

SUMMARY OF THE MOST SIGNIFICANT QUALIFICATIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

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Years of Teaching in the College and Administrative Experiences

I have been teaching in the College since 1992, right after passing the Dental Board Exams. I have almost thirty years of teaching experience and even as a young faculty member, I have been active in the different College Committees including Officer for Student Relations, Chair of UPCD Foundation Week celebrations, adviser of the UPCD Pep Squad and Dental Choir, among others. I have held several administrative positions: Head of Section of Operative Dentistry, Chairman of the Department of Clinical Dental Health Sciences, Assistant to the Dean, and Chairman of the Department of Basic Dental Health Sciences. Being actively involved in various college committees and having had the privilege to be Chairman of both Basic and Clinical Departments has given me enough insights and information about the College – from the strength and weaknesses of each faculty member and non-academic staff, the changing attributes of students at the college, operational systems and procedures, problems of the College and opportunities for improvement that are present in the college.

Focal Person for ISO, Quality Assurance and IAADS

Though tedious and time consuming, the ISO, QA and IAADS experience made me know the college intimately, from the day-to-day operational procedures, faculty members and the courses they teach, the non-academic personnel, the students and student services, library collections to our existing equipment, instruments, and the calibration and maintenance problem, including fire extinguishers and fire escapes. I have now become familiar with UP Manila's Quality Policy and the mission and vision of the College of Dentistry. I have better understanding now of what the College should be and where it should go. Knowing what we have and where we are right now will help me propel the College of Dentistry forward not only to maintain its being the premiere College of Dentistry in the country, but also to become at par with the other dental colleges in Asia and in the world.

As focal person of these accreditation and certification systems/programs, I was able to see the existing problems of the College, the root causes, and the risks associated with them. Knowing these, we can start working towards solutions to these problems.

Organizational and Research-Generation Capabilities

Since 2004, beginning with the Asia Dental Forum, I have been organizing very successful Scientific Seminars and workshops either under the UPCD or in collaboration with the UPDAA. In 2010, I broached the idea of the College offering short courses open to graduates of all dental schools to then Dean Vicente Medina III, in response to the PRC Guideline on Preceptorship and Continuing Education Courses stating that these should be offered by accredited dental schools and specialty groups. These courses can also be a source of much needed funds for the college. The first of these courses was the Comprehensive Restorative and Esthetic Dentistry Short Course followed by the Oral Surgery Short Course for Government Hospital Dentists/ General Dentists in 2014. Several other courses followed in between and after. At present there are around 500 graduates of CRED and 300 graduates of the Surgery Course. The funds generated from the seminars I helped organize

and from CRED and Oral Surgery funded the creation of the UPCD Alumni Office in 2014 (Php450,000.00) and the renovation of the Faculty Lounge in 2018 (Php1.6 M.) Funds from these two short courses are also earmarked for the creation of the cafeteria/ lounge and lounge for non-academic personnel (estimated cost of Php3M) on the ground floor which was supposed to be started in 2020 but was temporarily stopped because the COVID-19 pandemic.

As President of the UPDAA, I was able to raise close to Php60,000 pesos as seed money for the proposed UPDAA Tutoring/Mentorship Program for UPCD Students from proceeds of a benefit concert.

While organizing the seminars, I was able to meet several faculty members from dental schools abroad and touched base with some of our alumni who are currently faculty members or hold administrative positions in foreign universities. They are possible contacts for future collaborations in teaching our undergraduate and graduate programs and in research. The seminars and short courses also helped me forge bonds with several dental companies which can also be possible collaborators in research and resource generation following University Rules and Regulations.

Research, PhD in Dental Sciences, and ongoing Doctor of Health Professions Education (DrHPed)

My graduate studies widened my horizons. My years as a PhD student at the Tokyo Medical and Dental University was very fruitful in terms of learning the latest trends and innovations in my field, how to plan for research and having it published, exposure to very advanced research equipment/technology, how to set-up a research laboratory; experiences which I can apply to the College. My department in TMDU was very international, the students are from different countries, most of them from Asia, and I was able to compare notes about the dental educational system in our respective countries. This information can later be used for benchmarking and for planning curricular revisions, acquiring additional research and teaching equipment and the like. Being an alumna of TMDU opens doors for continued collaborations not only with TMDU but with other Asian Universities adding to the list of our linkages.

I can share my personal experiences in having my research articles published in international peer-reviewed journals and a book published by a very reputable international publisher to help faculty members and students get their own works published. My being Chairperson of the UPM Research Publication Committee has further enriched these experiences.

If my PhD in Dental Sciences increased my knowledge in research and in the courses I am teaching, my ongoing studies in DrHPed is teaching me how to teach my courses more effectively. More importantly, DrHPed is about how to lead and manage efficiently an academic institution, and quality assurance.

I humbly believe that these achievements qualify me to run as nominee for the next Dean of the UP College of Dentistry.