



THE THOMASIAN ALUMNI COMMUNITY

VOL. NO. 9 ISSUE NO. 1

Newsletter

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE UST ALUMNI ASSOCIATION, INC.

USTAAI General Assembly and Elections 2026: A New Chapter of Leadership and Service



The University of Santo Tomas Alumni Association, Inc. (USTAAI) successfully concluded its General Assembly and Elections on 7 March 2026, held at the George S.K. Ty Function Hall, BGPOP Building, UST Manila—a gathering marked by unity, transparency and renewed commitment to service.

The assembly opened with registration and submission of nomination forms, reflecting the active participation of member alumni associations in the governance of the organization. This was followed by a solemn invocation through a Dominican blessing and the singing of the alumni version of the

Pambansang Awit.

USTAAI Chair Dr. Evelyn A. Songco formally welcomed the attendees and conducted the attendance check, emphasizing the importance of unity and active participation among member associations. The introduction of the

Continued on page 4

Thomasian Alumni Golf Cup 3: Fundraiser for Scholarships Brightens Beverly Place, Pampanga

On 21 January 2026, Beverly Place in Mexico, Pampanga hosted the 3rd Thomasian Alumni Golf Cup, a collaborative event organized by the Thomasian Alumni Community Foundation, Inc. in partnership with

the UST Alumni Association, Inc. The tournament brought together Thomasian and guest golfers to support the scholarship program, showcasing the strong spirit of service and community among the

participants.

Event highlights

Participants: The tournament was open to Thomasian Alumni and friends.

Continued on page 4

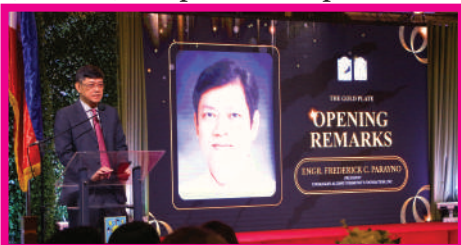
GOLD Plate: A Gala Dinner with a Purpose

The Gold Plate gala dinner was held on 7 March 2026 at the Dr. Robert C. Sy Grand Ballroom of the BGPOP Bldg. in the UST Manila Campus. This fund-raising activity is a project of the Thomasian Alumni Community Foundation, Inc. (TACFI), in partnership with the

UST Alumni Association, Inc. (USTAAI), as part of several projects lined up for the year. The gala dinner gave the organizers an opportune time to celebrate with its usual circle of friends and alumni of the University who continue to support the advocacies of the Foundation.

TACFI espouses advocacies on quality education, sustainable environment and disaster relief distributions. Implementing the various projects of these advocacies require that the Foundation continue to have adequate resources to fund these concerns. USTAAI President,

Dr. Evangeline Timbang said, “The Gold Plate gala dinner is meant to be the launchpad for the year-round advocacy projects.” The funds raised during this event will ensure that these projects remain doable and that the “cycle of giving” remains



Continued on page 2


FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK:
At Your Service
by Atty. Dwight Ramos
TRULY GRATEFUL

We, as Alumni leaders, include in our work those that will let us continue to be good stewards of the trust and confidence bestowed upon us by the whole Thomasian Alumni Community. And the commitment to what we do ensures that indeed, the Thomasian spirit is alive and kicking—meaning, making and having an impact, not only in the University, but also in the communities where we live, work or have roots in.

Yes, as one worldwide community of alumni, the USTAAI is THE one official alumni body that unites us all! And the Thomasian Alumni Association presidents and representatives, officers and volunteers, management committee and staff, are the ones making sure that USTAAI is able to function as the mother association and deliver a united front for all of us. So, despite some challenges, and our big number and diversity, we are thankful that we are able to stay as one Thomasian Alumni Community marked with our core values of competence, compassion and commitment, and loyalty to our Alma Mater, the Royal and Pontifical University of Santo Tomas!

I am thus truly grateful and happy to note that in pursuit of our mission, we have continued to be of great service to our Alma Mater, the Alumni, the country and the church.

We continue to propagate our Thomasian Alumni Community or the TAC Brand that we have registered with the Intellectual Property Office. This mark, side by side with the

USTAAI logo, carries our unique brand specially in coming up with the necessary merchandise that enhances our source of pride and expression of loyalty. We continue to have our presence felt in all major alumni and university events in order to make these easily and readily available to our alumni and Thomasian community members. This is also enhanced by the publication and printing of our Newsletter and active public presence, specifically in social media.

We continue to successfully undertake our traditional major events that, not only by themselves are truly remarkable experiences, but are also the means and venue to help our alumni associations engage their members, thereby allowing them to focus on their homecoming and related activities, while also offering projects in solidarity with other Thomasian groups that allow their members to have experiences beyond their usual reunions, such as our Flores de Mayo, Santacruzán, masses and recollections, seminars and even travels to visit different regions and places of interest. These activities are also instrumental in nurturing the well-being of our Alumni, including their mental and spiritual health.

We continue to be relevant to the needs of our members and the Thomasian community not only by offering our compliance and operational services, but also by continuing with the Notarial services under our Thomasian Alumni Legal Assistance Bureau or TALAB office.

We continue our positive and productive relationship with the University and its arm, the Office of Alumni Relations or the OAR, and keep relationships among the different alumni groups, the university and also even the public, smooth and responsive.

We continue to be a trailblazer in form and substance for the development not only of the academic community but of the country as well, sharing the knowledge and expertise of Thomasians to the world with our much acknowledged AAIG offering to the world of work, and by making ourselves available for talks and student activities in relevant university undertakings both inside and outside the campus.

We continue to inspire our alumni by giving recognition where recognition is due in our annual Distinguished Thomasian Alumni Awards, and to take pride in our advocacies, making sure that we are always able to concretize the mission and vision of USTAAI through our scholarship program in UST, our medical mission in Caleruega and our help to disaster-stricken communities nationwide.

We continue to respond to the needs of those around us, making them realize how truly alive and relevant we are—ready, able and willing to help whenever we can. And so, as the present day Thomasian alumni leaders, my friends, let us continue with our work and be truly grateful that we are able to carry the torch forward, for us, and all future Thomasian Alumni!

GOLD Plate: A Gala Dinner with a Purpose
.....from page 1

alive among the alumni as they continue to pay back to their beloved academic institution.

The gala program was hosted by Dr. Evelyn A. Songco, Executive Director of TACFI, and Dr. Timbang. Throughout the program, the hosts explained and highlighted TACFI's ongoing and planned projects. A highlight of the program featured the testimonies from scholars benefiting from TACFI's assistance,

underscoring the impact of these various fund-raising activities to the community.

Atty. DJ Jimenez and Mr. Solon Sy rendered the well-received musical entertainment part of the program.

The event was supported by alumni stalwarts of the University, led by the Vice Rector for Finance, Rev. Fr. Roberto Luanzon. Their presence reinforces the positive brand image of USTAAI and TACFI at the Gold

Plate, where the alumni enjoyed the overall experience of giving back and coming together in that one memorable night.

The organizing committee, led by Ms. Angie Tuazon, has made an outstanding effort, not only in generating significant funds but even in successfully exceeding its target, ensuring that the projects will be implemented.

- Visitacion V. Asiddao, UST High School 1974



TACFI Holds General Assembly and Elections



Dr. Robert C. Sy
 Atty. Edward Castañeda
 Atty. Dwight M. Ramos
 Atty. Ma. Elena Francisco
 Dr. Rollo Milante
 Dr. Mildred M. Mariano
 Dr. Evelyn A. Songco
 Ma. Elena DJ Manansala
 Emma R. Yeung
 Angeli S. Tuazon
 Maureen Pickering
 Emelito T. Malabanan
 Solon Sy
 USTAAI



On 26 March 2026, the Thomasian Alumni Community Foundation, Inc. (TACFI) held its General Assembly at Club Filipino Cabana Pavilion. This important event brought together the members of TACFI to discuss future initiatives and elect new leadership aimed at strengthening the community.

Key topics were presented, including upcoming projects and opportunities for community engagement. Following the discussions, elections were held, resulting in 15 dedicated members being elected to the Board of Trustees (BOT).

They are:
 Engr. Frederick C. Parayno

Following the election, Engr. Frederick C. Parayno was elected by the board to serve as President for 2026-2027. He is expected to lead the board in enhancing collaboration



and in fostering initiatives that benefit the UST Alumni Association, Inc. and the Thomasian community at large. The remaining officers will be appointed by the President in the coming weeks.

This General Assembly and election signify a renewed commitment to empowering Thomasians and in making a positive impact on the community. The diverse expertise of the newly elected board members bodes well for the Foundation's future projects and activities.

Stay connected for updates as the Thomasian Alumni Community Foundation, Inc. embarks on this new journey!

– Evelyn Songco, BSE, 1973

CAPTIVE AUDIENCE FOR MENTAL HEALTH

- USTAAI's mini-concert for the benefit of the PDLs -

The USTAAI, in partnership with the Bureau of Jail Management and Penology (BJMP) Quezon City Male Dormitory, successfully held a mini-concert featuring the Rainmakers at the Activity Center of the facility to the delight of Persons Deprived of Liberty (PDLs) who celebrated their birthdays in March. On the same day, the center for mental wellness, or what is known as the Blue House, was formally opened, marked by the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony of

USTAAI and UST Office of Alumni Relations officials.

Dubbed “Gintong Alay para sa Kaibigan,” the mini-concert featuring the Rainmakers was a success, particularly in achieving its objective of subliminally promoting the use of the Blue Room by inmates without fear of being judged should they be undergoing mental stress or other related conditions. The message was for everyone to be open to seeking help when needed, similar to always

having a friend who is able and willing to listen. In short, it is removing the stigma of going through mental health intervention when needed.

Because every PDL deserves not just proper custody, but compassion and care, a sanctuary of care now stands as a dedicated room focused on the psychological and mental well-being of all inmates. This is an initiative made possible through the

Continued on page 14





USTAAI General Assembly and Elections 2026: A New Chapter of Leadership and Service

.....from page 1

guest speaker by VP Malou Garganera brought focus to the day's inspiration, as JSupt. Maria Lourdes P. Pacion, RPh, City Jail Warden of the BJMP Quezon City Jail – Male Dormitory, delivered a compelling message. She called on the alumni to take an active role in collaborative efforts supporting reformatory programs for Persons Deprived of Liberty (PDLs), highlighting the power of service beyond the alumni community.

The second part of the program centered on accountability and organizational direction. Outgoing President Atty. Dwight M. Ramos presented his President's Report, reflecting on the association's accomplishments and milestones. This was followed by the Financial Report delivered by Treasurer Arnelito C. Ocampo, providing members with a clear and transparent overview of the association's financial standing.

A meaningful highlight of the assembly was the distribution of Certificates of Appreciation, recognizing individuals whose dedication and contributions have strengthened the association's

initiatives and programs.

The conduct of elections marked a pivotal moment in the assembly, underscoring USTAAI's commitment to democratic participation and leadership renewal. COMELEC Chair Nanette Fernandez presented the election guidelines, followed by the introduction of nominees and their acceptance of nominations. Member alumni associations in good standing actively participated in the voting process, culminating in the orderly distribution, collection and canvassing of ballots.

USTAAI Elected Officers (2026–2028)

Leading the association into a new chapter, the following officers have been elected to serve for the next three years:

* **President:**

Assoc. Prof. Evangelina E. Timbang, PhD
UST College of Education Alumni Foundation, Inc.

* **Secretary:**

Assoc. Prof. Jocelyn F. Agcaoili, MSPT, MHPED
UST College of Rehabilitation Sciences Alumni Association, Inc.

* **Treasurer:**

Mr. Arnelito C. Ocampo
UST Education High School Graduates' Association, Inc.

Atty. Dwight M. Ramos concluded his term as President and assumed his new role as Chairman of the Board, ensuring continuity of leadership and vision within the organization.

The program concluded with the announcement of winners and their responses, followed by the blessing of the food and a shared meal—an opportunity for members to reconnect, exchange ideas and strengthen bonds within the Thomasian alumni community.

More than a formal gathering, the USTAAI General Assembly and Elections served as a reaffirmation of the association's enduring mission—to foster unity among alumni, promote meaningful engagement, and uphold the values that define the Thomasian spirit.

With a new Board at the helm, the USTAAI continues to move forward—guided by service, strengthened by community, and inspired by a shared commitment to make a difference.

– Mariz V. Manalo, Juris Doctor, 1995

Thomasian Alumni Golf Cup 3: Fundraiser for Scholarships Brightens Beverly Place, Pampanga

.....from page 1

Purpose: Proceeds from the event were dedicated to expanding scholarship opportunities for qualified scholars.

Venue: Beverly Place, Mexico, Pampanga, provided a scenic and competitive backdrop for the day's golf activities.

Winners and top performers

Most Accurate Drive: Nathaniel Yeung

Longest Drive: Jerry Bautista

Nearest to the Pin: Bong Fernando

Class A Champion: Jojo Magsalin

Class A 1st Runner Up: Ted Ortiz

Class A 2nd Runner Up: Sonny Vega

Class B Champion: Bong Fernando

Class B 1st Runner Up: Perry Bonzon

Class B 2nd Runner Up: Patrick Macapagal

Class C Champion: OJ Matias

Class C 1st Runner Up: Dan Carreon

Class C 2nd Runner Up: Felipe Roque

Overall Champion: Richel Albano

Lowest Net: Erwin Polintan

Ladies' Division Champion: Mitz King

The event could not have succeeded without the generous support of its partners and sponsors. Our heartfelt thanks

List of sponsors:

- * Metro Rail Transit Corporation
- * Metro Development Corporation
- * Archipelago Builders
- * Divina Law
- * Macro Wiring
- * Sta. Elena Construction and Development Corporation
- * IPM Construction and Development Corp
- * Basic Environmental Systems & Technologies, Inc.
- * Imperial Nova
- * Alveo
- * Laus Group
- * Rotary Club Quezon City
- * AKB General Merchandise
- * Cabres Builders, Inc.

- * Tomasining Ilocano – La Union Alumni Chapter
- * UST SOCKSARGEN Alumni Chapter
- * College of Education Alumni Foundation Inc.
- * Events 8
- * Jinsco
- * UST Office of Alumni Relations (OAR)
- * Katinko

The 3rd Thomasian Alumni Golf Cup stands as a testament to the enduring connection among UST alumni and their commitment to education. By combining friendly competition with a meaningful fundraising goal, the event strengthened the community while directly supporting scholars who pursue academic excellence.

– Dwight Ramos, Juris Doctor, 1990





Bridges of Brotherhood: Reconnecting the Past and Future at the 89th ALPA Homecoming



The University of Santo Tomas campus, often a place of silent stones and enduring echoes, has recently transformed into a vibrant hub of reconnection and spiritual renewal.

On 26-27 January 2026, the University of Santo Tomas (UST) Central Seminary hosted its highly anticipated 89th ALPA (Alumni Lay and Priests Association) Homecoming. This gathering served as a cornerstone of the three-year intensive preparation for the Seminary's landmark centennial anniversary in 2028.

Under the poignant theme, "Do this in remembrance of me" (Luke 22:19), a series of themes proposed by the Acting Rector, Rev. Fr. Clarence Victor C. Marquez, OP, the event was a masterclass in the theology of communion. Hosted by Batch 2001 led by its President, Rev. Fr. Aries Reyes of the Archdiocese of Manila, with the assistance of the UST CS ALPA

Coordinating Team headed by Sem. Edwin V. Cernal, the homecoming bridged the gap between the historic mission of the Church and its modern-day shepherds.

Day 1: Tradition, Tribute, and Fraternal Charity

The morning of the first day saw an early influx of alumni, eager to register and reunite at the UST CS Gymnasium. The atmosphere was one of profound fraternal care, featuring not only a light merienda but also free medical consultations and medicines, a testament to the seminary's commitment to the holistic well-being of its sons.

The day's emotional peak was the welcome parade, a visual procession winding through the iconic Arch of the Centuries and the UST Main Building. The day culminated in the Opening Mass at the UST Santisimo Rosario Parish, presided over by His Eminence Jose Cardinal Advincula, D.D., Archbishop of Manila and a distinguished alumnus of Batch 1976.

The evening shifted to the Dr. Robert C. Sy Grand Ballroom for the Rector Magnificus' Tribute Banquet, where the nominees and the Golden Jubilarians of the Distinguished Thomasian Alumni Awards were honored for their decades of service that began within the hallowed seminary walls.



Day 2: Prayer, Assembly and the Passing of the Torch

This day began in the quiet solemnity of the UST CS Chapel with Lauds, presided over by Rev. Ray Gabrelle Toledo of Batch 2025 from the Archdiocese of Capiz.

Following the breakfast that was shared after the Lauds, a productive General Assembly and Business meeting were led by the Acting Rector Rev. Fr. Jerome Secillano, the UST ALPA President. The gathering addressed the evolving needs of the alumni, ensuring the association remains a vital support system in the modern era. The homecoming reached its liturgical zenith with a Holy Eucharist presided over by His Excellency Most Rev. Ronald Anthony Timoner, DD, Bishop of Pagadian (Batch 1995).

The event concluded with a fellowship lunch, the awarding of the "Benjamins" and Silver Jubilarians,

Continued on page 10

USTEAAI WELCOMES 2026 OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS

The UST Engineering Alumni Association, Inc. (USTEAAI) has recently seen a transition in leadership, with the election of officers and board of trustees taking place on 9 January 2026 via Zoom. Engr. Rodrigo C. Gutierrez was elected President for a two-year term, succeeding Engr. Mario Rommel A. Diño, who will serve in the Board as the Immediate Past President (IPP) for the same duration.

Engr. Gutierrez, who has served as Vice President (VP) of USTEAAI, is also the current President of the UST Electrical Engineering Alumni Association, Inc. (USTEAAI) and is the President of the SF6 Construction Corp. He earned his degree in Bachelor

of Science Major in Electrical Engineering in 1985 and became a licensed Professional Electrical Engineer in 1993. He has been a member of the UST Electrical Engineering Department faculty since 2011 and is part of the Engineering Faculty Council for the Academic Year 2025-26.

The other elected officers are Internal VP, Engr. Emmanuel Lazaro R. Estrada (ECE 1982); External VP, Engr. Bernard Jose S. Lachica (ME 1998); Secretary, Engr. Ana Cristina A. Encarnacion (CE 2000); Treasurer, Engr. Rosalina A. Lioanag (ChE 1984); Auditor, Engr. Angelica C. Friginal (IE 1986); and Public Relations Officer, Engr. Katrina L. Lee (IE 2007).

The new set of Board of Trustees are Engr. Albert T. Acosta (ECE 1982), Engr. Virjil Q. Aycocho (ME 2001), Engr. Kevin Lester B. Lobo (EE 2014), Engr. Maria Clarisse B. Guzman (CE 2023) and Engr. Romeo P. Sangalang (ChE 1980).

IPP Engr. Diño will serve as one of the Board of Trustees, along with two other past presidents, Engr. Elvira N. Arceo (IE 1980) and Engr. Jason L. Ong (ChE 1993).

The newly elected officers and board of trustees took their Oath of Office on 7 February in the Audio-Visual Room of the UST Faculty of Engineering

Continued on page 14



Four Thomasians Lead in 2025 Bar Examinations; UST Law Ranks Among Top Schools

| RANK | NAME | SCHOOL | RATING |
|------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------|
| 1 | DECLARO, Spinel Albert Allauigan | University of Santo Tomas - Manila | 92.46 |
| 2 | ADVIENTO, Alaiza Agatep | University of Santo Tomas - Manila | 91.91 |
| 3 | SANTOS, Marc Angelo Galvez | University of Santo Tomas - Manila | 91.58 |

| RANK | NAME | SCHOOL | RATING |
|------|------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------|
| 4 | GATA, Johann Raphael Silapan | University of Santo Tomas - Manila | 90.90 |



The University of Santo Tomas Faculty of Civil Law once again affirmed its tradition of excellence as four Thomasians secured places in the Top 7 of the 2025 Bar Examinations, with the University ranking among the top law schools nationwide.

UST achieved an overall passing rate of 87.16%, with an outstanding 96.3% passing rate for first-time takers, significantly surpassing the national passing rate of 48.98%. Among law schools with more than 100 examinees, UST placed third overall, underscoring the strength and consistency of its legal education.

Leading the Thomasian topnotchers is Spinel Albert Allauigan Declaro, who placed 2nd nationwide with a score of 92.46%.

He is followed by Alaiza Agate Adviento, who ranked 3rd with 91.91%, and Marc Angelo Galvez Santos, who secured 5th place with 91.58%. Completing the list is Johan Raphael Silapan Gata, who placed 7th with 90.90%.

Notably, both Adviento and Santos are consistent scholars of the UST Law Alumni Foundation, Inc. (USTLAFI), reflecting the meaningful impact of sustained alumni support in shaping future members of the Bar.

Adviento, the batch valedictorian of 2025, shared that topping the Bar examinations felt surreal, emphasizing that beyond personal achievement, her goal was to bring pride to the University and the Thomasian community. Gata, for

his part, expressed gratitude and humility upon seeing his name among the topnotchers.

UST Law Dean Atty. Nilo Divina lauded the achievement, describing it as a testament to the dedication of the students, the tireless commitment of the faculty and the unwavering support of families, mentors and the entire Thomasian community.

The UST Alumni Association, Inc. (USTAAI), together with USTLAFI, proudly celebrates this milestone. The continued success of Thomasian bar examinees not only highlights academic excellence, but also reflects the enduring mission of forming lawyers who are competent, principled and committed to service.

- Mariz V. Manalo, Juris Doctor, 1995

FORMER USTEAAI PRESIDENT DONATES 17 LAPTOPS

Engr. Jason Ong, who held the position of UST Engineering Alumni Association, Inc. (USTEAAI) President from 2019 to 2023, donated 17 laptop units intended for the Department of Chemical Engineering. The turnover ceremony took place at the Audio-Visual Room of the Fr. Roque Ruaño Building on 19 January 2026. This initiative reflects Engr. Ong's strong commitment to supporting Thomasian Professionals in Engineering and Technology, and is directly aligned with the faculty's goal to transition towards hybrid and online learning, as it enhances the use of the Enriched Virtual Mode (EVM) for the remainder of the second term of the Academic Year 2025-2026.

Present at the event was the Assistant Dean of the Faculty of Engineering Assoc. Prof. Cristina E. Tiangco, Ph.D., along with the Chair of the Department of Chemical Engineering, Asst. Prof. Divine Angela G. Sumalinog, Ph.D. Other faculty members and some students witnessed the formal turnover

of the portable 14-inch Hewlett-Packard (HP) laptops running on Windows 11. Each laptop is specifically designed for daily productivity, making it ideal for multitasking, work and study. The donation of these laptops will significantly contribute to the Faculty of Engineering's initiatives aimed at ensuring educational continuity and providing professors with advanced

technology to support the education of future Thomasian Chemical Engineers.

Engr. Ong is a 1993 Chemical Engineering graduate and is the proprietor/owner of Imperial Nova Corporation, a Philippine-based supplier specializing in industrial chemicals, solvents, oils, lubricants and maintenance products.

- Jonathan H. Peran, BS ECE 1996





UST Education High School Graduates Association, Inc. Held Multi-Batch Alumni Homecoming

To celebrate its 76th Founding Anniversary, the UST EHSGAI had its Multi-Batch Alumni Homecoming on 24 January 2026 at the lobby of the Thomasian Alumni Center, Fr. Buenaventura Garcia Paredes, O.P. Building. The event was marked by the attendance of almost 400 EHS alumni, showcasing a strong sense of community and connection among former students.

The highlight of the event was the awarding of the TOTUS Tuus Awards that recognize the exceptional contributions of various alumni in their respective fields. The recipients of this prestigious honor were:

Janet C. Pascual, Batch 1973
- Education
Adelwiza Almendarez-Tuazon,
- Batch 1973 - Service to Church
Arlene M. De Luna, Batch 1976
- Health Allied
Ma. Rosario Sylvia Zapanta-Uy,
Batch 1976 - Medicine
Ma. Corazon Castro-Hernandez,
Batch 1984 - Accountancy
Aldrin M. Cerrado, Batch 1986 -
Business Management

Primitivo D. Nufable, Batch 1986
- Engineering
Maria Gracia D. Caragan, Batch 1991
Media & Entertainment
Exconde Family, (multi-batch)
- Family Orientation

In addition, the 2026 Service Legacy Honorees were recognized for their lifelong dedication and contributions to EHS and the community. The honorees were:

Manuel S. Salumbides, Batch 1953
Francisco S. Bonifacio, EHS Secretary
Teresita Vergara David, Batch 1957
Beatriz Barnuevo-Ribleza
- EHS Supervising Teacher
John M. Simon, Batch 1977
Ma. Minerva A. Gonzalez
- Assistant to the Dean

The event also featured notable alumni who have excelled in their careers, emphasizing the school's commitment to fostering successful individuals and who were the evening's speakers:

Ms. Xialeemar T. Valdeavilla, MBA,
Batch 2001 - Chief Operating Officer,
Xiameer Marketing; Ms. Elena Mari
Ginia Domingo, Batch 1981 - Chief



Operating Officer, Caretech Health Asia

The homecoming served as a fulfilling opportunity for alumni to reconnect, reflect on their shared experiences, and celebrate the achievements of their peers. It is an affirmation of the lasting impact that the UST Education High School has had on its students, guiding them towards meaningful paths in their professional lives. As they look ahead, the sense of unity and support within the alumni community continues to thrive.

- Kaye Keyser, EHS, 2000

THOMASIAN ENGINEERS GATHER FOR ENGGAHLING 2026



On 14 February 2026, the University of Santo Tomas (UST) opened its doors to welcome its alumni to celebrate the 119th Founding Anniversary of the UST Faculty of Engineering. Organized by the UST Engineering Alumni Association, Inc. (USTEAAI), in collaboration with the UST Faculty of Engineering and the six Engineering Departmental Alumni Associations, the main festivities were held at the UST Buenaventura G. Paredes, O.P. (BGPOP) building lobby and mezzanine. Silver Jubilarians from Batch 2001 served as hosts for this year's homecoming, tagged as ENGGAHLING 2026, with the theme "AI YOS: Ascending Integrity, Yielding Optimal Strength!"

This year's event saw the attendance

of over 400 participants who came united in a vibrant and celebratory atmosphere that demonstrated strong alumni engagement and continued support for their Alma Mater. Beyond being a mere gathering, this homecoming was a heartfelt reunion that celebrated decades of shared memories, unbreakable bonds and the enduring spirit of Thomasian pride.

The event kicked off with a Meet and Greet at the Fr. Roque Ruaño (Engineering) building, where the academic staff and Department Heads of the Faculty of Engineering welcomed the attendees and provided a short tour of the building. This activity was held in conjunction with the Engineering Santo Tomas Exemplary (ESTEEM) Alumni

Awards ceremony, where attendees and guests had the opportunity to witness the unveiling of the Hall of Fame Marker for this year's awardees at the Engineering building lobby. From there, the participants took part in the annual Alumni Walk, making their way to the Arch of the Centuries, then proceeding through the Benavides Garden, Plaza Mayor, the Main Building and ultimately gathering in the BGPOP building lobby for the main homecoming celebration.

Rev. Fr. Roberto L. Luanzon, Jr., O.P., STHD, DL, who serves as the UST Vice-Rector for Finance and Regent of the Faculty of Engineering, presided over a solemn Eucharistic Celebration, underscoring the

Continued on page 10

TAFCl and USTAAI's "The Gold Plate"



CLICKERRAZZI



"Ginintang Handog Para Sa Kaibigan" mini-concert at BJMP with the Rainmakers and Kristian B



80th Anniversary and Alumni Homecoming Gala Night of the UST College of Nursing



UST Alumni Lay and Priests Association (ALPA) 89th Annual Homecoming



UST LAFI welcomes the newly elected Trustees and latest batch of scholars



UST Miguel de Benavides Library hosts book turnover ceremony for "6th Dimension: Culture-Driven Nation"



UST Alumni Lay and Priests Association's "Concert for a Cause" with Basil Valdez



UST College of Commerce Alumni Homecoming





UST FACULTY OF ENGINEERING HONORS ALUMNI AT ANNUAL ESTEEM AWARDS

The UST Faculty of Engineering gathered its alumni, academic/administrative staff and students on 14 February 2026 at the Saint Pier Giorgio Frassati, O.P. Auditorium for the annual Engineering Santo Tomas Exemplary (ESTEEM) Alumni Awards, an annual event dedicated to formally recognize and celebrate the achievements and contributions of Thomasian Engineers.

Honored this year were eight recipients of the Thomasian Engineer Hall of Fame (HOF), the Outstanding Thomasian Engineer (OTE) and Special Recognition.

The Thomasian Engineer Hall of Fame Award, established in 1996 through the collaboration of the UST Faculty of Engineering and the UST Engineering Alumni Association, Inc. (USTEAAI), is the most prestigious and highest honor conferred by the Faculty. This award acknowledges the lasting legacy of the honorees, recognizing their transformative contributions that have provided enduring distinction to the University, and profound benefits to society and the global community.

This year's awardees were Engr. John Paul P. Pe (BS Civil Engineering Class of 1987), President and CEO of Archipelago Builders Corporation,

and donor of the Chapel at the UST-Dr. Tony Tan Caktiong Innovation Center (UST-TTCIC) in Santa Rosa, Laguna; Engr. Purificacion F. Romualdo (BS Chemical Engineering, 1963), President, Owner and Founder of Analytical Support Services for Environmental Technologies (ASSET) Laboratories; and Engr. Romeo P. Sangalang (BS Chemical Engineering, 1980), President & CEO of Flexo Manufacturing Corporation, Arc Biopharma Inc. and Apollo Development Corporation.

Unlike the Hall of Fame, which is intended for alumni whose accomplishments reflect a lifetime of excellence and a lasting legacy, the OTE Award acknowledges individuals who, while actively engaged in their careers, consistently contribute meaningfully to their professions and advocacy, serving as living inspirations for future generations of Thomasian Engineers. This year's awardees were Engr. Exequiel C. Delgado (BS Electronics Engineering, 1986), President and Chief Executive Officer of Radius Telecoms Inc.; Engr. Jason L. Ong (BS Chemical Engineering, 1993), Owner and CEO of Imperial Nova Corp.; Engr. Eduardo P. Romualdo (BS Mechanical Engineering, 1963), Co-owner and Co-Founder of ASSET Laboratories.

Two Mechanical Engineering



Licensure Examination topnotchers were given Special Recognition: Engr. Carl Diego L. Sadie (Top 5, August 2025 Mechanical Engineers Licensure Examination) and Engr. John Carlo N. Delos Santos (Top 4, February 2024 Mechanical Engineers Licensure Examination).

The event, which coincided with this year's Engineering Week and the Engineering Alumni Homecoming (ENGAHLING2026), also witnessed the unveiling of the Hall of Fame Marker at the Roque Ruaño Building.

- Jonathan H. Peran, BS ECE 1996

Bridges of Brotherhood: Reconnecting the Past and Future at the 89th ALPA Homecoming

.....from page 5

and the traditional handover of hosting duties to Batch 2002.

A Holistic Synthesis of Mission

The ALPA Homecoming 2026 was more than a social reunion. As one alumnus strikingly shared: "I am glad to be back. Seeing the lay and priests gather as one reminds me that our mission is collective. I am happy to see us as one body, and I hope this spirit of unity grows as we approach our centennial." As

the alumni return to their respective missions, they carry more than memories; they carry a renewed commitment to the "Shepherd's Vision." The homecoming has successfully shifted the focus from looking back at where they came from to looking forward to where they are going together.

As the centennial draws near, the ALPA stands ready, not as a relic of the past, but as a living, breathing

testament to the enduring power of faith and fraternity. It is this unbreakable bond that will ensure that the Seminary remains a "seedbed" of grace for another hundred years and beyond. The Homecoming stands as a powerful reminder that while the mission takes the faithful to the far-flung corners of the world, the heart always finds its spiritual sustenance at home.

THOMASIAN ENGINEERS GATHER FOR ENGAHLING 2026

.....from page 7

spiritual principles that form the basis of the institution. After the Mass, a formal program featured inspiring speeches, the acknowledgment of jubilarians, and performances that showcased the wealth of talent among the university's alumni. Engr. Rodrigo C. Gutierrez, the newly elected President of USTEAAI, took to the stage to share his heartfelt thanks to

all alumni, guests and stakeholders who were instrumental in the success of this landmark celebration. Present at this event were Assoc. Prof. Joreen T. Rocamora, Ph.D., Director of the UST Office of Alumni Relations, and Prof. Angelo R. dela Cruz, PhD, PECE, the Dean of the UST Faculty of Engineering.

The program featured two key

highlights: the presentation of the current USTEAAI scholars and their benefactors, and the host batch's announcement of a 1,000,000 Php donation to the USTEAAI, which was raised from the event's earnings. These initiatives reflect USTEAAI's unwavering commitment to ensuring

Continued on page 14



UST College of Commerce Alumni Homecoming 2026

“One Thomasian Family
Rooted in Friendship, Bound by Faith, and United in Hope”



There is something quietly powerful about a room full of people who once shared the same hallways, the same professors, the same restless ambitions—and who, after all the years and distance, still find their way back to each other.

On 28 February 2026, the UST College of Commerce community gathered once more for its annual Alumni Homecoming. Though held just months after the previous celebration due to scheduling adjustments, the spirit of the event remained just as strong—and even

more meaningful.

The evening started with the celebration of the Holy Eucharist by Rev. Fr. Senen Ecleo, O.P., grounding the event in prayer and reminding everyone that beyond batches and professions, all remain one Thomasian family.

From this reflective beginning, the program flowed seamlessly, brought to life by emcees Ms. Olivia Ferry and Ms. Elvira Rosales, whose warmth, humor, and natural rapport created an atmosphere that was both elegant and relaxed.

The program was formally opened by Dean Alfaith Navarrete, who delivered the Welcome Remarks, followed by COCAFI President Irene Arroyo, who offered her President's Greetings and introduced the COCAFI Board of Officers and Trustees, whose leadership continues to advance the Foundation's mission.

This year, the event proudly celebrated the milestone batches: 1966, 1971, 1976, 1981, 1986, 1991, 1996 and 2001, alongside many alumni who returned simply to reconnect and reminisce. The tribute to these jubilarians—from Diamond to Silver—was a highlight of the evening, honoring decades of achievement, resilience, and enduring friendship.

The Homecoming also recognized

excellence and generosity within the Commerce community. The Outstanding Alumni of 2026, introduced by Trustee Maria Paz Foronda, honored individuals who continue to bring distinction to the University. They are Reuben Nagtalon (Science & Technology) and Salvador Serrano (Banking & Finance).

The presentation of the COCAFI Scholars for Academic Year 2026, led by Past President Josefina Sulit, highlighted the impact of alumni generosity and the continuing commitment to support future Thomasians.

Guests enjoyed a delightful dinner, joyful reunions, and lively performances by jubilarians, while the raffle, hosted by Alumni Homecoming Chair Estelita Chua-Ramos and Ruby Jubilarian Pelita Young, added excitement throughout the evening. Notably, no one left early—a true testament to how engaged everyone was from start to finish, as the evening carried on in music, laughter and dancing well into the night.

More than a reunion, the Homecoming was a celebration of shared roots, lasting friendships, and the enduring Thomasian spirit

Once a Thomasian, always a Thomasian.

USTEAAI SUPPORTS YOUTH INITIATIVE

The UST Faculty of Engineering organized the LIKAS: Lingkod Kabataan sa Katesismo event on 22 February 2026 at the Villa Maria Integrated School (VMIS) in Porac, Pampanga. This event, led by the UST Pax Romana - Engineering Unit, represents a community development effort inspired by the teachings of Pope Francis' Laudato Si', and the ongoing commitment and advocacy of the Faculty Regent, Rev. Fr. Roberto L. Luanzon, Jr., O.P.

This initiative came into fruition through the guidance, collaborative



efforts and contributions of the Faculty of Engineering, Office of the Vice Rector for Finance, the SIMBAHAYAN Community Development Office, the Engineering Faculty Organization and the UST Engineering Alumni Association, Inc. It also highlights their steadfast dedication to advancing catechetical instruction while combining spiritual growth with environmental stewardship, establishing a well-rounded foundation for young Thomasian students by teaching them that caring for the community is a direct expression of their faith.

The day started with Holy Mass celebrated by Rev. Fr. Luanzon at the adjacent Our Lady of the Poor Parish Chapel. The group, which received a warm welcome from VMIS officials and teachers, then led the short program to acknowledge

the contributions of the various participants and to exchange pleasantries, which also highlighted their personal interactions with the local community. The activity concluded with the presentation of donations of food and school supplies. This event also saw the participation of the One Voice Engineering, UST Mechanical Engineering Club, ASHRAE - UST Student Branch, UST Electrical Engineering Circuit and other engineering student organizations.

- Jonathan H. Peran, BS ECE 1996





UST Faculty of Pharmacy Alumni Association Elects New Leaders, Strengthens Commitment to Scholarships and Community Engagement

The UST Faculty of Pharmacy Alumni Association and Scholarship Foundation, Inc. successfully held its election of officers on 17 January 2026, ushering in a new set of leaders committed to advancing alumni engagement, expanding scholarship opportunities, and deepening community involvement.

The election was presided over by outgoing president, Ms. Ma. Lourdes S. Garganera while the votes were officially tallied by outgoing secretary Asst. Prof. Rhona Ramos-Cruz, ensuring a transparent and credible process. This was followed by the induction of the newly elected officers,

officiated by Atty. Dwight M. Ramos, president of the University of Santo Tomas Alumni Association, Inc.

As the Association moves forward under its new leadership, the central priority remains the expansion and sustainability of scholarship programs for deserving students of the University of Santo Tomas, Faculty of Pharmacy. The Foundation continues to provide meaningful financial assistance to students who demonstrate both academic excellence and financial need—ensuring that deserving Thomasian pharmacy, medical technology and biochemistry students are supported in achieving their goals.

The new leadership is committed to strengthening these initiatives through increased alumni engagement, partnerships and resource mobilization. Beyond financial support, the association also aims to foster mentorship and professional development opportunities for its scholars and alumni.

Equally important is the renewed focus on community engagement. The Association envisions more active participation in outreach programs, health education initiatives, and community-based services that bring together alumni and students in meaningful service to society—extending the Thomasian mission beyond the University.

Elected to serve until 2027, the new set of officers is composed of:

- **President:** Maria Lourdes C. Santiago
 - **Vice President – Internal:** Gina C. Castro
 - **Vice President – External:** Vivian D. Asuncion
 - **Vice President – Scholarship:** Minerva L. Daya
 - **Secretary:** Ina Johanan Erika G. Tolosa
 - **Assistant Secretary:** Imelda M. Tesalona
 - **Treasurer:** Rose Anne P. Evangelista
 - **Assistant Treasurer:** Anna Rose M. Cumpas
 - **Auditor:** James Jesus N. Pasamonte
 - **PRO:** Ross D. Vasquez
- **Board of Trustees**
 - o Alvin Rey F. Flores
 - o David Javier
 - o Ma. Elena J. Manansala
 - o Angelita S. Sarile
 - o Sandra C. Sy
 - **Advisers**
 - o Aleth Therese L. Dacanay, PhD
 - o Rev. Fr. Hilario Q. Singian, Jr., O.P.

Campus Memories

I OWE IT TO ROLLY

It was a Tuesday afternoon when my feet were rushing again to the queue in LRT1 on Buendia station. It was just the same old infrastructure but with bag checker and card dispenser added on the platform. Everything is almost the same as 1996. I took the usual ride heading to Tayuman. I walked and passed by the stores selling religious statues just like before until I spotted the jeepney going to UST.

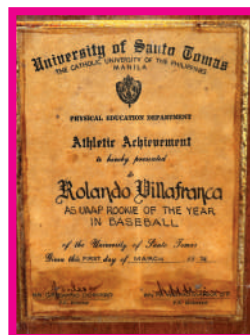
As the jeepney started to move, recollection of days similar to this flashed when I was in white uniform similar to that of Philippine Normal University cut but with my name plate as a Nutrition and Dietetics student. I remembered my foggy looking uniform as a result of the polluted air of Manila, my Rusty Lopez black bulldog shoes and my trying hard Jennifer Aniston hairstyle influenced by the TV series “Friends.” I started to feel stinky again because of the built-up sweat from the humid

ride. It brought me back to those days when I could ignore that sweaty feeling under strong heat because I was chasing time to cram for my next quiz in school, memorizing all the abbreviations of medical terms applied in Nutrition. Looking back, I remember most the word “expire” which means “death” in hospital jargon.

Fast forward to that afternoon of April 7, 2026. I was bereft of any nostalgic emotion when I got off the jeep and walked many blocks reaching the Lacson gate. I did not even feel excited at all. In fact, I felt strange as the tall buildings near the campus walls reached my eyes. The UST Hospital was part of the welcoming view. It looked new but I was looking for traces of the old one. I felt that this was a new place. I could not associate myself at all. My emotions felt dead as I walked slowly trying to convince my mind that this was still the UST I knew.

Reluctantly, I kept walking at a gradual pace as I saw the old structures one by one. It could be a different route now on leading to the Main building. Finally, I saw it and the open field on the left. Gently, my mind revived memories of UST where I ran fast from the library to catch my next classes. I had to run from the Health Services and the long road going to the old gym.

My head was reviving my past, one after the other, until I saw the grandstand. Then, I paused and



Continued on page 14

ASPIRE TO INSPIRE

THOMASIAN LEGATO

The Flow of Time and Legacy

held at the Manila Clock Tower Museum, February 28, 2026

The Clock Tower is a monument to time. Legato suggests the artists' mastery is not a momentary flash, but a sustained, consistent quality that has deepened over decades, representing the unbroken legacy of the UST Atelier.

A Milestone in Community Service:

On February 28, the UST Atelier Alumni Association, Inc. marked a major milestone with its 4th Community Outreach Program. In partnership with the City of Manila, the Manila Clock Tower Museum, and local JCI chapters, "Vision Legato" brought the 2026 National Arts Month to a powerful close. This 4th outreach initiative proved to be a record-breaking success, hosting nearly 200 participants from 11 different schools. The event transformed the Manila Clock Tower Museum into a standing-room-only hub of creativity and mentorship for Grades 8–12.

Professional Mentorship:

Insights shared by guest speakers Jonathan Rañola, Patrick H.C. Naval, and Melissa Villaseñor. Creative Healing: A specialized Art Therapy session led by Maryrose Domingo Gisbert. Essential Support: Art materials were proudly provided by NEC NGBros Ent Co. Participating Schools We extend our gratitude to the students and teachers from across the region—including Longos National, Imelda Integrated, Potrero National, Navotas National, La Naval Academy, San Jose Academy, and more—who helped make this fourth outreach our most impactful yet. "Art truly is the bridge that connects us all!"

VISION - EMBER

The Artologist was with UST Atelier Alumni Association, Inc. and Tribong USTe at Shangri-La Plaza Hearth and Harvest, This exhibition celebrated the sustained, foundational heat of creativity cultivated within the UST Atelier alumni association. It showcased the diverse talents of the alumni during National Arts Month and the Lunar New Year celebration of prosperity. The Ember: Represents the enduring passion and the deep, refined skill developed by the artists at the university—the core heat that never fades. It reflects the alumni's lasting creative foundation. The Hearth: Symbolizes the place of origin and gathering (the UST Atelier and the concept of family/alumni network). It's where the talent was nurtured and where the group reunited for this celebration. ASPIRE TO INSPIRE!

Written by Patrick Naval CAFA '88
Poster Design by Elmer Dumlao CAFA '81
Article layout by Juert Asejo CFAD '07





CAPTIVE AUDIENCE FOR MENTAL HEALTH

- UST AAI's mini-concert for the benefit of the PDLs -

..... from page 3

strong partnership between the Quezon City Government and the USTAAI.

Under the supervision of the Health Services Unit, and through

the leadership of City Jail Warden JSupt Maria Lourdes P. Pacion and Chief Health Services Unit JCIspn Henry N. Fabro, the Blue House now

serves as a space where minds are nurtured, emotions are understood and healing begins.

- Dwight Ramos, Juris Doctor, 1991

USTEAAI WELCOMES 2026 OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS

..... from page 3

within the Fr. Roque Ruaño Building. UST Vice Rector for Finance and Regent of the Faculty of Engineering, Rev. Fr. Roberto L. Luazon Jr., O.P., SThD, DL, was the Inducting Officer. The event was attended by UST Faculty of Engineering Dean Angelo R. dela Cruz, PhD, PECE, along with past officers and faculty/academic staff.

Outgoing president Engr. Diño was presented with a Majestic Tiger statue as a token of gratitude for his unwavering service, leadership, and dedication to

the organization.

President Engr. Gutierrez, during his acceptance speech following the induction ceremony, expressed his sincere gratitude for the trust and responsibility placed in him. He committed to working towards bringing members together, cultivating unity and reinforcing ties with the Alma Mater.

To kick-start their transition to leadership and to set a tone of collaboration, the president organized a team building event to accelerate the

cohesion, engagement and alignment of the new officers to his new shared vision for the association. The Teambuilding event took place on 7 March at the First Pacific Leadership Academy in Antipolo. Dean dela Cruz, his department chairs and academic/support staff, along with Rev. Fr. Luazon, participated in the event to foster trust and enhance the collaboration between the organizations.

- Jonathan H. Peran, BS ECE 1996



Campus Memories

I OWE IT TO ROLLY

..... from page 12

remembered Rolando T. Villafranca, the man who convinced me to play softball but which I turned down; the man who insisted that I study in this school that I didn't know anything about; the man who put all his efforts to support me in completing college.

Then, it all came back to me. The hardships he went through to help me finish college.

When he died in 2020, weeks before the COVID lockdown, I was told that UST was one of the proudest moments in his life. He was a varsity player in softball in Pedro Guevarra

High School. He was recruited to join the UST softball team. He accepted the scholarship and strived to make ends meet as a helper in a market near LRT at dawn, attending classes in the College of Education in the morning and practicing softball in the afternoon. He graduated with a degree in B.S. Education major in Physical Education in 1976. He pursued his career in softball and later on worked in the UST Hospital. After some time, he was accepted as PE teacher in Colegio de San Juan de Letran.

As I stared at the grandstand, I

couldn't recall my own college memories. Instead, my emotions overwhelmed me with what my father's life was back then; something my youthful spirit never grasped 25 years ago.

Going back to UST did not bring back memories of my college life. It was all about giving my best effort to honor the man who wanted me to be proud of the Alma Mater he cherished the most.

My Thomasian spirit has never died. My dad has just revived it.

- Sheilan May Villafranca, RND, B.S. in Nutrition and Dietetics, 2000

THOMASIAN ENGINEERS GATHER FOR ENGGAHLING 2026

.....from page 10

that deserving students have access to education, thereby reinforcing the association's pledge to support the future generation of Thomasian engineers.

On the day before this year's homecoming celebration, the Thomasian community had the honor of experiencing the inaugural Engineering Alumni Car Show, titled

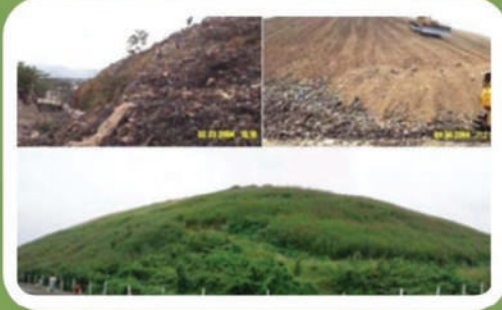
"Revved-Up Reunions," held at the Plaza Mayor of the UST Main Building. The 2-day exhibition, organized by former leaders of USTEAAI who are united by their passion for restored, classic and sports cars, celebrated the rich heritage of automotive design and innovation. It showcased the craftsmanship and engineering

expertise of bygone decades. This event served as an uplifting reminder of the evolution of engineering, inspiring the next generation of students to continue innovating in the field and to motivate them to become successful Thomasian alumni in the future.

- Jonathan H. Peran, BS ECE 1996

BASIC ENVIRONMENTAL SYSTEMS & TECHNOLOGIES, INC.

SERVICES OFFERED BY BEST



REHABILITATION & CLOSURE
 OF OPEN DUMPSITE



MATERIALS RECOVERY FACILITY



REFUSED DERIVED FUEL (RDF)

INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS



LANDFILL CONSTRUCTION,
 OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE



MBE CENTERS



GARBAGE HAULING AND DISPOSAL

CONTACT US



UNIT 708 THE TAIPAN PLACE, F. ORTIGAS JR. RD.
 ORTIGAS CENTER, PASIG CITY 1605



+632 5310-4625



info@best.com.ph



www.best.com.ph



FEATURED THOMASIAN

Justice Amy C. Lazaro-Javier The Thomasian Who Led the 2025 Bar

One of the proudest milestones in the history of the University of Santo Tomas Faculty of Civil Law was reached when Supreme Court Associate Justice Amy C. Lazaro-Javier was designated Chairperson of the 2025 Bar Examinations and UST was named the Bar's National Headquarters—a distinction that was later fulfilled during the nationwide Bar held in September 2025 under her leadership.

For the Thomasian legal community, it was a deeply meaningful moment. A graduate of UST Faculty of Civil Law returned—not as a student or professor, but as the nation's Bar Chair—to guide a new generation of Filipino lawyers into the profession from the very institution that helped form her.

A Thomasian Formed by Excellence

Justice Lazaro-Javier's roots at the UST Faculty of Civil Law run deep. She graduated Magna Cum Laude, earning the UST Rector's Award for Academic Excellence and distinguished herself early as Editor-in-Chief of the UST Law Journal and an active member of the Astrea Law Sorority.

These formative Thomasian years shaped the qualities that would later define her public service: intellectual discipline, moral clarity, and an enduring commitment to justice grounded in human dignity. In recognition of her extraordinary career, UST conferred upon her the TOTAL Award for Law and Judiciary in 2024, the University's highest alumni distinction in the legal field.

A Jurist of Conscience and Compassion

Since her appointment to the Supreme Court in 2019, Justice Lazaro-Javier has earned respect not

only for legal brilliance but for principled leadership. As Chairperson of the Committee on Family Courts and Juvenile Concerns and co-chair of the ASEAN Council of Chief Justices Working Group on Cross-Border Disputes Involving Children, she consistently championed the protection of children, families and the vulnerable.

Her lectures delivered at UST in early 2025, particularly during the Chief Justice Andres Narvasa Lecture Series, revealed a jurist deeply committed to ethical lawyering. She reminded future lawyers that words matter—that the Code of Professional Responsibility and Accountability (CPRA) requires not only competence but consideration, compassion and conscience. For her, the law is not merely technical; it is profoundly human.

Stewardship of the 2025 Bar

The 2025 Bar Examinations, held on September 7, 10, and 14, tested examinees across six core subjects over three demanding days. Under Justice Lazaro-Javier's stewardship, the Bar was conducted with discipline, fairness and a strong emphasis on professionalism and respect.

That UST served as the National Headquarters of the 2025 Bar was both symbolic and substantive. It reaffirmed the historic role of the UST Faculty of Civil Law in shaping Philippine legal education.

The Pride of Every Thomasian

Justice Amy C. Lazaro-Javier stands today as one of the most distinguished daughters of UST Law—a scholar, jurist and servant of justice. Her leadership




of the 2025 Bar Examinations remains a landmark, not only in her career, but in the proud history of Thomasian legal education, and underscored its continuing relevance at the very heart of the profession.

For the UST Law Alumni community, her story is a living reminder of what our Alma Mater continues to produce: lawyers who think deeply, speak responsibly and serve with integrity.


As we look back on the Bar of 2025, we do so with pride—knowing that it was led by a Thomasian who truly embodies *Veritas in Caritate*.

- Mariz V. Manalo, Juris Doctor, 1995




Supreme Court
OF THE PHILIPPINES

WHAT CHALLENGES DO EXAMINEES USUALLY FACE DURING BAR EXAMS?



Hon. Amy C. Lazaro-Javier
Associate Justice, Supreme Court
Chairperson, 2025 Bar Examinations

“Nervousness is not a desirable thing when it comes to Bar Exams. I think too much reading also and giving lengthy answers are mistakes. Bar examinees should also be careful when reading the questions. They must learn to spot the correct issue and avoid over-analyzing an otherwise simple question.”



Listen to the full episode
SC Podcast Episode 85:
Bar Lessons and Beyond

EDITORIAL BOARD 2026

ATTY. DWIGHT HILARION RAMOS
Editor-in-Chief, Juris Doctor, 1990

ATTY. MARISSA V. MANALO
Editor, Juris Doctor, 1995

JOY VIRAY-GATMAYTAN
Assistant Editor AB Translations 1980

MARISSA PE-YANG
Circulation Manager, BFA Advertising, 1995

JUSTICE RONALD MORENO
Legal Adviser, Juris Doctor, 1995

KATHERINE LOU KEYSER-BUNDANG
Business Manager, ITCGAPT, 2003

JOJO RAGIL, JR.
Layout Artist

ANA MARIE OCHOA-FERNANDEZ
Chief of Staff, BSE English, 1976

JONATHAN PERAN
Presence, BS ECE, 1996

AD RATE:

15,000 - whole page | 8,000 - half page

We welcome sponsorship of printing cost.