



UP MANILA NEWSLETTER

New UPCM dean pledges 6 flagship programs for next 3 years



Dr. Charlotte Chiong

InSPIRE was the acronym used by renowned Ear, Nose, and Throat (ENT) specialist and new UP Manila College of Medicine Dean Charlotte Chiong in her flagship programs for the next three years. She was appointed successor to Dean Agnes Mejia by the UP Board of Regents on May 31, 2018.

InSPIRE stands for the 6 pillars of the program, **In**-Infrastructure; **S**-Science and Discovery; **C**-Collaboration and Creativity; **P**-Partnership for Progress in Health Care;

I- Innovation and Leadership; **R**-Resource, Stewardship, Fiscal Management and Governance; and **E**-Empower and Embrace: Diversity and Inclusiveness, Sense of Community.

At her recent investiture as UPCM's 17th dean, Dr. Chiong, former UP Manila Vice Chancellor for Planning and Development, presented the specifics of every flagship program.

Under **Infrastructure**, Dean Chiong said the new site development of the UPCM Medical Sciences Building has been approved by UP President Danilo Concepcion. The building will start construction in November in the area previously occupied by the MSU canteen and the tennis court. She thanked the preceding Deans Management Team and Dr. Rody Sy for raising P240 million for the building and expressed hope that with the P150 million still needed, more funds will come in

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Dean Atienza: "To be the Teacher Training Center for UP, PH, and Asia Pacific"



Dr. Melflor Atienza

The challenge of producing competent and compassionate health professionals who can handle old and emerging health problems and address inequities hinges greatly on health professions education schools of which there are only a few in the Asian region. In the Philippines, the National Teacher Training Center for the Health Professions (NTTCHP) has been considered the leading HPed institution that trains teachers of future physicians, nurses, dentists,

and allied medical professionals to become transformative health professionals.

This task has been given a new lease by NTTCHP's new dean, Dr. Melflor A. Atienza. Dean Atienza's **"STEPS"** to achieve transformative health professions education are **S**tandard setting in academic excellence, **T**ranslational, transdisciplinary research, **E**ducational leadership, **P**articipatory governance, and **S**ervices that are responsive to the clients' needs. When her appointment has been released, Dr. Atienza immediately buckled down to serious work.

Setting the academic standards for excellence through transformative education requires an enriched curriculum that is integrated, innovative, and reconfigured according to the University's outcome-based framework. According to Dr. Atienza, "Teachers have to be

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Technical Working Group for Addition Science Chairperson Dr. Armand Crisostomo briefs participants representing different sectors on the goals and expected outputs of the workshop held at the Development Academy of the Philippines Pasig City.

UP MANILA, PARTNERS TO DEVELOP COM-BASED DRUG REHAB AND TREATMENT PROGRAM

UP Manila is finally taking on a stronger and more active role in addressing the country's drug problem by serving as a key partner in the community-based treatment and rehabilitation of illegal drug users.

The program is being undertaken by the UP Manila Technical Working Group on Addiction Science (TWGAS) in collaboration with the SIBIKA, a private organization and the Development Academy of the Philippines. The TWGAS was created to confront the worsening issue of addiction, not only to drugs but also to other forms one of which is gaming as declared by the World Health Organization.

To jumpstart this community-based program, the TWGAS conducted on August 30-31, 2018 a workshop on curriculum building for community-based rehabilitation workers in the Philippines aimed at harmonizing existing programs and efforts across the country. The DAP hosted the workshop that also tackled other major issues such as decriminalization, policy updates, and profile of the Filipino drug user.

In his welcome message, TWGAS Chairperson Dr. Armando Crisostomo cited the need for UP Manila and other universities to strengthen the need for teaching addiction science in the undergraduate offerings

and to build the capacities of community workers in providing treatment and rehabilitation for drug users.

TWGAS member and CAS Dean Leonardo Estacio said that the group started out small but has since spread out to include participants from the World Health Organization, DAP, Dangerous Drugs Board, Department of Health, Department of Interior and Local Government, and nongovernment organizations. A "small group with grand intentions" was how he described the workshop participants. He cited UP Manila's ongoing researches on drug addiction as basis for developing interventions for a community-based rehabilitation program.

REHAB PROGRAM | PAGE 2 ►

UP MANILA PAYS TRIBUTE TO SEJA



Senator Sonny Angara and Mrs. Gloria Angara receive a plaque of recognition for the late Senator Edgardo Angara, presented by Chancellor Carmencita Padilla, Vice Chancellors Nymia Pimentel-Simbulan, Eva Cutiongco-Dela Paz, Arlene Samaniego, and Michael Tee.

The UP Manila community honored the life and work of former UP and Senate President Edgardo J. Angara in a tribute held at the UP Manila Museum of a History of Ideas on July 18, 2018.

Senator Edgardo Javier Angara (SEJA) was the 16th president of the Senate of the Philippines and 15th president of the University of the Philippines. He passed away in the morning of May 13, 2018 due to an apparent heart attack at age 83.

Among his legislative milestones were the Free High School Act,

TRIBUTE TO SEJA | PAGE 5 ►

UP Manila welcomes 810 incoming *Iskos* and *Iskas*

The freshman class of 2018-2019, also the first to graduate under the K-12 Basic Education Program, officially joined the country's health sciences center during the welcome ceremony held at the Ang Bahay ng Alumni, UP Diliman, on August 6, 2018.

This year's batch of *iskolar ng bayan* was greeted by the university officials, deans, faculty, and staff, along with dance and song presentations performed by the **UP Medicine Choir, PHAC Choir, CAMP Synergy, SINAG, and UP Manila Indayog Varsity.**

"I encourage you to seize opportunities, study hard, make new friends, join clubs, and take part in as many campus activities as you can," suggested **UPM Chancellor Carmencita Padilla** during her welcome remarks. "These experiences, and many others you will have during your

time here will prepare you to make your mark on the world," she continued.

The Chancellor acquainted the students with the University's momentous past and addressed the upcoming state-of-the-art facilities in the campus that will enrich their education as well as excite and attract them to engage early in research. "We have new and additional facilities in the campus: the Sports and Wellness Center, the 8-storey dorm, and renovated academic support offices, such as the Office of the University Registrar and Cash Office," she announced.

Executive Vice President **Dr. Teodoro Herbosa**, representing UP President Danilo Concepcion, remarked, "We recognize that as new members of the university, you are now our main responsibility. You are here to be



honed and shaped into persons and professionals that you want to be. As new UP students, you must draw from yourselves the best so that this best may be shared with the rest of the Philippines."

The ceremony's guest speaker and UP Diliman Chancellor, **Dr. Michael Tan**, called on all the millennial scholars to be socially connected, face to face, in the age

of instant communications. "Have friends in and out of UP with shared interests, but be open to celebrate diversity. Now, more than ever, develop psychosocial support with compassion – a combination of empathy and Metta (loving-kindness)," he added.

Among the top 50 qualifiers of UP College Admission Test (UPCAT) were **Charles Jerome**

R. Bartolo, Katrina G. Escario, and **Faith D. Villahermosa** who are all enrolled in the seven-year Integrated Liberal Arts and Medicine (INTARMED) program of the UP College of Medicine. They were awarded the Oblation Scholar certificates and shall enjoy special privileges and allowance for the duration of their course. **ANNE MARIE ALTO**

REHAB PROGRAM FROM PAGE 1

All the speakers emphasized that for the community-based program to take off, a critical mass of trained community-based rehabilitation workers is needed. This would require the development of curricula and modules. The organizers expressed hope that the multi-sectoral gathering will lead to the goal of reducing extra-judicial killings and increasing the number of rehabilitated drug surrenderees that have been surging in recent months.

For the program's implementation, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between DAP and UPM was signed by the heads of both parties – President Engelbert Coronan, Jr. for DAP and Chancellor Carmencita Padilla for UP Manila. The MOU stipulates that UP Manila and DAP would continuously cooperate to advance the transdisciplinary work of drug policy design and implementation through consultancy, research, technology, and training services.

In his short lecture, SIBIKA Chief Executive Officer **Dr. Elmer Soriano** welcomed the organization of the workshop that was spurred by the huge fragmentation on drug use rehabilitation efforts. Concerned institutions and officials, he said, were caught flatfooted by the sudden surge of drug surrenderees.

"There is so much work to do. We need to get together to find solutions and address gaps in drug treatment and rehabilitation," as he suggested ways, such as co-developing

a curriculum, doing policy research, and managing and leading efforts on rehabilitation. He regards UP Manila as a valuable partner in this undertaking.

Global and national perspectives

Four global experts on drug policies and interventions shared their experiences and ideas on how to go about the task. **Mr. Peter Mahomet, WHO-WPRO Technical Officer**, revealed that some 31 million persons have drug use disorders and almost 11 million people inject drugs. He shared important key attitudes towards drug users, such as non-stigmatizing, no social marginalization, non-discriminating access to treatment, community-based treatment with recovery facilities, outreach programs, and long-term recovery. He also cited critical elements for such a program in the Philippines, namely reduction of vulnerability as a means toward prevention, treatment and care of people with drug use disorders, prevention and management of harm, access to control medicines, monitoring and evaluation, development of training curriculum and manual for non-specialist health staff, and screening, brief intervention, and referral to treatment.

Prof. Robert Ali, Director, DASSA WHO Collaborating Centre, stated that primary health care is the best approach. He identified detoxification as an ineffective long-term treatment, counseling as moderately effective and social networking, medication-assisted therapy

and residential rehabilitation as effective modalities. He emphasized, however, that the latter is voluntary and is not recommended in the Philippine setting.

Mr. Robert Banys, Technical Consultant, European Union EPOS Philippines who was invited by the WHO and DOH to be a consultant for the government's drug rehabilitation program, shared the Philippine model of voluntary treatment. Essential tenets include provision of human touch, interest, respect, dignity and kindness. He mentioned that these are being practiced in dealing with drug users in the recovery clinics that were set up in six provinces: Tarlac, Oriental Mindoro, Pasay, Cebu, Ifugao, and Compostela Valley. He admitted that the setting up of recovery clinics is not for every place as it requires a different kind of engagement.

Olivier Lermet, Senior Policy Adviser, United Nation Office on Drug and Crime, stressed on non-discriminating access to treatment and rehab services, addressing gender and privacy issues, job skills training and creation, after care and keeping providers.

National models and experiences

Several current models and experiences on community-based drug treatment and rehabilitation were shared during the workshop. The presentors were **DAP Prof. Jo-Ann De Belen**, on the MIMAROPA Model; **Ma. Teresa Avanceña Acda**, Program Manager, Drug Recovery Program of Palawan,

on the Palawan Experience: Community Enhancement and Livelihood Project; **Ateneo de Manila University Professor Ma. Isabel Melgar** on the Ateneo Experience; **UP Manila professor and TWGAS member Laurie Ramiro** on the UP Manila-EIDR Experience; and **International Society of Substance Use Professionals-Global Board Director Clemente Abella, Jr.** on the Baguio Emergency Response for Addiction.

The common themes that emerged from all the presentations include the following:

- Voluntary nature of drug treatment and rehab
- Use of a mix of structured modalities that are appropriate to the culture and conditions in

the place

- Use of primary health care and Involvement of the family in the rehabilitation efforts
- Integration of the spiritual aspect in the treatment and rehab efforts
- Need for recovery programs and reintegration mechanisms and stigma-reduction activities;
- Need for counseling/life coaching experts
- Engagement of local officials and law enforcers
- Provision of alternative livelihood programs
- Importance of collaboration between and among the stakeholders
- Capacity building for local stakeholders

REHAB PROGRAM | PAGE 5 ►

DRUG USE

AMONG
FILIPINOS
JAN 2015
to FEB 2016

1.8 MILLION

current users or 1.8% of the total population of 100.98 million, based on the Dangerous Drugs Board latest survey

4 MILLION FILIPINOS ARE DRUG ADDICTS
according to the *Oplan Tokhang* of the Philippine National Police

4.8
MILLION
FILIPINOS
HAVE
USED
ILLEGAL
DRUGS
ONCE
IN THEIR
LIVES

24.7%
drug retention rate
for MARIJUANA

28%
drug retention
rate for SHABU

SHABU
main
drug of
abuse
reported,
followed by
MARIJUANA &
INAHALANTS
(rugby).

TOP RE

Curiosity
Z

HIGHER IN

Drinking

GENE

Males than fem

BS Hygiene, Public Health grads hold homecoming and reunion



UP Manila Chancellor Carmencita Padilla with some members of the UP BS Hygiene/Public Health Alumni Association who attended the reunion.

The UP Bachelor of Science in Hygiene/Public Health Alumni Association held its annual homecoming and reunion on August 11, 2018 at the College of Public Health Auditorium.

Organized by the golden jubilarian BS Hygiene Class of 1968 under its president Rosalita Vizconde Tan, the event was attended by alumni, CPH officers, faculty and friends. UPBSHPHAA President Guia Bengzon and CPH College Secretary Dr. Vivian Camacho warmly welcomed

alumni and guests from here and abroad.

Chancellor Carmencita Padilla, during her keynote message, shared with the alumni the ongoing and planned projects of UP Manila. She also took the opportunity to invite the alumni association to help make a difference in nation-building by helping mobilize all alumni to support the projects and programs, especially for the CPH.

Other speakers included UP Executive Vice President Teodoro

Herbosa, Dr. Carmencita Salvosa-Loyola (BS Hygiene Class of 1953) and Dr. Veronica Chan (BS Hygiene Class of 1954). A young *cum laude* alumnus, John Paul Delos Trinos (BS Public Health Class of 2014) who was a recipient of the BS Hygiene '68 scholarship grant, shared his experiences during his stint at the University of South Wales (USW) in Sydney, Australia. John Paul finished his Master of Public Health in Economic Evaluation and Master of Health Management degrees from the USW. (Contributed article)

Short course on forensics for mass casualty identification held

The College of Medicine, Dentistry, and Arts and Sciences of UP Manila conducted a three-day training-workshop entitled "Short Course on Forensics for Mass Casualty Identification" on July 25-27, 2018 at the UP Manila Theater.

"This is an area of expertise that is needed in our country today given the forms of natural and human-made disasters that we encounter every year," stated CAS Dean Leonardo Estacio in his opening remarks. He commended the collaboration of the above three colleges in providing the knowledge and skills needed for mass casualty identification.

UP Manila Chancellor Carmencita Padilla zeroed in on the crucial role of forensic experts in mass disaster management as members of the investigative team, such as treatment of survivors, identification of the dead, reconstruction of mutilated remains to make them fit for presentation, and collection of evidence to determine and reconstruct the cause of disaster.

She talked about how various forms of disasters both natural and human-made plague our country at various levels: environmentally, economically, socially and politically and how they cause an inexplicable loss of human lives."

Distinguished experts from various fields were assigned to educate and guide the participants through the workshop in the different learning areas, such as Mass Casualty Incident, Forensic Pathology, DNA Identification, Dental and Bone Identification, Community Preparedness, Psychosocial Approaches, and Medico-Legal Approaches.

The experts were Dr. Alfredo Mahar Francisco A. Lagmay, Executive Director of Project NOAH and Professor at the UP Diliman National Institute of Geological Sciences, Chief Inspector Romeo Pepito Jr. from the Bureau of Fire Protection Investigation and Intelligence Division, Dr. Orlando Ocampo from the PGH Department of Surgery Trauma Division, Dr. Raquel Del Rosario-Fortun, Forensic Pathologist of the UPCM, Mr. Paul Sales from the



Dr. Alfredo Mahar Francisco Lagmay

DNA Analysis Laboratory of the Natural Sciences Research Institute of UP Diliman, UP Manila CD Dean Dr. Danilo Magtanong, Dr. Francisco Datar from the UP Diliman Department of Anthropology, Dr. Daniel De La Paz, Jr. from the Trauma and Critical Care Manila Doctors Hospital, Dr. Lourdes Ignacio, UPCM Professor Emeritus, and Atty Joel U. Macalino, also a doctor from the UPCM.

Participants came from different universities and public and private government institutions. They included UP Diliman, UP Los Baños, De La Salle Health Sciences, UST Faculty of Medicine and Surgery, St. Louis University, Centro Escolar University, Pamantasan ng Lungsod ng Maynila, Unciano Colleges, University of San Carlos, Ateneo de Manila University, Sta. Rosa Community Hospital, City Health Offices of Cabuyao, Sta. Rosa, and San Pedro Laguna, Provincial Health Office of Batangas, and National Bureau of Investigation.

Chancellor Padilla announced that UP will have a big role on the new government department that will be created specifically for disaster management as mentioned in the President's State-of-the-Nation Address. She also announced that a diploma course leading to a Master of Science degree on Forensics will be offered soon at UP Manila.

"This activity is just a start to generate more interest for UP Manila to eventually spearhead the development of academic degree and research programs in forensic science. We look forward to this pioneering endeavor that will ensure greater relevance of UP Manila to our country's burgeoning health problems," she stated.

CHARMAINE LINGDAS



CAS holds faculty confab on its role in a health university

The College of Arts and Sciences (CAS), UP Manila, held its 2nd Faculty Conference on August 16 – 17, 2018 at the AG New World Manila Bay Hotel, Ermita, Manila, with the theme

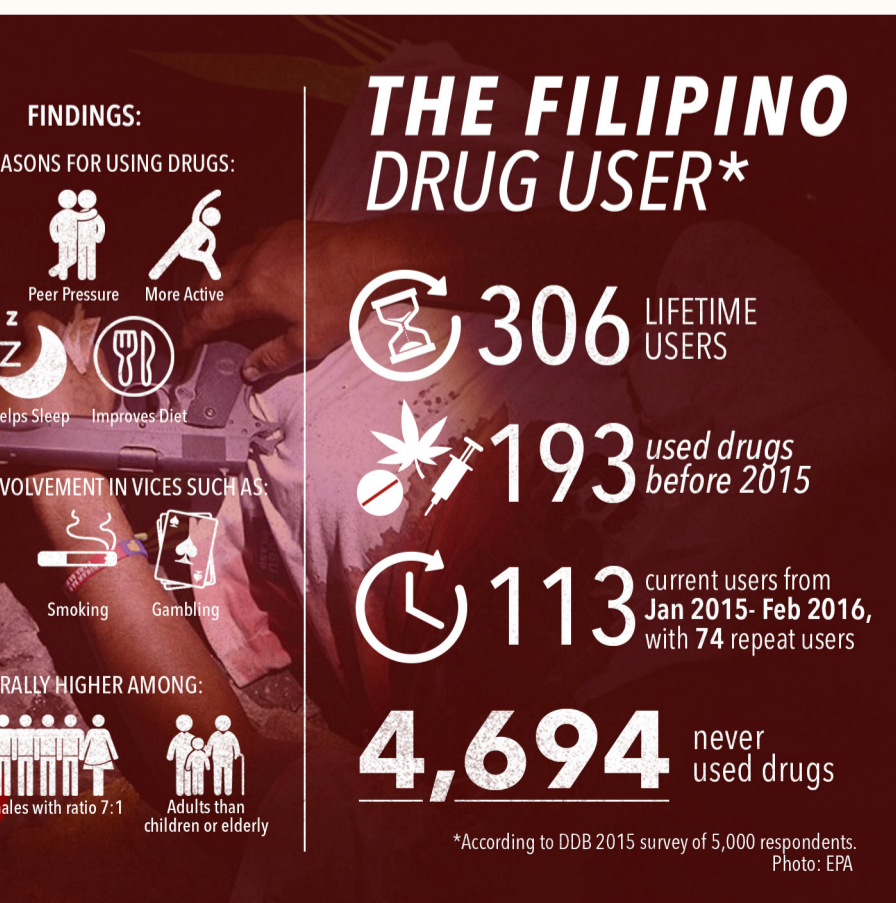
"The Role of CAS in a Health Sciences University."

The first day focused on re-examining and recrafting the CAS vision and mission to ensure that these are aligned with UP

Manila's, while also showcasing the College's role as the center of liberal education in a health science university. The mission and vision of each of its six constituent departments were then crafted in alignment with those of CAS and UP Manila.

Activities on the second day focused on teaching strategies and resources that can further empower the faculty in teaching and implementing the new undergraduate curricula as well as the new GE courses. Speakers talked about university library resources, using Virtual Learning Environments (VLE), and university online portals such as SAIS and UIS.

Results of focus group discussions (FGDs) on learning experiences of CAS students were also presented. Each department then conducted a workshop on how new teaching strategies and the feedback from the students can be incorporated in teaching approaches. The conference ended with a presentation of each department's workshop output. (Contributed article)



CAS Student Summit tackles role of peer counseling in mental health



Different scenes at the CAS Student Summit on Peer Counseling, clockwise: top two photos show students being taught peer counseling skills through lectures and simulations; photo #3 shows CAS Dean Leonardo Estacio with the student participants and trainers; and last photo shows a trainer coaching a student participant on being a peer counselor

On 7-8 September 2018, 60 student leaders from the UP Manila College of Arts and Sciences, representing student organizations and degree program blocks of all year levels, gathered for a two-day training-conference to learn about mental health and the basics of peer counseling.

With the theme, "Build Strong: Establishing Peer Counseling Support at the College of Arts and Sciences," the Summit aimed to build a core group of volunteers who would be trained to serve their fellow students through peer counseling. This is in response to the University's mandate of creating a more nurturing environment for its students.

Day 1 featured several fora among students and experts who equipped the participants with a good understanding of the concept of mental health and its status in the University and the country. **CAS Dean Leonardo Estacio, Jr.** emphasized in his welcome remarks the significant role of student-leaders as first responders or psychological aid providers to peers, classmates, and friends with mental health issues. Peer counseling, he said, is one skill that they should be equipped with to do this.

In a message read by UP

Manila Office of Student Affairs Director Dr. Blesile Suzette Mantaring, **UP Manila Chancellor Dr. Carmencita D. Padilla** highlighted the significance of mental health issues in UP Manila and the university's commitment in providing a holistic response to these. She also related her personal experience in responding to a university student who attempted to commit suicide.

Dr. Gia Sison, National Adviser, Youth for Mental Health Coalition, Inc. presented the history and the salient points of the Mental Health Law, highlighting the idea that mental health is a right for all Filipinos. She also identified some basic requirements for academic and professional institutions for the promotion of mental health.

Dr. Constantine L. Yu Chua, Chief resident, Department of Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Medicine, Philippine General Hospital presented the common sources of mental health problems for young adults, factors in resilience building, and the role of schools in mitigating mental health issues.

Mr. Arnold B. Suson, Licensed Guidance Counselor, PhD student in Clinical Christian Counseling, Asia Graduate School of Theology Focusing

on the spiritual aspect of well-being, explained well-being in terms of the need for restoration of one's original good state and the spiritual healing process as a guide for peer counseling.

For her part, **Dr. Mantaring** presented statistics on the state of mental health at UP Manila and explained the role of the Psychosocial Wellness Network in providing mental health services in the University. She also presented the mental health app that will be launched during the mental health month in October.

Drawing from his experiences as a student-leader and community organizer, **Dr. Raymond John S. Naguit**, National Chairperson, Youth for Mental Health Coalition, Inc., expounded on the power of student organizations in uplifting the mental health status of their communities.

Day 2 focused on the learning of basic peer counseling skills through lectures and simulations. The training was facilitated by Ms. Eleanor Carballo, a lecturer at the CAS Department of Behavioral Sciences.

This year's Summit was organized by the College of Arts and Sciences, in partnership with #MentalHealthPH, which provided social media support during the conference. *(Contributed article)*

Application of Mental Health Law for OFWs tackled

With the passage of the Philippine Mental Health Law or Republic Act 11036 this year, the Filipinos are one-step victorious in battling the stigma against mental health conditions.

By primarily securing the rights and well-being of persons with mental health needs, RA 11036 seeks to make mental health services accessible to the *barangays*; integrate psychiatric, psychosocial, and neurologic services in hospitals; improve mental health care facilities; as well as promote mental health education in schools and workplaces.

A roundtable discussion (RTD) organized by the UP Manila Health Policy Development Hub narrowed the scope of the said legislation to identify strategies that will improve mental health management and services for the Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs).

According to the report released by the development hub, "The RTD focused on the application of the Mental Health Act for the Overseas Filipinos who are identified as highly vulnerable to mental health stressors due to the loss of social support, possible unhealthy working conditions, possible exposure to abuse from employers, inaccessibility of psycho-social services, and re-integration challenges upon return."

Data presented in the RTD show that there were approximately 2.3 million Filipinos deployed across the continents in 2017. One-third of the workers are in elementary occupations and one out of five is a household service worker.

The concern on mental health among overseas Filipinos does not isolate the scope of distressed migrant workers but also extends to Filipino families in other countries. Studies presented in the sessions revealed that migrant workers have little incentive to interact with the health system. For some, seeking mental health services are monetarily prohibitive and may also be inaccessible due to the long distance and the appointment system. Other workers view that seeking mental health services could get them fired from their jobs. Personal beliefs on the nature of mental illness and the possible stigma from families and friends also constrain workers from seeking mental health services.

The consultative meeting was intended for key stakeholder organizations to agree on consensus statements for mental health by bringing forth knowledge, insights, and assess and discuss possible interventions

for programs and policies.

Among the recommendations formulated to aid policymakers and program implementers during the pre-deployment stage of OFWs are: capacity building of OFW service providers (nongovernment organizations, Pre-Departure Registration and Orientation Seminars (PDOS) providers, Filipino Communities, recruitment agencies) to assess mental health conditions and give counselling; strengthening of worker education, training, stress management, and mental health promotion; and, standardizing PDOS with special attention to mental health issue.

To address the gaps in the deployment phase, the proposed solutions involve the inclusion of mental health concerns in negotiations on working or living conditions; integrating mental health concerns in the referral processes; increasing workforce of onsite government labor office; and capacitating more Philippine Overseas Labor Office, Philippine Overseas Employment Administration, and embassy personnel on psycho-social counseling.

Whereas the potential strides to provide mental health care for Filipinos upon their return include: creating a 24/7 health hotline; establishing a structured response system; enhancing the repatriation assistance program; utilizing welfare officers from recruitment agencies to augment mental health services of the government; providing follow-up on mental health status of reintegrated OFWs with referral; and, build competencies on counselling among OWWA regional offices.

The policy forum was joined by representatives from the academe, professional societies, non-profit and government agencies involved with migrant workers including the Department of Health, Overseas Workers Welfare Administration, Department of Labor and Employment, Department of Foreign Affairs, Philippine Overseas Employment Administration, Philippine Mental Health Association, National Center for Mental Health, BLAS OPLE Policy Center and Training Institute, UGAT Foundation, Philippine Association of University Women, Commission on Filipino Overseas, Center for Migrant Advocacy, and the Philippine Migrants Rights Watch.

The roundtable discussion took place August 16, 2018, at the UP Manila Board Room. *Full-text of the report can be downloaded at <https://www.upm.edu.ph/node/2503>.*



National Yang Ming University President Dr. Hsu-Sung Kuo and UP Manila Chancellor Dr. Carmencita Padilla sign a Memorandum of Understanding to promote international collaboration and understanding between the two universities on educational, research and professional activities. Both universities agreed to develop the following collaborative activities in academic areas of mutual interest on the basis of equality and reciprocity: exchange of staff, students, and researchers; conduct of collaborative research projects, conduct of lectures and symposia, exchange of academic information and materials, and promotion of other academic cooperation as mutually agreed. The signing was done at the National Yang Ming University, Taiwan on June 29, 2018 that coincided with Chancellor Padilla's attendance at the Chinese Medical Association Annual Meeting where she spoke on "Expanding Newborn Screening in the Philippines." The trip was highlighted by a visit to the Rare Disease Research Center and Genetic Counseling Center of the Taipei Veterans General Hospital on June 29 and the National Palace Museum on July 1.

NTTCHP DEAN FROM PAGE 1

competent in the changing landscape of education. We are pushing for blended learning wherein our teachers produce new ways of teaching such as producing their own online videos and instructional materials to promote the best teaching strategies in class.”

Since not all faculty and students are keen on doing and using research, Dr. Atienza is promoting evidence-based teaching in all classes, extension services, and consultancies. This also ensures protected time for the faculty, students, and Research, Extension and Professional Staff (REPS) so they can pursue research and publish their completed works.

This step is already being undertaken with NTTCHP’s collaboration with organizations, professional societies, schools, and individuals in conducting research and applying its findings. “We are in the middle of our Performance Measurement Operations Research where we mentor Department of Health fellows in planning, designing, and conducting their operations research.”

Meanwhile, for educational leadership, the new dean is pursuing to have the college accredited by the Philippine Accrediting Association of Schools,

Colleges, and Universities during her term. She intends to lead the college while collaborating with the health professions educators locally and with the ASEAN neighbors to promote faculty development, enhance the curriculum, assure quality education, and empower health professions teachers.

She believes that effective governance should be built on transparency, accountability, and active participation. “We have created some templates for monitoring quality so that all operations will be assessed by the clients, supervisors, and staff. Periodically we will review the efficiency of everyone’s work.”

When asked what the most important ‘step’ among all her flagship programs is, Dr. Atienza answered governance. “If we are a strong team, all the other ‘steps’ will follow. That is why aside from monitoring quality assurance, we also conduct professional and personal development activities for the staff.” Among those are training and sessions, lectures on wellness, nutrition, and basic communication for the staff; all geared towards recognizing the strengths of each staff and help develop those skills. “We want to be a nurturing environment. Addressing their needs is a way

to maintain their excellence,” Dr. Atienza said.

The new dean also puts attendance and punctuality on a pedestal. In her first three months in the office, work absence in the college fell to the lowest rate on record. “This translated to more papers received and released in the last three months.”

She emphasized that her office will continue to be socially relevant through continued commitment to provide needed extension service to the university, health sciences institutions, professional societies, and government and non-government organizations. “There are a lot of requests for training and extension services and we are making sure that we look into the changing needs of our clients, especially in age of Information and Communications Technology.”

Having only four regular faculties and seven staff in the college, Dr. Atienza does not see the college’s limited manpower as a setback. “We are the smallest college so everybody works; all of us are multi-tasking. Even if you are an administrator or a REPS, you may be asked to encode, prepare a PowerPoint presentation, introduce the speakers, and provide technical assistance. Even our audio-visual supervisor sometimes

encode and summarize evaluation forms. It may be a challenge but at the same time, it contributes to the staff’s personal growth as they are given a chance to explore their potentials.

My philosophy is really empowering the personnel. Of course, they have their own strengths and weaknesses. We just have to capacitate and motivate them. This way, they will step up and not just see the 8 to 5 work as something they have to do,” she added.

And while doing all these things, Dr. Atienza remains firm on regulations that need to be followed. “On the other hand, I must also be clear with the rules and with what is expected from each one of us.”

Since being named as the NTTCHP dean, Dr. Atienza said she aspires to make NTTCHP true to its name: to be the Teacher Training Center for the Health Professions for the University of the Philippines, as well as in the country and in the Asia Pacific.

“We are like the College of Education for the Health Sciences in UP Manila. To be that to the other units, to the nation, and to the Asia Pacific region, that would be our ultimate goal.”

Dr. Atienza is also a professor at the UP Manila College of Medicine. She obtained her BS

Basic Medical Sciences and Doctor of Medicine (INTARMED) from the College of Medicine and Master of Health Professions Education from NTTCHP.

She currently serves as Chair of the Office of Extension and Continuing Education of NTTCHP. Her engagement in research and creative works include being a co-author in the first book in health professions education in the country, “Teaching and Learning in the Health Sciences,” curriculum development in undergraduate medicine, and development of various training packages. She is currently a member of the Continuing Medical Education and Faculty Development Committees of the Association of Philippine Medical Colleges and was a former member of the Accreditation Committee of the Philippine College of Physicians and Committee on Training of the Philippine Society of Gastroenterology.

Aside from her full-time teaching load, she also practices internal medicine and gastroenterology at the Philippine General Hospital. With the challenges ahead, she continues to rely on the guidance and strength from the greatest Teacher and Healer of all.

CHARMAINE LINGDAS

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once construction begins.

When completed, a green UPCM campus with a nice quadrangle, solar panels, large auditorium, and bigger areas can be expected.

The **Science and Discovery program**, according to the new dean, will be achieved by forming more interdisciplinary research teams and more collaborations between UPCM, NIH, PGH and looking into the possibility of enabling faculty, staff, and students to publish more researches. She mentioned the sustainability plans of Acta Medica that include seeking PubMed indexing and coming up with more issues through funding support from the NIH and PGH.

She hopes to promote the culture of knowledge creation for public good, not only from bench to bedside or vice versa but also bench to community. She cited the Newborn Hearing Screening Law and Otitis Media project that are able to come up with genetic studies that will form the basis for infections among the indigenous population of Aklan. These may lead to drug discovery and treatment for the most common causes of Otitis Media in the Philippines.

Through the Postgrad Graduate Institute of Medicine that is currently undergoing thorough review, the possibility of offering dual degrees for some selected students, such as an

MD/MS degree, will be explored.

To enhance **Partnerships for Progress**, Dean Chiong pledged to improve internationalization by forging more Memoranda of Agreements and Memoranda of Understanding and getting alumni as visiting professors.

“We will partner vigorously with the Department of Health, Department of Science and Technology, Commission on Higher Education, Philippine Council for Health Research and Development, Philippine Genome Center and the UPM colleges for interdisciplinary researches. We will harness the DOST’s Balik Scientist program that has ample funding to enable experts to come back here.”

Also part of the thrust on partnership is to come up with solutions for screening and diagnostic biomedical devices, e-medical record modules, capacity building modules, learning management systems, and improve the reach of health services using a telereferral system for all specialties to be able to reach our Filipino brothers overseas not only for opinions but also for management.

“We will try to collaborate with the UP College of Engineering as we’ve done this with the biomedical device engineering program for the Hearing for Life project with the University of California (UC) Berkeley and UC Davis. We will embark on a

biomedical engineering program as there are scholarships for this.

Under **Innovation and Leadership**, the goal is to mold six-star physicians out of medical students – with a nationalist fervor who is a physician scientist. “We want to inspire our medical students to be compassionate care providers or decision makers, communicators, community leaders and managers of multi-disciplinary teams by instilling proper values, improving their scientific preparation, mastering their competencies and knowledge base and ability to respond to social responsibility needs,” enthused Dean Chiong who is former director of the NIH’s Newborn Hearing Screening Center and Ear Institute.

Other measures to be taken under this program include embarking on patient safety through the use of simulation mannequins, maximize use of UVLE and other learning management systems, and provide a tracking or pathway for the MD-PhD graduates.

“Through all the above strategies and the new graduate offerings, PhD in Health Sciences by Research and the proposed PhD by Publications, we aim to ensure a more progressive faculty development program and enhance students on the art of medicine and improve their resiliency.”

For **Resources and Management**, she committed to “harness all our resources in order to grow more. With good governance that is transparent, consultative and participatory, we can optimize resources available to UPCM. We would like to ensure that we always maintain the welfare of all our stakeholders at all times and provide more scholarships to needy students, improve climate for professorial chairs, and have more funding for innovative programs.”

To operationalize her goal for **Empowerment, Diversity and Community**, Dean Chiong bared a plan to create an Office for Resiliency, Diversity, Gender Sensitivity, and Community and get consultants to craft a good resiliency program to be led by the Department of Psychiatry. Through collaboration with the UPDCE, she envisions a multi-tiered interventional system that will harness the technologies of mobile applications.

She plans to enhance the students’ mentoring by allowing alumni to serve as mentors, double the entrants to the IntarMed program, and double the number of faculty with PhDs because they will provide the pool for mentors.

She thanked the previous Dean’s Management Team for their achievements and groundwork that would help them move forward.

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Dean’s Management Team: (Front row, from left) **Dr. Jose Joven Cruz**, Assoc. Dean for Planning; **Dr. Marissa Alejandria**, Assoc. Dean for Research; **Dr. Ma. Liza Gonzales**, Assoc. Dean for Faculty and Students; **Dr. Abner Chan**, College Secretary; **Dr. Leslie Dalmacio**, Asst. to the Assoc. Dean for Research; **Dr. Angela Aguilar**, Asst. to the Dean for International Linkages; **Dr. Teresa Cruz**, Postgraduate Institute of Medicine Director; and **Dr. Abdel Abdulla**, Return Service Obligation. (Second row, from left) **Dr. Jean Anne Toral**, Postgraduate’s Institute of Medicine Asst. Director; **Dr. Ana Melissa Cabungcal**, Asst. Assoc. Dean for Planning; **Dr. Rody Sy**, Resource Generation Officer; **Dr. Jericho Luna**, Asst. to the Dean for Alumni Affairs; **Dr. Arsenio Cabungcal**, Asst. to the Dean for Alumni Affairs; and **Dr. Benjamin Sablan**, Asst. Dean for Faculty and Students. Not in photo are: **Dr. Coralie Dimacali**, Assoc. Dean for Academic Development; **Dr. Irma Makalinao**, Special Assistant to the Dean for Flagship Programs; **Dr. Heizel Bernadette Reyes**, Asst. Dean for Academic Development; **Dr. Anthony Cordero**, Return Service Obligation; and **Ms. Lucia Juguan**, Supervising Administrative Officer.

The campuses of UP Diliman and UP Manila participated in the 2018 Metro Manila Shake Drill held on July 19, 2018 with the constituents from both campuses practicing their preparedness skills against the hazards of earthquakes. The shake drill aimed to sustain and improve the public's awareness and consciousness in case a 7.2 magnitude earthquake happens.

When it came to communication capability, it was noted that UP Manila had a satellite phone while UP Diliman and UP Los Baños did not have any; UP Diliman used 218 radios but UPLB was unable to communicate with UPD due to garbled radio signals.

Both campuses executed the required steps in metrowide drill participation. Upon conducting the earthquake drill, UP Manila Chancellor Carmencita Padilla reported to Dr. Mahar Lagmay that the UP Manila campus had no collapsed structures and that all managed to duck, hold, and cover. The constituents assembled afterwards in the open grounds. However, PGH patients remained inside the hospital.

On March 13-15, 2018, a team from UP Diliman and UP Manila attended the Emergo Train System (ETS) Senior Instructor Course Simulation Exercising in Disaster Medicine in Linköping, Sweden.



Vice Chancellor for Administration Dr. Arlene Samaniego gives instructions to Administrative Officers Carlota Surat of CAS and Janet Tolentino of NIH who are greatly involved with UP Manila's participation in the Metro Manila Shake Drill with Chancellor Carmencita Padilla.

UP DILIMAN, UP MANILA PARTICIPATE IN THE 2018 METRO MANILA SHAKE DRILL

UP Manila to have a Disaster Simulation Center

The team was composed of Dr. Gundran, Dr. Fernando Garci, and Mr. Jorel Manalo (UPM-CPH), Dr. Anna Tuazon (UP Diliman), Dr. Jerome Cleofas and Dr. Hilton Lam (UPM-NIH), Mr. Fevito A. Obidos Jr. (PGH). The ETS is a simulation system used for education and training in emergency and disaster management that is used worldwide and can test and evaluate a place's incident command system, disaster preparedness, the effect on the medical management system and resilience within the organization.

In an email interview, Dr. Gundran talked about a grant from the Department of Science and Technology called "NICER" or Niche Center in the Region for

Research and Development where their learnings in the training could be used. One of its priorities is Disaster Risk Reduction. He explained that as the UP campus for the health sciences, UP Manila should be the leader and pioneer in all aspects of health sciences, one of which is Disaster Medicine and Disaster Public Health.

"Disaster Risk Reduction is now a thing for the country and every agency of the national government. It is a big challenge to get the interest of the employees and other people in this program. Studies show that interest in Disaster Preparedness is maximal in the immediate aftermath of a Disaster, but fades away as time passes by."

He acknowledged that lectures are important sources of knowledge to increase awareness and enhance preparedness and response. It is best coupled with drills (simulation). Application of learned knowledge is known to reinforce retention of individuals.

"With the help of the NICER program, we will have funding for a more sophisticated and advanced disaster simulation trainings. I believe that when this Disaster Simulation Center in UP Manila is established and is up and running, the preparedness and response of the individuals who partake in it will improve dramatically. We will start small (UP Manila and PGH, Manila City), but we hope to train on a national level in the future," Dr.

Gundran stated.

"We are still open to future collaborations because we know that collaboration is the essence of disaster management. Disaster is defined as an emergency that overwhelms the resources of the affected community and that this community NEEDS HELP in order to recover. Disaster Management is actually accepting the fact that you on your own CANNOT stand after a disaster magnitude incident. We, thus, need each other's strength filling each other's gap."

He explained that the Disaster Simulation Center of UP Manila is also a form of preparation for the community to train personnel in anticipation of the West Valley Fault Line Earthquake. Plus, there will also be simulation for other hazards like terrorisms, biohazards, biologicals, etc."

"We are hoping to have the cooperation of all national agencies eventually and become the Lead Disaster Simulation Training Center in the Philippines, and if possible in South East Asia. Thus, we are going to pursue the growth and constant updating of this disaster simulation center to help keep the country at par with the latest tools and devices we could muster to prepare our community to be more resilient to disasters," Dr. Gundran said.

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SEJA FROM PAGE 1

Commission on Higher Education (CHED), Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), the National Health Insurance Act, Senior Citizens Act, the Agriculture and Fisheries Modernization Act (AFMA), the Renewable Energy Act, and the Procurement Reform Act. He also authored the laws creating the National Museum and the National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA), among others.

In 1981, SEJA received the Most-Distinguished Alumnus Award from UP and the Highest Professional Award from the UP College of Law.

Testimonials

SEJA's widow, **Mrs. Gloria Manalang-Angara**, sat in the front row with other dignitaries including her son, **Senator Juan Edgardo 'Sonny' Angara**,

UP Vice President for Public Affairs **Jose 'Butch' Dalisay, Jr.**, Chancellor **Carmencita Padilla**, National Scientist **Ernesto Domingo**, PGH Director **Gerardo Legaspi**, PhilHealth President **Dr. Roy Ferrer** and Director **Dr. Anthony Leachon**, **Dr. Zorayda Leopando**, **Dr. Leo Cubillan**, and **Dr. Rosel Doval Santos**.

Known for his advocacies in health, education, economy, and agriculture, the stories shared during the tribute for the late statesman described his contributions to and engagements with UP Manila during the past decades.

On behalf of UP President Danilo Concepcion, VP Butch Dalisay cited all the initiatives and accomplishments of the late senator commenting that "I could go on and on, but you get the idea. This was a man who gave his best to the Filipino people. And by honoring him today, we honor the kind of public servant he exemplified – honest, diligent, intelligent, and people-centered. We will miss him and his time."

SEJA also fashioned the law that gave life to PhilHealth. In his testimony, PhilHealth President and CEO Dr. Roy Ferrer thanked SEJA for the impactful program it has become. "It is your [SEJA's] legacy and we will make it prosper just as you envisioned it to be."

Former UP Manila Vice Chancellor for Planning and Development Dr. Zorayda Leopando represented former Chancellor Dr. Ramon Arcadio. She stated in her message that "Visiting Baler several times and seeing the developments, I said, how fortunate the people of Aurora are. They have a son who loves his people very much that is SEJA. How I wish all the provinces will have a SEJA."

Dr. Leo Cubillan shared how the late senator helped in preserving the historical beginnings of the University of the Philippines. Dr. Cubillan is the current director of the Philippine Eye Research Institute and a member of

the committee tasked to plan and oversee the setting up of the UP Museum of a History of Ideas. "I would like to thank SEJA and his family for his contributions to this museum are felt by the university and the community by preserving its historical beginnings. This will continue to educate our students, faculty, and public about a history of ideas and its role in transforming history."

PGH Director Dr. Gerardo Legaspi, who had a personal relationship with the late senator, was a personal witness of how SEJA diligently followed up on his patients to make sure they are given proper attention. "I am witness to the numerous patients he has personally endorsed and assisted; may it be a farmer in Baler needing a brain surgery, or a medical emergency of a teacher from Quezon, or the more common ones who are the staff of the Congress and Senate."

Dr. Legaspi projected the last text message he received from SEJA reflecting his concern to a Mr. Walter Clemente, a messenger and victim of a motorcycle accident. "It is heartwarming to know that a very busy person like SEJA could have gotten down to the details of all his patients," said Dr. Legaspi.

The message continued where SEJA said he would call Dr. Legaspi regarding family medicine and the plan on having a PGH in New Clark City. Dr. Legaspi added, "One text showed the multi-facets of this great man who not only achieved what was mentioned earlier but made sure they were used as tools of hope for Filipinos."

Chancellor Carmencita Padilla recalled her many encounters with the late senator and acknowledged SEJA's efforts to make science and technology a priority in the country. "Although he was not a scientist, he knew as a legislator that he could do something to make sure that science becomes

important for the country. He was a man who was born ahead of his time and UP Manila will forever be indebted to his contributions to us, to the whole of the Filipino community. We will continue to be his instrument."

The Chancellor proclaimed, "For being the father of health legislation, champion of education reforms, and patron of Philippine arts and culture, maraming salamat, SEJA!"

Dr. Rosel Doval Santos gave a rather lively testimonial. For him, SEJA was like a second father and a mentor. He told the story of his moments with SEJA mimicking the way his mentor talked. Dr. Rosel remembered how SEJA pushed his children to be the best that they can be and the trips and projects they worked on together. "In the end, it is all about work even at the time that he got a spinal problem," Dr. Rosel explained. He also projected their final exchange of text messages that read: 'I will tell Sonny na tulungan niya ang PhilHealth. Hindi puwedeng papatay-patay tayo dyan eh, naghihirap ang taong bayan.' Dr. Rosel added, "This is the miracle of Ed Angara. He loved his country and we love him."

The equally accomplished lawmaker, Senator Sonny Angara, gave the response on behalf of the family. On the accomplishments mentioned in all the testimonials delivered, the senator's son admitted that SEJA really was a tough task-master. "Kahit wala pa 'yung pera basta you have the idea, the money will come later. Ganun 'yung tatay ko. The lesson is to never stop dreaming, never stop doing, and never stop helping our people."

Senator Sonny capped his message saying, "Nagpapasalamat po kami ng taos-puso. We are very grateful to all of you. Today is a day to celebrate a great life, a great work, and I thank you for being a part of my father's life at some point for sharing his vision."

ANNE MARIE ALTO

REHAB PROGRAM FROM PAGE 2

After generating valuable inputs from the presentations, the participants were divided into two groups. Each group was tasked to identify the prospective community-based drug rehabilitation workers and the competencies needed in terms of knowledge, skills, and attitudes to enable them to discharge their roles and tasks defined earlier. These are to orient the team on existing laws and policies; conduct advocacy activities; implement community-based interventions and rehabilitation programs for drug users (counseling/life coaching, referrals, case management); conduct operations; and develop a plan of action to include the financial, documentation, and report preparation aspects.

TWGAS member and PGH Dept of Psychiatry consultant Dr. Salvador Benjamin Vista presented a synthesis of the proceedings and announced that a follow-up workshop will be held in November 2018 where the participants will develop the curriculum for the community-based drug rehabilitation. Several Barangay Health Workers from Quezon City attended the workshop to provide inputs on their tasks in their respective barangays and as members of the community-based drug rehabilitation team.

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EDITORIAL STAFF

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