



# UP MANILA NEWSLETTER

## UP Manila grads maintain excellent performance in licensure exams



The successful nursing licensure exam top notchers and passers take their oath at the UP College of Nursing Auditorium.

### Dr. Crisostomo is new VC for Research



**Dr. Armando C. Crisostomo**, former UP College of Medicine Associate Dean for Planning and Research and affiliate faculty of the National Teacher Training Center for the Health Professions, was appointed Vice Chancellor for Research of UP Manila.

A colorectal surgeon, Dr. Crisostomo has significant qualifications, achievements, and skills in the fields of health education, research, and extension service that he can apply in his new post.

He developed the Integrated Faculty Development Program of UPCM, developed the two-track residency/fellowship program of PGH, formulated the terminal

competencies of the UPCM medical curriculum, and conceptualized the creation of the Center of Excellence in Community-Oriented Medical Education.

Dr. Crisostomo currently heads the UP Manila Technical Working Group on Addiction Science. The group conducted a workshop recently to develop a curriculum for community-based drug rehabilitation for use of community health workers all over the country.

In 2017, he headed the UPCM Commission on Grading Standards and Practices that conducted the first comprehensive evaluation of the College's grading standards

and practices and recommended important reforms to be undertaken. He is also Chairperson of the Philippine Alliance for Patient Safety. As Consultant of the World Health Organization Western Pacific Regional Office for Patient Safety Programs, he organized training workshops for patient safety officers for

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It was a wonderful cap to 2018 for UP Manila as it sustained the exemplary performance of its graduates and maintained its position as a top performing university in the licensure examinations of the Professional Regulation Commission held from September to December.

First to bring honor are the graduates of the College of Medicine and the School of Health Sciences (SHS). In the September 2018 Physician Licensure Exam, the lone board taker from UPM-SHS, **Renalyne Dungo Garcia**, and 140 out of 142 (98.59%) from UPCM hurdled the test. Three landed in the Top Ten: **Ma. Sergia Fatima Papiona**

**Sucaldito**, 4th (90.42 %), **Ron Michael Labrador Castillo**, 5th (90.08 %); and **Marie Abigail Rivera Lim**, 10th (89.58 %).

The nursing graduates from both the College of Nursing and SHS posted the highest among the batches in the November Nursing Licensure Examination. All 39 graduates from UPCM passed the exam with 10 making it to the Top Ten.

They are **Robert Lacayang Mejia** (86.40), 3rd; **Ella Mae Lolith Panal Mahilum** and **Micahella Jane Castañares Merencilla** (85.80), 5th; **Lyka Monique Garcia Mauleon** (85.60), 6th; **Jose Raphael Madulid Delos Santos** and **Sophia**

**Alberto Tubera** (85.20), 8th; **Andrea Franchesca Dela Cruz Descalzo** and **Sophia Ruth Santos Mora** (85), 9th; and **Andrei Jane Francisco Gavino** and **Susanna Martha Beltran Ibe** (84.80%), 10th.

SHS had 17 passers out of 19 (89.47%) examinees.

Meanwhile, all 29 graduates from the College of Dentistry passed the Dentist Licensure Examinations in November (Written Phase), while 28 passed the December (Practical Phase) 2018. The four examinees in the Top Ten are **Michelle P. Robledo**, 1st; **Vance Lenin B. de Leon**, 2nd; **Cara Alexandria S. Esguerra**, 5th; and **Corvi C. Ildefonso**, 6th.

In the Midwife Licensure



SHS' lone medicine licensure exam taker and passer, **Renalyne Garcia**, who plans to join the DOH's Doctors to the Barrios program.

Examination held in November, 12 out of 17 graduates (70.59) from the SHS made it through. One examinee, **Jean Melody Velasco Gempis**, copped 4th place (89.80%).

SHS graduates go back to the communities to serve the health needs of the residents.

## Equity and service classifications tackled in UHC fora

The UP Manila Health Policy Development Hub (HPDH), with the Department of Health (DOH) and the Philippine Council for Health Research and Development, under the Advancing Health through Evidence-assisted Decisions with Health Policy and Systems Research (AHEAD-HPSR) program, held two roundtable discussions (RTDs) on the Universal Health Care Bill.

Senate Bill 1896 or

Universal Health Care (UHC) Act supports the right of every Filipino to have access to preventive, promotive, curative, rehabilitative, and palliative health services while providing maximal and equitable financial protection to the whole population. The bill seeks to institute health care for all Filipinos using a framework that is a whole-of-system, whole-of-government, and whole-of-society approach.

The first forum was entitled **"Beyond hospital beds: Equity, service, and quality"** held on 29 November 2018 that aimed to expound the policy implications of SB 1896 to the Philippine public health landscape as it nears ratification. It was attended by representatives from the academe, government agencies, and non-government organizations.

During the RTD, **Dr. Esmeralda Silva**, CPH

professor and HPDH member noted that most of the indicators need a more operational definition and certain useful indicators may also be added, such as cultural access, effects of natural and conflict-driven disasters on communities, and quality of care measures.

The participants identified the following challenges in the current process for the allocation of health investments:

**UHC BILL | Page 4 ►**



## PGH director appointed to second term



PGH Director Dr. Gerardo Legaspi

Dr. Gerardo ‘Gap’ Legaspi, current Philippine General Hospital chief, has been reappointed to a second term effective January 1, 2019 until December 31, 2021 as approved by the UP Board of Regents during its 1340th meeting.

The highly regarded neurosurgeon, also the lone nominee for directorship, pledged the following programs for the next three years: **Computerization, Infrastructure Development, Research, Strengthening the Role of PGH as a National University Hospital, and Improving the Governance of PGH.**

Under Dr. Legaspi’s watch, upgrades on PGH were carried out, such as the hospital’s information system, equipment and devices, research, and infrastructure projects. In a public forum held on October 28, 2018 at the UP Manila Social Hall, Dr. Legaspi presented his vision for PGH for the next term which was followed by an open forum.

He reported an increase in the income of PGH to P200M in 2015 to 2017, PhilHealth payments

exceeding P1 billion for 2017, and total processed PhilHealth claims rising to almost 300% to 74,181 in 2017 from 24,919 in 2014.

As part of the Computerization Program, the medical records have been digitized, wireless internet was made available around the hospital and can be freely accessed, and upcoming mobile ‘apps’ will soon be launched that will ease the public’s navigation around PGH and will provide a step-by-step guide on the processes of the hospital.

Dr. Legaspi also announced that a new robotic system has been purchased recently, and by the end of the year, additional MRI machine, surgical and neurosurgical equipment will also be acquired.

To better preserve the hospital’s equipment and to provide a more conducive environment, part of Dr. Legaspi’s infrastructure plans is the repair of sewerage, electrical, and drainage systems. Several buildings will also be constructed, such as the 15-story Neuroscience Center, 12-story Cancer

Care Center, dietary building, dormitories, parking spaces, and transient facilities. The restoration and renovation of old buildings will be supported largely by private donations.

“A way to distinguish PGH from other hospitals is to produce our own brand,” Dr. Legaspi declared. He mentioned this together with plans for inventions and innovations with the “PGH brand” under the research program. This, and improving the publication rate while expanding the funding support to consultants and staff members, are his ways to advance the quality of patient care.

To strengthen the role of PGH as a national university hospital, Dr. Legaspi will establish PGH Medical System (PGH Healthcare) to coordinate and centralize the operations of three upcoming branches of the PGH in Clark, Diliman, and Los Baños. A National Cancer Institute site, a PGH brand of Primary Care Service, and a PGH-designed Service Delivery Network will all be included in this umbrella project.

One of Dr. Legaspi’s constant concerns is how to improve patient-care for both charity and private patients. For this, his answer was ‘governance.’ By adopting some corporate system business processes, outsourcing non-core administrative functions, lobbying for more plantilla positions that increase direct patient service delivery, and creating a position for a hospital CEO, Dr. Legaspi believes a more nurturing hospital can be built.

The director capped the forum with these words, “PGH is not just a community hospital in Ermita. PGH is created to be the hospital of the poor and has acquired through time, the university hospital function. Any administrator should have the skill to provide for service and academics. Three years ago, we were able to achieve 90% of this plan. And I was asked, ‘What if you fail?’ I answered, ‘Failure is not an option.’”

ANNE MARIE ALTO



CAS Dean Leonardo Estacio

## Estacio reappointed CAS dean

Prof. Leonardo Estacio was appointed dean of the College of Arts and Sciences by the UP Board of Regents at its 339th regular meeting held on Nov. 9, 2018. He will serve a second term as CAS top administrative and academic leader for three years.

Dean Estacio sought a second term on a six-key area platform of Research Innovation and Cutting-edge Technology, Internationalization and Linkages for Mutual Benefit, Student-centered Learning Environment, Extension Service for Distressed Communities, Unified Academic Program, and Professionalization of Faculty and Staff.

Under **Research Innovation**, he envisions the College to implement more novel and innovative research projects, patents and copyrights; collaborative research programs with local, regional and international research institutions; engage in research capacity building for faculty and in the translation of research into concrete policies and programs; generate viable technologies for social and economic development; and development of facilities and equipment relevant to research.

**For Internationalization and Linkages**, Dean Estacio hopes to build on and strengthen research, academic and public service collaborative work with local and international universities and private institutions including the alumni of the College for mutual benefit. The strategy includes faculty and student exchange programs, joint program offerings, conferences, resource generation programs for institutional development, and networking and linkages with alumni for more sustained

collaborative programs.

To achieve a **Student Centered Learning Environment**, his administration aims to produce graduates that lead and excel in their chosen field of practice and profession through the following measures: development of more relevant student services, such as housing program, scholarships, counseling and behavioral intervention programs and facilities; institutionalization of student exchange programs; more holistic student development through community engagement, sports and wellness, and other scholarly pursuits; and modernized classroom environment and facilities and enhanced delivery of library services.

Providing responsive, enabling and sustaining programs, and **services to distressed communities** is also part of his flagship programs. Specific measures to achieve this goal include the development of community-based and direct services programs and capacity-building of distressed communities through involvement of faculty, staff, and students.

Under his thrust on **Unified Academic Program**, Dean Estacio envisions to “unify the academic program and make it more aligned to the health sciences and health social sciences field.” This will be implemented through re-alignment of academic programs to outcomes-based education system, development of more relevant and cutting-edge degree programs for health and wellness, evaluation and assessment of degree programs for further improvement and development, and development of facilities and equipment relevant to instruction.

For the **Professionalization**

**of Faculty and Staff**, capacity building activities will be pursued, as well as institutionalization of faculty exchange programs and additional faculty and staff plantilla for security of tenure.

### Achievements as CAS dean

For more than 30 years now, Dean Estacio has been providing direct services to the indigenous peoples, urban poor groups, farmers, children and women’s group and other distressed groups.

As an internationally and nationally recognized expert in drug abuse prevention and education, community and social development, indigenous knowledge systems and practices, qualitative and mixed methods research and in designing community-based development programs and training curriculum, he has been engaged for quite a number of times by UN agencies as short-term international consultant in research, training, and program development.

He has facilitated the review and revision of the CAS vision and mission; worked for a unified, well-aligned and health-oriented academic, research and public service programs for the college; established the Office of Associate Dean for Research and Public Service; institutionalized the holding of yearly CAS Student Leader’s Summit; institutionalized the hosting of regular round-table discussions and public lectures by faculty members and local and foreign scholars; worked for the establishment of a regular culture and arts program and initiated together with the P.E. professors, the establishment of a

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### EDITORIAL STAFF

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# 1st National Environmental and Occupational Health Forum held

The First National Environmental and Occupational Health Forum, with the theme *Challenges and Opportunities in Environmental and Occupational Health*, provided a platform for environmental and occupational health practitioners, researchers, policy makers, academicians and students to broaden their knowledge on pressing global and national concerns like climate change, poor occupational health conditions of informal sector workers, problems with the notification system for occupational diseases and injuries, issues on water, sanitation, and hygiene (WaSH) in healthcare facilities, indoor air pollution,



The participants and speakers of the First National Environmental and Occupational Health Forum

and carcinogenic potential of fish from Laguna Lake.

The one-day forum was held on November 28 at the AG New World Manila Bay Hotel. It brought together 137 stakeholders from the Philippines and other countries.

UP Manila Vice Chancellor

for Administration, Dr. Arlene Samaniego, welcomed the participants and guests to the forum on behalf of UP Manila Chancellor Carmencita D. Padilla. Her message stressed the need to address the current environmental and occupational health challenges affecting the

Philippines.

In her keynote speech, Department of Health Assistant Secretary **Dr. Ma. Rosario S. Vergeire** mentioned that developments are inevitably leading to changes in the environment.

"The changes alert

us to the reality that the future relies mainly on the decisions and actions that we undertake now and that the failure to address the current concerns on environmental and occupational health would mean adverse effects for us and the generations

to come," she stated.

Asec. Vergeire's keynote speech was followed by a discussion of global and local environmental and occupational health concerns by experts from the World Health Organization-Western Pacific Regional Office and Country Office, University of the Minnesota, First Philippine Holdings Corporation, and the CPH's Department of Environmental and Occupational Health.

The inclusion of speakers from international agencies and organizations provided global perspectives on environmental and occupational health as well as opportunities that are available to address the most pressing concerns in the environment and workplace.



Dr. Peter WS Chang

## WHAT HEALTH LITERACY CAN CONTRIBUTE TO SMART HEALTHCARE

The Asia Health Literacy Association (AHLA) Country Office, based in UP Manila College of Public Health, organized its first public lecture on health literacy on 29 November 2018 entitled, "What health literacy can contribute to smart healthcare." The lecture was given by **Dr. Peter WS Chang**, Secretary General and President-elect of AHLA, at the CPH Auditorium.

It was attended by faculty, staff, and students coming from within and outside UP Manila. Represented during the event were academic institutions such as Ateneo School of Medicine and Public Health and Manila Central University, drug company (MSD Philippines), government agencies (DOH, DOST-PCHRD), and Taipei Representative Office in the Philippines.

Dr. Chang started the lecture by defining the concept of health literacy – an individual's skill to access,

understand, appraise, and apply health information and services in a way that enhances health. He then talked about the critical role of health literacy in patient outcomes, health care costs, and the like. He presented data showing that patients with low health literacy are more likely to use emergency room services, have longer hospital stays, are less likely to follow treatment plans, and have higher mortality rates. He highlighted the role of health care providers in improving patient health literacy and the benefits of patient engagement which includes improved health outcomes.

The last part of his talk was about what health care providers can do to improve population health literacy. The 5 STEPS to better health literacy were useful tips for health care providers: speak slowly, teach-back, encourage questions, use plain language, and show examples.



**National Institutes of Health (NIH)**  
**21st Anniversary Symposium**  
**"Lab to Life: Translating Health Research for Filipinos"**

**28 FEB 2019 • 8AM - 5PM**  
**UNILAB BAYANIHAN CENTER**  
**PIONEER, PASIG CITY**



**Philippine Genome Center**  
**Genome Assembly, Annotation, and Variant Calling Workshop**

**5-6 MAR 2019**  
**PHILIPPINE GENOME CENTER**  
**UP DILIMAN, QUEZON CITY**



**2nd Patient Safety Congress**  
**"Making Patient Safety Work: Translating Theory into Practice"**

**28-29 MAR 2019**  
**PHILIPPINE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION CENTER, PASAY CITY**

UPCOMING EVENTS

### CRISOSTOMO from page 1...

the implementation of the WHO Safe Surgery checklist, the first ASEAN Patient Safety Congress, and training workshops for the WHO Patient Safety Curriculum.

As Philippine College of Surgeons President and member, he developed standardized evaluation for general surgery training programs, helped formulate a standard curriculum for general surgery residency in the Philippines, and promoted the formulation of curriculum on professionalism.

Occupying various posts at the Philippine Board of Surgery, he conducted training workshops for examiners and developed the following: a competency-

based format for residency in-training examinations, innovation of module-based rating scales for oral examinations, examiner assessment for oral examiners, and examinee assessment of written and oral examinations.

Dr. Crisostomo was awarded Outstanding Educator by the UP Medical Alumni Society in 2016. He has reaped numerous other awards as student leader, educator, researcher, writer, and physician from different recognition bodies and organizations.

He is a fellow of the Philippine Society of General Surgeons and Philippine Society of Oncology. He is Executive Director and

Examiner of the Philippine Board of Surgery. He is past president of the following: professional societies: Philippine Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons, ASEAN Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons; past chairperson of the PGH Department of Surgery; past PGH Assistant Director for Health Operations; and past director of the UP Manila Information, Publication, and Public Affairs Office.

He is former Editor-in-Chief of the Philippine Journal of Surgical Specialties and former Editor of the UP Manila Journal (now Philippine Journal for Health Research and Development).

His appointment follows the approval by the UP

Board of Regents of the proposal to amend the BOR Resolution establishing the position of Assistant for Research (now Vice Chancellor for Research) in UP Manila concurrently serving as Executive Director of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) by abrogating the concurrent nature of both positions, and appointing a separate NIH Executive Director while retaining the position of Vice Chancellor for Research.

The justification was based on the fact that the tasks of the NIH have multiplied with its five component institutes increasing to 10 with additional four research and training centers.

**CYNTHIA M. VILLAMOR**

### DIRECTORS from page 6...

Translation and Business Development Office. She is former dean of the UP Manila College of Nursing which is the World Health Organization Collaborating Center for Leadership in Nursing Development and

a Commission on Higher Education Center of Excellence. She is former director of the National Graduate Office for the Health Sciences. Dr. Tejero pioneered initiatives to improve graduate education and coordination at UP

Manila. In her clinical practice at the Philippine Children's Medical Center (PCMC) from 1995 to 2001, she led the nursing research team and the Training Division of PCMC. She finished her B.S. Nursing (cum laude, 1993) and Ph.D.

Nursing (2009) from the UPCN, and her M.A. Nursing degree (High Distinction, 1999) from the University of Asia and the Pacific. She had her post-doctoral fellowship at the University of Technology Sydney, Australia in 2011.





CHARMAINE LINGDAS



## LECTURE TACKLES RISK FACTOR ESTIMATION FOR NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES



Dr. Ver Bilano

**Dr. Ver Bilano**, junior research fellow at the Imperial College London and newly-appointed visiting faculty of the College of Public Health (CPH) Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics (DEB) delivered a public lecture on 29 November 2018 entitled "Non-communicable Risk Factor Estimation and Projections: A WHO Global Tobacco Use Bayesian Analysis" at the CPH Auditorium.

CPH College Secretary Dr. Vivian Fe Fadrihan-Camacho, representing Dean Romeo Quizon, emphasized the increasing global burden of non-communicable disease and stated that this lecture was a step towards greater understanding of its threat to public health.

Representing UP Manila Chancellor Carmencita Padilla, Vice Chancellor for Research Dr. Armando Crisostomo highlighted the importance of strengthening research initiatives within the University and hoped that the public lecture would inspire young researchers to follow the footsteps of Dr. Bilano, a young alumna who is deeply engaged in global research collaborations.

Dr. Bilano graduated from UP Manila with a BS Pharmacy (*magna cum laude*) and MS Public Health (Biostatistics) degrees and finished her PhD at the University of Tokyo under the Monbukagakusho Scholarship. She has published papers in high-impact journals and continues to influence global health policies on risk factors for non-communicable diseases.

In her risk factor estimation and projection approach, she used analytic country groupings in making her estimates, which are influenced by contextual factors that affect tobacco use within countries.

Moreover, she reported that her estimates were done

through Bayesian modeling -- building up insights from observed data with those from previous data and other well-fitting probability distributions. She also described the use of open source data science software in computing her estimates, such as Python and Dismod MR. Finally, she also made use of models, such as Markov chains and Monte Carlo transformations, which provided estimates based on the probable number of people affected by tobacco based on probability and density functions.

Dr. Herdie Hizon, representing the Department of Health Epidemiology Bureau, as reactor, said that the methods described by Dr. Bilano were not those he is used to, citing instead a frequentist approach that is typical of health surveys. As a practicing epidemiologist for communicable diseases, he also shared a realization that Dr. Bilano's methods may be useful in his line of work, and hoped that more units within the Department of Health would be open to collaborations.

Capping the lecture was an open forum moderated by assistant professor Dr. Amiel Bermudez which elicited questions regarding the applicability of the method in the health information systems currently available in the country and how the approach may also help improve data gathering and analysis especially in cases where there are insufficient data.

In his closing message, Dr. Jaifred Christian F. Lopez, chair of the public lecture committee of the CPH DEB, underscored the purpose of the approach: to help policymakers better understand the health problems through reliable data, grounded context, and improved collaboration.

**CONTRIBUTED BY: DR. JAIFRED CHRISTIAN F. LOPEZ**  
**PHOTO BY: RONALD VERCELES**



## UP Manila holds Fun Run to raise funds for admin employees



The UP Manila Central Administration Staff Development Committee 2018 held the **"Takbo Para sa Empleyado,"** a fundraising fun run, on November 11, 2018 at the PGH parking grounds and portions of surrounding streets.

Proceeds of the activity will be used as seed money to set up a Benevolent Fund for employees of the university who are in need of financial assistance. The Fun Run was also held as part of UP Manila's Health and Wellness Program.

Two health and wellness experts delivered talks and held demonstrations on mindfulness and memory health. They were Dr. Benita Ponio, Executive Director of Metro Psych Facility and Ms. Vicky Mandap, Raja Yoga practitioner and Meditation instructor at the Brahma

Kumaris, Philippines.

A total of 267 runners participated in the fun run, 149 for the 5k run and 118 for the 2.5k run. The top three runners for each category were awarded with medals while the rest of the top 10 were given certificates.



Seated from left: Prof. Milagros Leaño, former Dean Agnes Mejia, Dean Charlotte Chiong, Chancellor Carmencita Padilla, former Chancellor Marita V.T. Reyes, Prof. Rhodora C. Estacio, and Dr. Carlo G. Catabijan. Standing from left: Dr. Salvador C. Caoili, Dr. Allan Hilario, Dr. Joel Nevado, Dr. Tammy dela Rosa, Director Eva Cutiongco-de la Paz, Vice Chancellor Nymia Simbulan, Dr. Paul M. Medina, Dr. Nemencio Nicodemus, Dr. Frank Heralde III, Prof. Laarni Corales, Dr. Leslie Michelle Dalmacio, and Dr. Grace Fe B. Yu

## UPCM Biochem & Molecular Biology Dept marks 65th year

The Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology celebrated its 65th anniversary as an independent department of the College of Medicine on December 6, 2018. The event held at the AG New World Hotel was attended

by current and former faculty members, students, and staff of the department. Colleagues from the university and college also graced the celebration.

The program commenced with the welcome remarks from the current chair, Dr.

Carlo G. Catabijan, followed by messages from UPCM Dean Charlotte M. Chiong and UP Manila Chancellor Carmencita D. Padilla. In her message, Chancellor Padilla noted the Department's contribution to the UPCM's long history of being the

leader in medical education, research, and service and as an institution that gave the Filipino people 113 years of healing, humanity and heroism. Such is an illustrious heritage that was made possible by the collective efforts of each member.

"It is a department with members who inspire countless others, who continue to leave indelible imprints on the Filipino health care system, with outstanding educators, researchers, and advocates who lead exemplary lives and offer priceless wisdom, untiring workers who bravely serve in the battle against disease and poverty," the UP Manila chancellor stated.

Dr. Marita V.T. Reyes, former chancellor of UP Manila and former dean of the College of Medicine and an esteemed member of the department, shared her fond memories and experiences in the department.

### ESTACIO from page 2...

varsity sports program of the University.

He currently serves as principal investigator of four research projects of national importance: assessing the aftercare interventions of treatment and rehabilitation centers; pilot-testing the effectiveness of an evidence-based treatment intervention program for drug users; documenting the indigenous knowledge systems and practices among the indigenous

peoples; and, conducting continuing studies on addictive behaviors and behavioral health among special populations (youth, women, LGBT groups).

He has completed researchers on evaluation of treatment and rehabilitation centers, assessment of community-managed health programs and online sexual exploitation and abuse of children in the Philippines as primary investigator and co-investigator, respectively.

**CYNTHIA VILLAMOR**

### UPMAS from page 6...

Philippine Association of Hepatopancreaticobiliary Surgeons, Inc. and Philippine Association for Laparoscopic and Endoscopic Surgeons. He is married to Sylvia, a nurse, and they have five children.

Their eldest, Michelle Angela L. Tan-Reyes, is training officer at the Rizal Medical Center and CSMC and TB Coordinator of Asian Hospital and Medical Center. Her husband, Michael Joseph Reyes, is an active

interventional cardiologist and training officer at the Asian Hospital, Ospital ng Muntinlupa, and Perpetual Help Las Piñas.

Dr. Tan's other children are: Kristine Catherine L. Tan-Ramos, an internist at The Medical City; Alexandra Monica L. Tan-Gayos, plastic surgeon at the RMC and CSMC; Dianne Danielle L. Tan-Lim, senior resident of Internal Medicine in CSMC; and Kevin Daniel L. Tan who finished medicine at the University of Perpetual Help - Las Piñas.





The University of the Philippines Medical Alumni Society (UPMAS) recognized the university's outstanding medical alumni for their significant contributions to society in 2018 during its Homecoming Ball held on December 20.

The **Distinguished Class of the Year** was awarded to **UPCM CLASS of 1968**. Among the 75 members of the class, 28 attained academic and clinical professional ranks, one became UPCM dean, others became presidents and directors of hospitals and others held various positions in private and government organizations. The class received 11 UPMAS awards, 8 UPMASA awards and 32 Awards of Distinction, 20 national and 12 in the USA.

The **Distinguished Alumnus** was awarded to **Walfrido Wenceslao Sumpaico** of Class 68. Dr. Sumpaico has served for 40+ years as a medical educator at the East Avenue Medical Center, Manila Central University, and

United Doctors Medical Center. He has been editor and co-editor of several editions of the Textbook of Obstetrics and Gynecologic Ultrasonography. He received the UPMAS Outstanding Educator award, Baldomero Roxas Award for Academic Excellence and Honoraria Acosta-Sison Award for research.

**Dr. Leonor Isip Cabral-Lim**, Class 76, was awarded **Outstanding Educator**. Dr. Cabral-Lim has been a Consultant and Professor at UP Manila since 1979. Currently, she is Chair of the PGH Department of Neurosciences and of the Epilepsy Council, Philippine Neurological Association and Philippine League Against Epilepsy, Inc Mental Health Gap Action Program Task Force on Epilepsy. She has produced a number of publications on epilepsy, and anti-epileptic drugs and their effects on pregnancy. She received numerous awards, the most recent of which is the One UP Professorial Chair.

**Dr. Maria Antonia**

**Esteban-Habana**, Class 89 was awarded **Outstanding Researcher**. A professor in Obstetrics and Gynecology, she published numerous articles and presented papers in local and international conventions. She received various recognitions and awards, such as the UP Manila Gawad Centenary Professorial Chair, International Publication award and One UP Professorial Chair in Obstetrics and Gynecology from the UP System.

The **Outstanding Medical Service Award** was conferred on **Dr. Joselito Reyes Chavez**, Class 81. A UPCM faculty since 1987, he is Clinical Associate Professor and Special Assistant to the Chair of the PGH Department of Medicine. As a member of the Board of the Sagip Buhay Medical Foundation which serves indigent patients, he leads the annual review course for the Philippine Specialty Board in Internal Medicine. He established the Sleep Medicine clinical rotation of

Pulmonology fellows at the Lung Center of the Philippines. Since 2015, he has been the Deputy Director of the Clinical Services at the National Kidney and Transplant Institute.

**Dr. Zaida K. Sadain-Urao**, Class 93, was awarded **Outstanding Alumni in Community Service and Public Health**. Dr. Sadain-Urao empowers the people of Zamboanga by facilitating access to scholarships, livelihood training, capitalization and community organization. She is recipient of the 2018 PMA Most Outstanding Physician for Zamboanga City Medical Society and 2017 Most Outstanding ENT Specialist in Community Medicine of the Philippine Society of Otorhinolaryngology.

The **UPMAS Family of the Year** was awarded to the family of **Ernesto Cruz Tan** of Class 74. Dr. Tan is currently the Adviser of the Philippine Center for Advanced Surgery in Cardinal Santos Medical Center (CSMC) and president of the

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## UPM DOC AND UPCM ALUMNUS IS 2018 TOYM AWARDEE

**Dr. Mark Anthony Sandoval**, endocrinologist at the PGH Department of Medicine, is one of the 2018 recipients of the The Outstanding Young Men (TOYM) award in the field of medical science.

He was recognized for "choosing to practice in the academe, widening his research, and educating small town Filipinos on diabetes."

As a clinician, he strives to make sure his patients are well-informed and that they have learned something new every time they see him in his clinic. As an educator, he is known for his passion in teaching learners in medicine, medical students, residents, and fellows alike.

As a researcher, he has engaged in locally-relevant researches such as determining the effects of a popular indigenous plant on lipid levels, trying to prove or disprove anecdotal reports using the scientific method. He is likewise involved in a community diabetes care program in the rural town of San Juan, Batangas, empowering diabetics in this area where there are no endocrinologists.

Dr. Sandoval obtained his Doctor of Medicine degree, *cum laude*, from the UPCM College of Medicine (UPCM) in 2003, graduating as salutatorian. He

completed residency training in internal medicine in 2006 and fellowship training in endocrinology, diabetes and metabolism in 2010 both at the PGH. He is board-certified in internal medicine and endocrinology, diabetes and metabolism.

He was a most outstanding intern of PGH in 2002-2003. He placed 3rd in the Physician Licensure Examination administered by the Professional Regulation Commission in August 2003. He was Chief Resident in internal medicine in 2007, and Chief Fellow in Endocrinology, Diabetes, and Metabolism in PGH. He is a diplomate and fellow of the Philippine College of Physicians and diplomate of the Philippine Society of Endocrinology and Metabolism.

His other awards were Ten Outstanding Students of the Philippines (2003) and Most Outstanding Resident in Internal Medicine (2007) given by the Philippine College of Physicians.

Now in its 58th year, the TOYM Awards is a yearly undertaking of the Junior Chamber International Philippines and co-sponsored by PLDT, Gerry Roxas Foundation, and the TOYM Foundation. (With reports from <http://www.interacademies.org/37043/>)



From left, Dr. Leilanie Nicodemus, Dr. Olympia Malanyaon, Dr. Marie Lourdes Tejero, and Dr. Armando Crisostomo being sworn into office by Chancellor Padilla.

## 3 new directors appointed

Three support offices of UP Manila have new directors who were appointed in December 2018.

**Dr. Leilanie Nicodemus** is the new Director of the Center for Gender and Women Studies. She is former president of the Foundation for Family Medicine Educators, Inc. She is a Certified Family Physician who finished her MS in Clinical Medicine-Family Medicine in UPCM (2009) and is its current Clinical Skills and Simulation head. Dr. Nicodemus received the 2011 Most

Outstanding Young Family Physician award during the Philippine Academy of Family Physicians' Golden Anniversary Celebration, as well as the UP Medicine Alumni Association Best Teacher Award for 2007 and 2008. In 2004, her study entitled *Women's Health: Developing Indicators for Equity, Access and Quality of Women's Reproductive and Sexual Health in Family Medicine Practice (Philippine Country Report)* was published in the Family Medicine Research Group Book.

The next new director is **Dr. Olympia Malanyaon** of the Information, Publication, and Public Affairs Office. She is one of three editors of the centennial book of the PGH Department of Pediatrics entitled *"A Century of Leadership in Philippine Child Health"* published in 2016. She is an Associate Professor of Pediatrics, UPCM-PGH; first graduate of the Pediatric Cardiology Fellowship Program in 1986; performed the country's first successful device occlusion of patent ductus arteriosus in PGH

in 2000 with Dr. Jonas del Rosario; co-editor with Dr. Perla Santos Ocampo of all editions of *The State of Asian Children* by APSPEAR (1985-1991); Editor-in-Chief, *Postgraduate Pediatrics*, the journal of the PGH Dept of Pediatrics from 1991-1996; one of the authors of the Handbook of Pediatric Cardiology; and one of the editors of the two-volume textbook, *Fundamentals of Pediatrics, Competency-based*.

**Dr. Marie Lourdes Tejero** heads the Technology

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Dr. Mark Anthony Sandoval