



THE THOMASIAN ALUMNI COMMUNITY

VOL. NO. 8 ISSUE NO. 2

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE UST ALUMNI ASSOCIATION, INC.

Newsletter

USTAAI Holds General Assembly to Chart a Unified Future

► By: Atty. Mariz Manalo, Juris Doctor, 1995

The University of Santo Tomas Alumni Association Inc. (USTAAI) gathered its members for its annual General Assembly on 8 March 2025 at the Dr. George S.K. Ty Multi-Function Hall, Buenaventura Garcia Paredes, O.P. Building. The event brought together alumni leaders and delegates from various chapters to reconnect, reflect, and reinforce their collective mission.

The assembly opened solemnly with an invocation and the Philippine National Anthem, followed by a warm Welcome Address from USTAAI Chairman, Dr. Evelyn A. Songco, who later formally called the assembly to order and declared a quorum.

Assistant Dean Evangeline Timbang, who also served as the Master of Ceremonies, introduced the attending Alumni Association Presidents and Delegates, showcasing the strong and diverse representation present, each with their association cheer.

Atty. Dwight M. Ramos, USTAAI President, delivered a comprehensive President's Report, highlighting the association's accomplishments and ongoing initiatives. A major feature of his presentation was the official launching of the Revised Operations Manual of USTAAI, a significant step toward improving organizational governance and efficiency.

The Induction of new officers

and committees followed, including the COMELEC, as next year will be the election of new USTAAI officers.

After an intermission, Mr. Arnelito Ocampo presented the Treasurer's Report, ensuring financial transparency and accountability. Recognition was given to key contributors through the Awarding of Certificates of Appreciation to former Newsletter Editor-in-chief Joy Viray Gatmaytan and Emelito Malabanán.

Dr. Rollo Milante, Chair of the Events Committee, presented an exciting report on activities planned for 2025-2026, reaffirming USTAAI's dynamic and forward-thinking approach

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*From The President's Desk:***At Your Service**

by Atty. Dwight Ramos

HEALTHY EARTH LIFESTYLE

I recently joined the National Solid Waste Management Commission that is tasked to oversee the implementation of the Ecological Solid Waste Management and Extended Producers Responsibility Laws of the country. I now serve as Private Sector Representative in the Commission, coming from non-government organizations (NGOs) with a track record on solid waste management or waste reduction, recycling and resource recovery.

The Ecological Solid Waste Management Law mandates segregation at source, meaning that from the household level, we should already separate the recyclables and compostable waste so that only the residual wastes will be disposed of at the landfills. This is the backbone of ecologically managing our garbage which has recently been augmented by the passage of Republic Act 11898 as a first step towards circular economy. This does away with end of pipe solutions that get rid of wastes by putting them somewhere else away from our communities.

Simply putting garbage away from us is certainly not sustainable, and that is why we came up with an advocacy of promoting a healthy earth lifestyle for everyone. This addresses behavioral change of doing away with the old “Not in My Backyard” (NIMBY) attitude, or where compliance with segregation at source and proper waste management is of least concern as long as the garbage is already in someone else’s, and not in our own backyard. This advocacy highlights the importance of changing the mindset of waste generators from the old NIMBY attitude, to taking personal responsibility for their own waste right in their homes or offices, as responsible stewards of the earth and creation. By properly segregating our wastes, we are able to bring new life to them through the 3R’s of reduce, reuse and recycle.

The call is for everyone to help in the effort of saving the environment. We should not wait for somebody else to deal with our wastes, but do it right within our places, with a “Now in My Backyard” or the new NIMBY attitude.

I therefore urge all of you to join the advocacy and take even just small steps toward a more sustainable lifestyle. This is how you can heed the call for our common home, which is about caring for the planet and the urgent need to address environmental challenges.

It calls on all of us to take action, and have a global dialogue about how our actions and decisions impact the future of the planet. The change in behavior is to now take care of our own waste right inside our own backyard. This is the key to solving our waste management woes as it does away with the throw-away culture. With this, the many years of indifference, end of pipe solutions and “not in my backyard” attitude will hopefully come to an end. With your help, we can usher in a robust circular economy, promote sustainable solutions, and create a new “NOW IN MY BACKYARD” attitude... with everyone saying, “If it’s to be, it’s up to me!”

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USTEAAI holds EngGAHling 2025



The UST Engineering Alumni Association, Inc. (USTEAAI), in collaboration with the UST Faculty of Engineering, the six (6) UST Engineering Departmental Alumni Associations, and this year's Silver Jubilarians (Batch 2000), hosted the largest alumni event of the year, the UST Engineering Alumni Homecoming. Tagged as "EngGAHling 2025", with the theme "Honoring Our Legacy, Strengthening Our Present, and Innovating our Future", this activity was held on February 15, 2025 at the UST Buenaventura G. Paredes, O.P. (BGPOP) building lobby and mezzanine.

Aimed at bringing together members from the UST Engineering alumni community, the current and former faculty members, students, and guests, the event drew more than 500 attendees from across the country and abroad to also celebrate the 118th Founding Anniversary of the UST Faculty of Engineering. The Jubilarian batches of 1995, 1990, 1985, 1980, 1975 and 1970 joined this year's Silver Jubilarians in planning and participating on this occasion.

The event started with the Meet and Greet at the Roque Ruaño (Engineering) building, where the UST Faculty of Engineering

academic staff and Department Heads welcomed the attendees and gave a short tour of the building. The attendees and guests then proceeded with the annual Alumni Walk from the Engineering Building going to the Arch of the Centuries, through the Benavides Garden, Plaza Mayor, the Main building and finally converging in the BGPOP building lobby for the main homecoming celebration. A Thanksgiving Mass was held, with UST Vice-Rector for Finance and Faculty of Engineering Regent, Rev. Fr. Roberto L. Luanzon, Jr., O.P., STHD, DL, as the main celebrant. This was followed by a ribbon cutting ceremony where the guests were led to the Innovation Showcase and Future Tech exhibit at the mezzanine floor.

Engr. Jesus Jovan Medrano, Batch 2000 representative officially opened the homecoming program with his welcome remarks, which was immediately followed by the opening remarks from the UST Faculty of Engineering Dean, Prof. Angelo R. dela Cruz, PhD, PECE. As part of the program, each batch of Jubilarians performed a rousing group song and dance number which brought excitement and entertainment to the guests. Prior to the awarding of medals to

the Jubilarians, USTEAAI President Engr. Mario Rommel A. Diño gave a speech, thanking this year's attendees for reconnecting with their fellow alumni and alma mater, for fostering a continued sense of camaraderie, and encouraged everyone to support the USTEAAI activities, particularly, its scholarship program initiatives. Asst. Prof. Joreen T. Rocamora, Ph.D., Director of the UST Office of Alumni Relations and Atty. Dwight M. Ramos, President of the UST Alumni Association, Inc., were also present during the event, each giving a speech to show their appreciation and support, and commending USTEAAI for their effort in organizing the event.

One of the highlights of the event was the presentation of the current USTEAAI scholars and benefactors. Engr. Agnes V. Pabillo, head of the USTEAAI scholarship program, extended her sincere gratitude to the benefactors for their continued support which enables the USTEAAI to provide essential support to deserving students through scholarship grants, and this year's homecoming sponsors for helping the association further its other advocacies and programs. Towards the end of the program, Engr. Eriberto "Ehrie" S. Rivera was called on stage to announce his generous donation that will support financially challenged but deserving students from the UST Faculty of Engineering which will be granted through the Eriberto S. Rivera Scholarship Fund. Currently, USTEAAI supports seventeen (17) UST Engineering scholars through the funds raised during the annual EngGAHling homecoming event and from other generous benefactors.

The event concluded with the ceremonial turn-over to batch 2001, which will host next year's EngGAHling 2026.



UST GOLDEN CROSS AND SABER ALUMNI ASSOCIATION, INC. HOLDS TURNOVER AND INDUCTION CEREMONY

By: Jomar de la Peña, Magsindugo Class of 1993



The University of Santo Tomas Golden Cross and Saber Alumni Association, Inc., the association of graduates of the UST Advance ROTC program, held its Turnover and Induction Ceremony last 9 March 2025 at the 3rd floor of the Buenaventura Garcia Paredes, O.P. Building. The event was graced with the presence of the Director of the UST Office of Alumni Relations, Asst. Prof. Joreen T. Rocamora, PhD. The Guest of Honor and Presiding Officer was Brigadier General Gregorio B. Hernandez, Jr. PN (M), a member of the UST ROTC Maghari Class of 1992 and currently the Commander of the Philippine Marines Combat Support Brigade. BGen Hernandez led the oath-taking of the newly installed Board of Directors, namely: Rear Admiral Jose Mari P. de la Peña '93, National Commander; James Ervin Tatel '11, Vice National Commander; Albert Angel De

Jesus '09, Secretary General; Ralph Sylvester Alo '05, Treasurer; Christopher Lawrence Dalida '99, Public Relations Officer; Paul Eric Antonio '13 Liaison Officer; and Patricia Ann Mobilla '16, Auditor.

The new Board of Directors laid out their plans before the attending alumni upon their assumption. The core mission will focus on four areas: Environmental Awareness and

Protection (monthly river clean ups, quarterly artificial reef installations and tree growing activities); fostering Community Relations (medical- surgical missions, adopt-a-school and barangay); Disaster Preparedness (humanitarian assistance and disaster response family kits); and promoting Awareness on Issues on National Security and Civil Defence.

....from page 1

USTAAI Holds General Assembly.....

to alumni engagement.

An open forum during the Question & Answer segment allowed attendees to voice concerns, suggest initiatives and exchange ideas, further enriching the collaborative spirit of the assembly.

The event concluded with a heartfelt Closing Prayer, the singing of the UST Hymn, and a

group photo session—capturing not only faces but the shared purpose that unites the UST alumni community.

Following the formal program, attendees were treated to a communal lunch, fostering camaraderie and fellowship among old friends and new acquaintances.



River Clean Up by UST Golden Cross and Saber Alumni Association, Inc.

By: Jomar de la Peña, Magsindugo Class of 1993

The UST Golden Cross and Saber Alumni Association, Inc. launched its Environmental Awareness and Protection Program with a river clean up along the Pasig-San Juan River system last 29 March 2025. The clean up was participated in by UST GCSAAI-led units and made possible with the collaboration of Coast Guard Station Malacañang. The activity saw members of the 1304th Ready Reserve Battalion under Colonel Xavier Celestial (UST ROTC Class '86), the 108th Coast Guard Auxiliary Squadron under Aux Captain Yvan Pagulayan (UST ROTC Class '86) and the Operation Brotherhood

Community Foundation led by Aux Rear Admiral Jomar de la Peña (UST ROTC Class '93) collecting a total of 260 sacks of assorted debris and rubbish from the mouth of the San Juan-Pasig River.

The participants assembled at the Coast Guard Arroceros checkpoint (beside LRT Central Station) at 6:00am where a safety briefing was conducted by the Coast Guard Marine Environmental Protection. Coast Guard Station Malacañang provided 2 tugboats and 1 aluminum boat, and 2 more trash boats were from the DENR- Pasig River Warriors. After a 25-minute

boat ride through the Pasig River to the mouth of the San Juan River, the were boats anchored on the beams of the Skyway Connector, and the 50-plus contingent merrily scooped away for about an hour to collect an assorted array of floating waste products. The collected trash was then turned over to the Pasig River Warriors for proper disposal.

This river clean up activity aims to raise awareness on the current plight of the San Juan-Pasig River and to encourage the Thomasian community to participate in environmental initiatives that help prevent hazards and improve vital river systems.





UST Alumni Golfers and Friends Come Together for Young Thomasian Scholars

On January 13, the greens of Beverly Place Golf Club were alive with camaraderie and competition as the 2nd Thomasian Alumni Golf Cup brought together Thomasian alumni golfers and friends for a fun round of golf with a purpose. Organized by the Thomasian Alumni

Community Foundation, Inc. (TACFI) and the UST Alumni Association, Inc. (USTAAI), the event served as a fundraising initiative to provide scholarships to deserving young Thomasians.

This year's tournament attracted a vibrant mix of alumni and non-alumni

participants, all teeing off in support of the next generation of Thomasians. More than just a golf event, the day underscored the community's shared commitment to education, with each swing contributing to a future shaped by Thomasian excellence and values.

Celebrating Champions on and off the Course

The tournament showcased remarkable talent across divisions, with the following golfers taking top honors:

Overall Champion: Pollin Pascal and *Lowest Net: Jun Manalansan*

*** Division Winners:**

Class A Champion: Glen Flores

Class A Runner-Up: Bobby Jeffords

Class B Champion: Herbert Davis

Class B Runner-Up: John Kit

Class C Champion: Nestor Valte

Class C Runner-Up: Joel Espino

*** Fun Hole Winners:**

Longest Drive (290 yards): Shara May Matriz

Longest Putt (14 feet): Dwight Ramos

Nearest to the Pin (2 feet): Christopher Samarista

Most Accurate Drive: Max de Leon

*** Ladies' Division**

Champion: Shara May Matriz

Runner-Up: Ma. Elena Enriquez

Beyond the accolades and trophies, the true winners of the day are the Thomasian scholars whose dreams will be nurtured through the generous contributions raised at the event.

With heartfelt messages from the USTAAI and TACFI leadership emphasizing unity, gratitude and the enduring Thomasian spirit, the event concluded on a high note—laying the groundwork for an even greater gathering next year. So mark your calendars for the 3rd Thomasian Alumni Golf Cup on 21 January 2026!

UST Golden Cross and Saber Alumni Association Turnover and Assumption of the Board of Directors for 2024-2026



UST Alumni Lay and Priests' Association Rector Magnificus' Tribute Dinner



UST Artlets and Philets celebrate the 60th Founding Anniversary of the UST Faculty of Arts and Letters



UST Medical Alumni Association's 85th Alumni Homecoming



2025 General Assembly of the UST Alumni Association, Inc.



USTEAAI EngGAHling 2025 Alumni Homecoming



UST TALA gift giving activity at the Santisima Trinidad Parish in Malate, Manila



-CLICKER-RAZZI-



2ND THOMASIAN ALUMNI GOLF CUP
AT BEVERLY PLACE GOLF CLUB



UST EHS @ 75 Multi-Batch Alumni Homecoming



UST Atelier Alumni Association, Inc. Vision Versatil Art Caravan





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Thoughts of yesterday can course like the ocean waves, pushing and pulling the mind and the heart together.

Even the smallest of moments spent with the ones you love, can outlast every single lesson that life may have to offer.

When you try to remember happiness, you create art because time cannot reimagine itself."



Created by:
Artist Seb Chua

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Proceeds will go to the Thomasian Alumni Community Scholarship and the Disaster Response Programs.



NEW ITEM!

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*Fil Delacruz*

TINAHAK

Fil Delacruz's art career is a long-distance marathon that he has been running, walking, and trekking for 45 years. This exhibit surveys the four decades of the evolution of Delacruz' work: spanning a variety of themes and mediums, and highlighting his roles as painter, printmaker, sculptor, educator, and leader.

A significant question throughout his journey has been the quest to capture the essence of Filipino art. He aims to create works that

sincerely resonate with Filipino sensibilities.

During the early years, his works depict the conditions of the common Filipino; their figures and environments rendered in masterful lines and gradients. Later, he found the desire to express more enduring themes such as the relationship of humans to nature, the cycle of life, and consequently, the value of time. Inspired by the people from his stay in Mindanao, Delacruz developed the persona called "Diwata", a divine

feminine image that embodies nature and her duality. He considers the image as his anima, a significant part of his artist self, who is free from the constraints of logic and worldly matters, and allows him to paint instinctively.

Delacruz, continues to explore the theme through his practice, moving fluidly through mediums-creating works through combinations of printmaking, painting, and sculpture.

VISION VERSÁTIL Art Caravan

In celebration of National Arts Month and the continued pursuit of inspiring people and communities through art, the UST Atelier Alumni Association Inc. (USTAAAI) headed by its president Marissa Pe-Yang, together with 44 select Thomasian artists, launched its first leg of the exhibit caravan titled 'VISION VERSATIL' last 19 February 2025, in partnership with the Museo ng Makati and NCCA-NCAG. The project was indeed a success and was graced by several consuls from different embassies, together with Makati City Representatives Romulo "Kid" Peña Jr., Luis Campos, and Dwayne Samarista (OIC, Museum and Cultural Affairs Office). Counselor Jocelyn Chuh Hernandez represented JCI Princess Urduja; Danny Rayos del Sol of the National Commission

for Culture and the Arts; master abstractionist Raullsidro; and Atty. Elba Cruz of Manila Clock Tower Museum as Guests of Honor. There were over 200 attendees.

As a follow-up activity, the USTAAAI, with its umbrella group Tribong USTE, in partnership with JCI Makati and JCI Princess Urduja, facilitated an art talk and workshop attended by 150 junior and senior high school students on 8 March 2025 at the Poblacion Covered Court in Makati. The lecture was by Orville Tiamson and Lisa Villaseñor, who narrated their journey towards being successful artists. The workshop and art therapy were run by Maryrose Gisbert, assisted by fellow creatives who participated in the exhibition. They taught calligraphy, coffee, and watercolour

painting, and were sponsored by Corona Supply Company Inc. and I HEART ART.

The works featured in the exhibition caravan Vision Versatil were showcased by VAM International Art Gallery Singapore under Mr. Patrick Seah at Cabel Heritage Restaurant. The gallery is located inside the Malacañang Compound. This started on March 21 and will end in May this year. Guests of Honor were Ramon Orlina, Atty. Elba Cruz, Fil Delacruz; and Cabel Restaurant managing directors King and Miguel Cabel Moreno, and their mother Melissa Cabel, who flew from Davao for the event. Shows were curated by Agnes Medina, Patrick Naval and Maryrose Gisbert Domingo.



USTAAI AND CEAFI HOST LENTEN RECOLLECTION

By: Nanette Fernandez BSE, 1976



22 March 2025 with Fr. Jerome R. Secillano as Recollection Master. The Recollection was both face to face and online at the U S T A A I

Facebook Live.

The University of Santo Tomas Alumni Association Inc. (USTAAI) and the College of Education Foundation Inc. (CEAFI) held its annual recollection at the Tan Yan Kee Chapel on Saturday,

Facebook Live.

The day started with the Holy Rosary at 8am, followed by Praise and Worship led by CEAFI Prayer Ministry Head Cristina Sagum. Atty. Dwight Ramos, USTAAI

president, gave his welcome remarks on video. Fr. Secillano gave his substantial talk on "Fraternity" and "Hope" from 9:30am, with a break separating the two talks. The Recollection ended with the celebration of the Holy Eucharist.

CEAFI President Evangeline Timbang summarized the talks and thanked the participants before moving to the room next door for a potluck lunch where participants could catch up and enjoy the food and company.

UST Law Class of 1999 Donates ₱1 Million to USTLAFI

By: Atty. Mariz Manalo, Juris Doctor, 1995

On 8 February 2025, the Class of 1999 from the UST Faculty of Civil Law, led by Atty. Frankie O. Magsalin III and Atty. Lilet Tolentino, proudly turned over a ₱1 million donation to the Board of Trustees of the University of Santo Tomas Law Alumni Foundation, Inc. (USTLAFI). This momentous occasion followed their recognition as Silver Jubilarians during the UST Law Alumni Homecoming held in November 2024.

This generous contribution is earmarked to support the scholarship program of USTLAFI. The Foundation currently provides full tuition coverage and book allowances to support the academic needs of its scholars. The donation from the Class of 1999 will go a long way in sustaining and potentially expanding this vital program, which empowers deserving law students to pursue their legal education without the financial burden.

The USTLAFI Board led by its President – Associate Justice of the Sandiganbayan, Ronald B. Moreno, extended its heartfelt appreciation to the Class of 1999 for their unwavering support and leadership. This act of giving highlights the enduring



L-R: Atty. B. Floro, Atty. Y. Balato, J. R. Moreno, Atty. L. Tolentino, Atty. F. Magsalin III, Atty. M. Barcelona

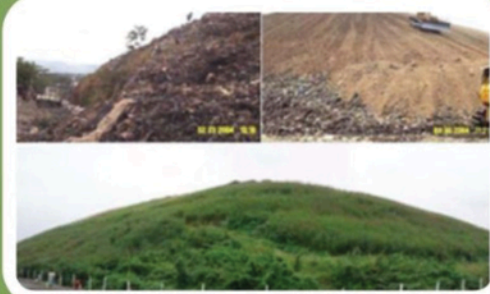
Thomasian spirit and a shared commitment to nurturing the next generation of ethical and competent legal professionals. By giving back generously, the Class of 1999 continues to make a lasting impact—honoring the past and building a stronger future for UST Law.





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At a Glance

January to March 2025



By Myrna Plata-Munda, USTHS 1963

**USTHS B '63**

On 29 January 2025, the DIAMOND LADIES gathered at CIBO Greenhills in San Juan, Metro Manila to celebrate the birthday of Meldy Garcia-dela Cruz (January 4) and Paulette Gacad-Angco (January 25).

The Events Organizer was Cecile Bejasa-Saavedra, assisted by Evelyn Paz-Cu; while the permanent group photographer was Ms Ines Labayen, the caregiver of Myrna Agawin-Militante and also the Caregiver ng Bayan. Another group photographer was Pretty Girl Ms. Mia Florencio, the daughter of Cora Matheu-Florencio.

Mia also takes care of the Class Rosary/Intercessory prayers via zoom every Thursday (USA) and every Friday (Philippines), if USTHS'63 Pet Bautista is not present due to a conflict of schedule. Present in this event were Meldy Garcia-dela Cruz, Paulette Gacad-Angco, Elvie Gonzalez, Alma de Jesus, Yola Arce-Pilar, Precy Mendoza-de Leon, Juris Omana-Telmo, Evelyn Paz-Cu, Myrna Agawin-Militante, Cecile Bejasa-Saavedra, Lillian Yambao-Reyes, Perla Evangelista-Roy, and Cora Matheu-Florencio with her daughter Mia.

On 25 March 2025, the Diamond Ladies again gathered to honor their three fellow Diamonds on their birthdays: Lillian Reyes (March 16); Carmelita "Baby" Javier (March 27); and Corazon Matheu-Florencio (March 28). They had lunch at WATAMI in Glorietta 3, followed by afternoon merienda at the sprawling Antipolo residence of Cora Florencio in Antipolo City.

USTHS B '76

On 27 & 28 March 2025, a team of volunteers from USTHS Class '76, in partnership with Misyoneros Volunteer Group, motored to La Paz Tarlac to conduct medical/dental/optical legal missions in two barangays.

Beneficiaries on the first day in Barangay San Isidro were 83 optical patients who received free eyeglasses, and 29 dental patients who had 74 tooth extractions. Nineteen other patients had consultations with the doctors.

The second day in Barangay Macalong saw a total of 227 patients availing of different services: optical-96; dental -4; surgical-2; 90+ medical consultations and 3 legal consultations. One Hundred eighty pairs of slippers were also given during the two mission days.

The Mission was sponsored by William "Boyette" San Diego of USTHS'76, who housed the volunteers and also provided some medicines. Co-sponsors were the Pi Sigma Fraternity Alumni and APO Felino Manor of La Paz, Tarlac. Medicines were also donated by the Misyoneros Group.

Other USTHS'76 members who joined the Mission were Dr. Perpetuo A. Gutierrez III, Dave Militar, Ana May Gonzales -



Damatac, and Tates Maria Doreen-Ambrosio and Dr. Leon Caculitan.

Misyoneros is a group of friends who have been doing medical, dental, optical, and legal missions all over the Philippines for almost seven years. This group includes dentists, pharmacists, optometrists, medical doctors, a physical therapist, an engineer and his wife, and lawyers too.

Group members have been doing humanitarian work with other foundations in their quest to do more meaningful outreach programs. The other Misyoneros present were Victorino R. Medrano III, DMD; Maricar Aquino-Medrano, DMD; Thea Marie D. Gutierrez, RPT; Atty. Sim Flores; Maria Isobel Segocio, OD; Joy Fritzie Lacuanan, RPh; and Dhe Macalinao, President of Pi Sigma Fraternity Alumni, Tarlac Chapter.





USTAAI welcomes its new and reappointed Executive Committee and Commission on Elections (COMELEC) Officers and Members

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Engr. Jonathan H. Peran

USTAAI announces its 2025-2026 Events & Activities

Lenten Recollection - March 22, 2025
Flores de Mayo & Santacruzán - May 8, 2025
Caleruega Medical Mission - July 27, 2025
AAIG Health Summit - September 26-27, 2025
10th Distinguished Thomasian Alumni Awards Night - November 22, 2025
Christmas Party - December 13, 2025
The 3rd Thomasian Alumni Golf Cup - January 21, 2026
General Assembly & Elections - March 14, 2026

Visit the official USTAAI Facebook page for details:

<https://www.facebook.com/USTAlumniAssociationInc>



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FEATURED THOMASIAN

AR. PIDIS C. CRUZ

FROM THE ARCH TO THE WORLD



of Fine Arts from UST and graduated with a degree of Bachelor of Science in Architecture in 1974. He got his board license thereafter, and has been a member of the United Architects of the Philippines (UAP) ever since. Starting as an associate in an architectural firm to where he is now—an accomplished executive of a leading realty company—he has traveled the world and shared his expertise in urban planning and design of industrial facilities, shopping centers, hotels, schools, office buildings, housing facilities, memorial parks and recreational facilities. He became involved in various projects principally in the Philippines, Singapore and Saudi Arabia, and moved up to become the Principal Architect of Schema Konsult, Inc.

Right now, Arch. Pids is Senior Vice President of IPM Realty & Development Corporation which has undertaken various successful real estate projects in the country since its founding in 1991. Beginning with

the Northfields Executive Village in Malolos, Bulacan, IPM has made steady progress in delivering quality yet affordable housing for the Filipino middle class. The affordability has made common workers realize a dream—their own homes that they can be proud of. Coming from Malolos, Bulacan himself, Ar. Pids had already envisioned this as a young student in UST

Since his graduation, Arch. Pids has seen the rise and fall of many economic cycles affecting the country and the world as a whole. Through these cycles, he has remained steadfast in his career, staying the course as he delivered his best in the realty industry. It would have been easy to shift or give up when challenges came, but the Thomasian 3C's have certainly guided him through a steady path. Thus, he is proud to say that those who relied on him for quality work, timely completion and delivery of projects, as well as long term partnerships, have not been let down.

They say that every ending is a new beginning, and this cannot be truer than when we graduate from college. For us Thomasians, this is marked by our passage through the Arch of the Centuries upon graduation, literally walking into the outside world as we begin our career and adult life. But unlike other graduates, we Thomasians have something special that we carry with us as we go. This is what Architect Elpidio “Pids” C. Cruz attests to.

For Ar. Pids, constantly and consistently living by the Thomasian core values of competence, compassion and commitment has not only carried him through difficulties but also catapulted him to success in his endeavors. Thus, he says that he is forever thankful to UST for imbibing these values and for making sure that every Thomasian brings the 3C's when s/he leaves its hallowed halls.

Arch. Pids obtained a Certificate

