teddy Picson, Manny Zapanta, Oscar Valeriano, -----, Andrew Angelo, Rolly Cunanan

As Freshmen, we clearly observed the rules on uniforms. But as years went by, the ladies became bolder and bolder as their skirts became shorter and shorter. The men's tops became more colorful than the prescribed white! Men sported longer hair too!

By the second semester, we were still complete. We welcomed also OK Valeriano, who looked more mature than us and the three Vietnamese nuns, cross enrollees from the College of Education. We didn't know if we became holier with their presence or if they stayed on as nuns after this semester.

We also had a singing group named Trans Luv Energysts. Another feather to our cap was when we were chosen to represent the College in the intercollegiate singing competition, Expression '70 held on December 17, 1970. Even if we didn't win, it was indeed a very good experience. The good feeling of being pitted against the best groups in the University remained with us for a long time.

By the end of the school year, the nation was in crisis. Government debt was mounting, unemployment and prices continued to increase. Proclamation of martial law by President Marcos was becoming more and more imminent. Student unrest became more intense. Calls to boycott classes in the university became rampant.

In the following years, the A niners would become the writers, contributors, artists of the college paper FLAME and the university paper VARSITARIAN. Some were Council and club officers. Others excelled in singing, dancing, interpretative reading, and public speaking. I was blessed

to be chosen as Miss Arts and Letters in 1972 and one of UST's Five Outstanding Coeds in my Senior Year.

We have been successful in our chosen fields: media practitioners, book authors, lawyers, an engineer, artists, entrepreneurs, and civil servants. Most of us got married and became parents and now, grandparents for some.

So, 50 years after, here we are. Neither distance nor time weakened the bond we had with each other. We are thankful that social media has kept us even more connected. We get to "talk" to each other via Messenger and we hope we can all be connected with our other classmates of IA9.

We remember, too, our classmates who have gone ahead of us and all our beloved professors who have taught and nurtured us to become responsible citizens of this world. Even if they are no longer with us, still they are ever present in our memory and in our hearts.

I've always believed that nothing happens by accident. In that particular time frame, July 1970 to April 1971, when we were all a part of an academic experiment, God placed us to be with each other. Primarily, to be a part of each other's lives. Some came, as quiet as the gentle passing breeze; some like a thunderstorm with a bolt of lightning! Some remain in our memory for a long time; others do not. Each with a particular purpose according to God's divine plan.

It was a time of learning, of falling and getting back on our feet repeatedly, of losing, of caring and loving and growing up!

This time was truly the BEST when we lived our lives at seventeen. – Wilma Villanueva-Palafox, AB Economics, 1974



MAJESTIC

Tigers symbolizes strength, power, courage, and ambition. These majestic and resilient totem animal represents standing for the truth, justice, and maintaining integrity regardless of difficulties and ordeals it faces. Specially designed and hand-crafted by the famed sculptor and Thomasian Seb Chua this limited edition series titled 'MAJESTIC' is a great masterpiece to own. Truly an investment that will also bring luck to its collector. Proceeds will help support the charity programs of UST Alumni Association Inc. So why wait!? Come and show your support in this fund raising project by USTAAI Work details: Year:

2022 Size: 15" x 11" x 6" Medium: Cast Marble, Painted in Gold Bronze Finish.

For Inquiries: 09175231522
email: ustaaiscretariat@gmail.com

This project is a partnership made possible between UST Alumni Association Inc. Advocacy Group Project head Angeli Tuazon and the Atelier Alumni Association President under Marissa Pe Yang. Only 50 pieces will be produced. Few pieces left, grab yours now.
- Angeli Sobremonete Tuazon, BS Pharmacy, 1993



Proceeds will go to USTAAI Albertus Magnus Scholarship Program and Disaster Response Program

UST Atelier Alumni Association Inc.

Can be viewed at the
ARTASIA GALLERY SM MEGAMALL
Tel No. 8634-5945



LIMITED EDITION SCULPTURE
MAJESTIC

Year: 2022 Size: 15" x 11" x 6"
Cast Marble, Painted in Gold Bronze Finish

■ For Inquiries: Message Ms. Kaye
Tel No. 09175231522
Email: ustaaiscretariat@gmail.com



Created By
Artist Seb Chua

USTAAI ADVISER:

Rev. Fr. Pompeyo F. de Mesa, O.P., Up Close and Personal



Dedicating one's life to the Lord for is a great blessing. Rev. Fr. Pompeyo F. de Mesa, O.P. is the eldest of the six children of Cristino de Mesa, a Chinese mestizo and Adelina Francia, both from Guagua, Pampanga. His friends fondly call him Fr. Pompey or Fr. Pompeyo. I like to call him Fr. Pompeyo.

I met Fr. Pompeyo when he was the Director of the Institute of Religion a few decades ago when I was invited to speak on testing and evaluation to the faculty members of the Institute. I recall Fr. Pompeyo telling me about the grades he used to give to his students in a reflective tone. He has been teaching in the Ecclesiastical Faculties.

Fr. Pompeyo spent his student life in Colegio de San Juan de Letran from 1938 to 1954, where he enjoyed the company of young boys like Rogelio Alarcon, now Fr. Rogelio Alarcon, O.P. As a teen-ager, Pompeyo did not really aspire to become a priest. He wanted to be a doctor and follow the footsteps of his uncle – godfather, a well-known internist and cardiologist. The inspiration came to him when one afternoon, he said good-bye to Fr. Gregorio Raymundo, O.P. who reminded him that the Lord is calling on him. The good Friar told him that "Vocation is a calling" and advised him to answer the Lord. Whether it is a "yes" or a "no", Fr. Raymundo urged Pompeyo to answer the Lord.

The young Pompeyo walked home from Intramuros to Sampaloc, reflecting on the conversation he just had with Fr. Raymundo. When he reached home, his mother asked him how the day was. He looked at his mother and announced to her that he was going to Hong Kong. He did not hear any objection from his mother. But since their father just passed away, the young Pompeyo kept on thinking of

his mother and his five younger siblings. Being the eldest child, he knew he could help his mother take care of their family. But the inspiration was so strong that he did not vacillate anymore in his decision to join the Dominican Order.

Off he went to Hong Kong where he experienced the Dominican life of prayer, study, fellowship, and apostolate. Even today, he remembers vividly his formation in the Dominican house in Hong Kong where he completed his postulancy and novice life for five years. He finished his Licentiate and Lectoriate in Theology, Magna cum Laude.

In 1959, Fr. Pompeyo was sent to Rome to specialize on Scriptures and Liturgy at Atenaeum de Santi Anselmi, also known as Pontifical Athenaeum of Saint Anselm.

He also went to Germany where he learned how to speak the German language.

After years of being away from home, Fr. Pompeyo prepared for his return to the Philippines with joyful anticipation. The years that followed made Fr. Pompeyo occupied with big responsibilities.

He was appointed President of his alma mater, Colegio de San Juan de Letran in 1974 and remained in the same position until 1980.

From Letran, Fr. Pompeyo was assigned to the University of Santo Tomas, where he occupied administrative positions. He became the Director of the Institute of Religion and was later assigned as Regent in different colleges and faculties. Today, he is the Regent of the Faculty of Pharmacy.

Fr. Pompeyo is one priest who is quick to say yes when invited to say mass, to bless, to hear confession, or even just to socialize. It makes one feel good

to know that he is always ready to do his priestly mission whenever his schedule permits and whoever is inviting him. He seriously takes to heart the assignments given to him in the University.

As the Ecclesiastical Adviser of the USTAAI, he has helped the Association in making important decisions particularly as member of the Selection Committee for the The Outstanding Thomasian Alumni (TOTAL) Awards, and the Dispute Resolution Commission. He is always straightforward when giving his advice and suggestions.

Behind the seemingly aloof bearing of Fr. Pompeyo is a caring person and a loyal friend. Despite his being away from his family

since he became a novice in the Dominican Order, he closely relates with the members of his family specially his orphaned nephews and nieces. Knowing Fr. Pompeyo for many years now, I can say that it is fun listening to his stories as a young boy in Letran, as a young seminarian, and as a priest. From his stories, one can see a joyful heart; a heart that has absolutely loved the Lord and has faithfully dedicated itself to Him.

Indeed, Fr. Pompeyo answered the calling of the Lord. He said yes and remained faithful to his covenant with Him.

- Dr. Evelyn Songco, BS in Education, 1973

FILIPINISMS

The following are words and phrases that a lot of Filipinos frequently use incorrectly. Let's be reminded (and remind others). No one is too old to learn.

- **Canvas** is a noun, the cloth that is commonly used for painting. It is also a popular material for totes. It was also used for tents and sails.
Canvass is a verb that means to get orders, support, thoughts, or sentiments. In the business world, it is commonly used when getting prices of goods.
- **Envelop** is a transitive verb that means to enclose completely seemingly covering something or someone.
Envelope is a noun a paper product where documents are put. There are other meanings such as a) something that envelops and b) the bag with gas in a balloon or airship
- **In spite of** and **despite** mean the same and are used in the same way. Note that despite is not followed by of and in spite is spelled as two words and is followed by of.
- **One of the** is followed by a plural count noun + a singular verb. Example: One of the boys is my student.

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