



UP MANILA NEWSLETTER

“UP will continue to breed students who will not only be outstanding performers and citizens but also Filipinos of conscience”



"UP has been a convenor of protest against both internal and external forces seeking to influence its constituents' thoughts and actions," said UP Vice President for Public Affairs Jose Dalisay, Jr. during the UP Manila foundation celebration.

with that spirit, I'll speak today about the freedom to think, to speak, to study, and to teach—things which we in UP tend to take for granted, but shouldn't," UP Vice President for Public Affairs Jose 'Butch' Y. Dalisay, Jr. began during the celebration of the 39th anniversary of Health Sciences Center Autonomy and 36th year of the Center's renaming into UP Manila Day held on October 22, 2018.

The message was spurred by an incident he recalled a few weeks ago when he was asked by the media to comment on the allegations of the police and military that UP was a recruiting ground for anti-government rebels. They claimed that students were being brainwashed by showing them anti-martial law movies and that some of their professor's views were anti-government. He

asked whether watching a film denouncing martial law was a subversive act or if criticizing the government was considered a crime.

"It's no big secret that rebellion and resistance are coded into UP's DNA, because we have always encouraged critical thinking, which in turn encourages—at least for a while, until complacency sets in—an attitude of dissidence, of anti-authoritarianism, of rejection of the status quo. That's how knowledge happens, that's how it begins, as every scientist since Galileo has affirmed. Learning to lead requires critical thinking; learning to follow demands nothing more than blind conformity."

He stressed that for the past century, UP has been a conveyor of protest, against both internal and external forces seeking to influence its constituents' thoughts and actions. He

cited different instances in history where UP students stood up for their causes ranging from tuition fees, uniforms, and substandard facilities to unfair dismissals, Malacañang interference, foreign control of our destiny, and the overhaul of Philippine society itself.

He disclosed that since the 1940s, many of the leaders of the Communist Party of the Philippines have come from UP, however, UP has also bred presidents such as Laurel, Roxas, Macapagal, Marcos, and Macapagal-Arroyo, and also hundreds of senators, congressmen, Supreme

Court justices, cabinet secretaries, and icons of industry, the arts, sciences and the professions.

"In other words, UP has attracted all kinds — communists and socialists, yes, but also capitalists, ultra-conservative Catholics and born-again Christians, Rizalist cultists, military agents, the Ananda Marga, and Muslim separatists. Our 300,000 alumni can count saints as well as scoundrels, Jedi Masters and Sith Lords, Democrats and demagogues," he affirmed.

Dalisay stressed that the apprehensions about UP

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"I'm very glad to be here in UP Manila, which I consider to be UP's

historic home, the cradle of its spirit, of its ideals and traditions. In keeping

The UP College of Medicine earned the ASEAN University Network-Quality Assurance (AUN-QA) certification for its basic medical degree program.

AUN-QA has two certification levels: Institutional Level and Program Level. UPCM applied for the latter. The Certification Assessment at the Program Level was established by the AUN-QA Network "to promote quality assurance in higher education institutions, raise the quality of higher education, and collaborate with both regional and international bodies for the benefit of the ASEAN community." The first program assessment was made in 2007 (University of Malaysia). The first in the Philippines to undergo the assessment was De La Salle University. As of the moment, more than 200 programs have been assessed.

When a higher educational institution (HEI) gets an AUN-QA



AUN-QA Opening Ceremonies (28 August 2018/UP Manila Board Room) -- 1st row: (L-R) Present Dean Charlotte M. Chiong, UP System EVP Dr. Teodoro J. Herbosa, Chancellor Carmencita D. Padilla, Dr. Hanna H. Bachtiar-Iskandar (AUN-QA Assessor), Dr. Suwat Benjaponpitak M.D. (AUN-QA Assessor), Former Dean Agnes D. Mejia. 2nd row: (L-R) Dr. Ma. Liza Antoinette M. Gonzales, VC for Academic Affairs Dr. Nymia P. Simbulan, VC for Administration Dr. Arlene A. Samaniego, Dr. Ma. Antonia E. Habana, Dr. Abner L. Chan, Dr. Ma. Salome N. Vios, Dr. Francisco P. Tranquilino, PGH Director Dr. Gerardo D. Legaspi, Dr. Armando C. Crisostomo, Dr. Coralie Therese D. Dimacali, VC for Research Dr. Eva Maria C. Dela Paz, VC for Planning & Development Dr. Michael L. Tee

College of Medicine's Basic Medical Degree Program earns prestigious AUN-QA Certification

certification, it means that the institution or program met the rigorous academic standards set by AUN member-schools. For the program level, these standards focused on the quality of educational activities with regard to the following dimensions: quality of input, quality of process, and quality of output.

The AUN is an association of

ASEAN universities. Established in 1995, there are currently 30 member-universities from 10 ASEAN nations. It is the key implementing agency of the ASEAN tasked with the socio-cultural portfolio: "encouraging and promoting higher education cooperation and development to enhance regional integration in achieving global standards." ASEAN

University Network-Quality Assurance is based in Bangkok, Thailand. The Executive Director is Associate Professor Nantana Gajasen, PhD.

The UPCM Self-Assessment Report (SAR) team worked on the certification project for two years. The 77-member team was headed by Dr. Stella Marie L. Jose (Chair) and Dr. Marissa N. Valbuena (Co-Chair). The AUN-QA team who assessed the UPCM medical degree program were Prof. Dr. Hanna H. Bachtiar-Iskandar, DDS, PhD, as Chief and Lead Assessor (Head of the Academic Quality Assurance Board, Universitas Indonesia) and Clin. Prof. Dr. Suwat Benjaponpitak M.D., as Assessor (Acting Dean, College of Religious Studies; Vice President for Academic Affairs, Mahidol University). They did the assessment in Manila from 28-30 August 2018.

FEDELYNN JEMENA

Only U.P. makes it to top 100 of QS Asian university rankings for 2019

2019 Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) Asia University Rankings

Top Philippine Universities in Asia	2019 Ranking	2018 Ranking
University of the Philippines	72	75
Ateneo de Manila University	115	95
De La Salle University	155	134
University of Santo Tomas	162	145
University of San Carlos	301-350	301-350
Mapua University	401-450	—
Mindanao State University-Iligan Institute of Technology	451-500	—
Silliman University	451-500	351-400

The University of the Philippines (UP) is the only Philippine university that made it to the top 100 of the 2019 Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) Asia University Rankings released Wednesday, October 24. UP also climbed in rank from 75th in 2018 to 72nd in 2019, followed by the Ateneo de Manila University, 115th, De La Salle University, 155th, University of Santo Tomas, 162nd, and Silliman University. (With reports from Rappler.com)

UP rises in world ranking for medicine, dentistry, & health subjects



The University of the Philippines has gained recognition in the Times Higher Education (THE) World University Rankings 2019 as a top university for social sciences, life sciences, physical sciences; and for clinical, pre-clinical and health subjects, in which UP rose to the top 126-150 of 721 institutions from top 201-250 of 501 institutions in the 2018 edition of this ranking. According to the THE rankings, the clinical, pre-clinical, and health subject ranking 'highlights the universities that are leading in medicine, dentistry and health subjects. (With reports from www.up.edu.ph)

UP hosts confab on equity and health in urban environments

The University of the Philippines, in collaboration with the International Academic Consortium for Sustainable Cities (IACSC) led by Yokohama City University (YCU), hosted the 9th IACSC Conference on September 11-12, 2018 at the AG New World Manila Bay Hotel, Manila, Philippines.

The theme for this year was “Equity and Health in Urban Environments in the Era of Sustainable Development.” The conference provided a venue for urban planners, public health practitioners, environmentalists, researchers, policy makers, faculty and students to broaden their knowledge on issues and factors affecting urban development, public health and the environment. The

University (Japan) with member institutions such as Thammasat University, Thailand; Universiti Sains Malaysia; UP; Hasanuddin University, Indonesia; and Vietnam National University.

The event also paved the way for the renewal of Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the UP system and the IACSC. This was led by the UP System Executive Vice President Teodoro J. Herbosa representing UP President Danilo L. Concepcion and YCU Vice President Yoshio Goshima representing YCU President Yoshinobu Kubota.

The 9th IACSC Conference was attended by 187 guests and delegates from the Philippines, Japan, Malaysia, Vietnam, Thailand,



(From Left to Right): UP Manila College of Public Health Dean Romeo R. Quizon, UP Manila Vice Chancellor Nymia P. Simbulan representing UP Manila Chancellor Carmencita D. Padilla, UP System Executive Vice President Teodoro J. Herbosa representing UP President Danilo L. Concepcion, YCU Vice President Yoshio Goshima representing YCU President Yoshinobu Kubota, Director Rui Ota of the YCU Global Cooperation Institute of Sustainable Cities and Dean Yuka Kanoya of the YCU School of Nursing during the Renewal of Memorandum of Agreement between the UP System and IACSC.

conference is hosted by a member country annually to support the mandate of the consortium which is to develop cooperation, foster dialogues and discussions, encourage sharing of resources and promote conduct of research and collaborative activities between and among academic and research institutions.

The consortium aims to establish and strengthen the linkage between universities and the cities where they belong towards capacity building for a sustainable society. The consortium is led by the Yokohama City

Korea and Indonesia. Plenary speakers from the World Health Organization Western Pacific Regional Office, Asian Development Bank, Metro Manila Development Authority and Bases Conversion Development Authority discussed topics aligned with the conference theme. There were twenty-six (26) oral and eleven (11) poster presentations dealing with topics on environment, urban planning and public health. The 10th IACSC Conference in 2019 will be hosted by Hasanuddin University in Makassar, Indonesia.



Dr. Nelia Maramba giving the Dr. Cecilia Zamora Memorial Lecture

Summit tackles integrating herbal medicine into PH health system

The Institute of Herbal Medicine under the UP Manila National Institutes of Health held the 2nd Philippine Herbal Medicine Summit held on October 4-5, 2018 at AG New World Manila Bay Hotel, Manila.

It brought together all stakeholders, including those involved in research, funding, manufacturing, distribution, regulation, and consumption to find ways on how herbal medicines can be incorporated into the Philippine health care system.

During the plenary sessions, **Dr. Ami Fazlin Syed Mohamed** of the Herbal Medicine Research Center, Malaysia and **Dr. Yu Lee Park** of the World Health Organization (WHO), shared their knowledge and expertise on how herbal medicine can be

integrated into the health care system. Speakers from the academe, government institutions, private sector and the agricultural sector shared their experiences and knowledge on various topics and plans on how each sector can contribute to the common goal of improving the herbal medicine status in the country.

Two lectures were held to recognize the outstanding accomplishments and contributions of two scientists in the field of herbal medicine research. **Dr. Nelia Cortes-Maramba** gave the **Cecilia Zamora Memorial Lecture** while **Dr. Romeo Quijano** presented the **Dr. Horacio Estrada Memorial Lecture**.

A poster research contest and infomercial-making contest were held to garner recognition for the

research works of students and scientists. Out of 42 entries, the top 5 research papers were selected and their authors were asked to present their studies. Ten entries of the infomercial-making contest were presented on the first day of the event of which the Top 3 were adjudged winners.

The summit ended with the drafting of the resolutions presented during a session on the first day with the participation of all attendees. The final version was further refined and approved during the last day of the event moderated by Dr. Gene Nisperos. The resolution entitled “Strengthening the Role of Herbal Medicines in Keeping the Filipino Population Healthy” hopes to address the following key points: (a)

documentation, promotion and perseverance in herbal medicine development, (b) intersectoral collaborations for the education and training on the rational use of medicinal plants, (c) inclusion of more herbal medicines that are validated and proven safe and effective in the Philippine National Formulary, (d) institutionalization of the collection, documentation, and sharing of information on herbal medicines by different sectors and agencies to facilitate production of Philippine Herbal Medicine Pharmacopeia, (e) Philippine government providing support and promotion on herbal medicine production. Summit participants signified their support in the summit resolutions.

(Contributed article)

SIHI-Philippines: Championing Innovations in Health

In the continuous pursuit for positive change and development, the Philippines’ Hub on Social Innovations in Health Initiative (SIHI) was launched during UPM’s founding anniversary on October 22.

It aims to formulate solutions that could address poverty, infectious diseases, patient safety, and improve affordability, equity, and access to health care. The hub works to improve the health of all Filipinos through creative and innovative solutions designed and implemented by Filipinos.

Having its headquarters within UP Manila, principal investigator of SIHI-Philippines Dr. Noel Juban introduced during the university’s foundation celebration the hub’s efforts to advance social innovation in health by identifying, recognizing, and supporting those innovations through research, capacity building, and advocacy. The case studies and impact of these innovations are shared on their website for everyone to learn and use the lessons and continuously improve health care for the communities.

The innovations

studied by the hub are the Partners in Leprosy Action (PILA), Inter-island Health Service Boat, Seal of Health Governance, National Telehealth System (NTS), and the PhP 6.60 Everyday Family Health Plan in Palawan.

Apart from identifying the support needed for the scale-up and sustainability of the innovations, the hub also connects stakeholders and partners with each other, enhances their capacity through training, and crafts steps to integrate the existing social innovations into health research and policy agenda.

SIHI is a network of individuals and institutions across four continents convened by the World Health Organization. It was launched in the Philippines in 2017 to produce interventions that will make healthcare delivery more inclusive, effective, and affordable; as well as foster internalized change in people.

The hub partners with the Department of Health, the Philippine Council for Health Research and Development under the Department of Science and Technology, and other key health and innovation organizations in the Philippines.



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Mr. Harris Fulo of IPOPHIL introducing the EIE Program of the World Intellectual Property Organization

Meeting with SMEC member schools held on tech transfer and Intellectual Property issues

The UP Manila Technology Transfer and Business Development Office (UPM-TTBDO) organized the 1st meeting for the South Manila Education Consortium (SMEC) Technology Transfer and Business Development Network on September 5, 2018. The event was hosted by the Philippine Normal University, and was initiated by UPM Chancellor Carmencita Padilla and SMEC President Francisco Benitez.

Notable among the exchanges of experiences and best practices was that of **Ms. Anna May Ramos**, IP Development Section Head and Innovation and Technology Support Office Technical Expert of Adamson

University, as well as that of **Atty. Ma. Janice Tejano**, Director of the Intellectual Property Management Center of De La Salle – College of Saint Benilde.

Ms. Ramos shared how she grew the pool of technical experts of her office from their faculty base, exposing and involving various university stakeholders in IP-related activities. She even mentioned her unorthodox initiative of sending the head of their Human Resources Department to a Patent Drafting training to allow for appreciation of the activity, hence spurring the revisions in faculty loading for those that perform IP-related activities in their university.

On the other hand, Atty. Tejano underscored the need for university IP policies as well as guide books that would aid in the implementation of said policies, such as style guides for the university's trademarks and other related IP. As most member schools in attendance do not have these policies yet, it was agreed upon that the next meeting would involve a writeshop of IP policies. Finally, the event closed with a short presentation from Mr. Harris Fulo of the Intellectual Property Office of the Philippines (IPOPHIL) on "Enabling the IP Environment" (EIE) program, as well as the EIE-Philippines network. *(Contributed article)*

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in 2018 are no more tenable than the charges laid against freethinkers on campus back in the 1940s. He maintained that UP has actually done more than rebel. He urged the public to look into our breakthroughs in researches done in the university.

"For me, the true heart of UP lies neither in the Right nor the Left, but in that great liberal middle — "liberal" with a small "L" — whose members value the freedom to think, to speak, to study, and to teach, subscribing neither to State propaganda nor to Party doctrine, but trusting their own reason and education to illumine the way forward. In this broad middle, we may quarrel passionately over the distribution of units among the humanities and the sciences in our GE program, but we will link arms, almost instantly and without the need of exhortation, when it comes to any form of

repression, especially of our academic freedom."

He beseeched the UP community to secure and defend the University as a zone of free thought and free speech no matter what they may espouse, and employ reason to distinguish truth from lies, and right from wrong.

"So to our inquisitors, this I say: there has been no modern administration—whether in Malacañang or Quezon Hall—against which UP students have not marched when they felt they needed to. Your charges will only revive and strengthen a proud tradition of resistance now more than a century old. And I pray that we will continue to breed students who will not only be outstanding performers and citizens but also Filipinos of conscience who will march again for good and right when the country calls."

In the same event, UP

Manila Chancellor Carmencita Padilla noted how UP Manila has grown as a distinct university. "We stand proud in what we are right now. The Department of Health, Commission on Higher Education, Department of Science and Technology, especially the Philippine Council for Health Research and Development, look up to UP Manila when it comes to certain decisions that will affect the whole country," she stated.

Highlighting the celebration were the launch of several programs, conferment of the Perla Santos Ocampo Centennial Professorial Chair for Research, and conferment of the Service Awards on employees who had served for 20, 25, 30, 35, and 40 years or more and the Gawad Chancellor Outstanding Awards in different categories *(please see separate articles)*.

CHARMAINE LINGDAS

OSA announces new app, computer loan

In the quest to offer timely help and support needed by students, the Office of Student Affairs (OSA) of UP Manila designed two new programs to provide mental health support to students and aid the socioeconomically disadvantaged.

LiftUP

During the health sciences center's founding anniversary on October 22, the first program introduced was a mobile application called LiftUP – a project of the Psychosocial Wellness Network, a unit created by the Chancellor, whose main goal is to collaborate with all seven colleges of UP Manila to promote mental health to all its constituents, prevent mental illness from developing to at-risk students, and intervene in cases of mental illness.

The free mobile 'app' will have its soft launching by October 31 and will run in both Android and Apple operating systems. Since the app will only be available to UP Manila students,

registrants will sign in using their UP email address.

The students will have access to a list of counselors both guidance counselors from the Office of Student Affairs and peer facilitators. The peer facilitators are students who volunteered and have undergone training under the Student Affairs.

LiftUP assures that counselors and students will have no knowledge of who they are chatting with and is, therefore, a venue where students can discuss their problems anonymously. The PGH Department of Psychiatry and Family Medicine also agreed to be part of the project to take over the application from 7 pm onwards upon its full implementation.

Rent to Own Computer Loan

Many courses in UP Manila are making use of online resources and blended learning strategies. An example is the Virtual Learning Environment which optimizes the students' engagement, increases motivation towards learning,

and improves the learning process.

A rent-to-own computer loan program will enable students to make use of information technology and to provide resources for learning and research.

OSA conducted an online survey to study the students' access to online learning resources. The main reasons for their computer-use were primarily for school work, followed by sending emails, and surfing the internet.

Among the survey respondents, 26% said that they did not have a computer of their own. In case of need, they would make use of the school or library resources, and even a friend's computer in order to avail of the information technology being run in the college. The survey also showed that majority of the 26% were amenable to a rent to own computer loan.

By the end of the year, both programs are expected to be fully implemented.

ANNE MARIE ALTO

NBS convention affirms recommitment to saving lives



16th National Newborn Screening Convention Overall-Chair Dr. Maria Melanie Liberty Alcausin (2nd from left), UP Manila Chancellor Carmencita Padilla, and NSSPI President Ephraim Neal Orteza award the Certificate of Appreciation to Newborn Foundation Chief Executive Officer Annamaria Saarinen after the latter's talk on Critical Congenital Heart Disease Screening. Also in photo is Dr. Jose Jonas del Rosario, Project Investigator of the pilot study on the Philippine Multicenter Pulse Oximetry Screening for Critical Congenital Heart Disease.

Themed "ENBS: A Recommitment to Saving Lives," this year's National Newborn Screening Convention held on October 9-10 gathered around 2000 health professionals and newborn screening advocates from across the country. It was organized by the Newborn Screening Society of the Philippines, Inc. (NSSPI) and the Newborn Screening Reference Center (NSRC), National Institutes of Health, UP Manila.

The two-day convention, headed by NSSPI President Neal Orteza and Over-all

Chair Maria Melanie Liberty Alcausin, offered participants an interesting array of topics in the plenary and simultaneous sessions on the latest developments locally and globally.

Following Dr. Orteza's welcome remarks, National Institutes of Health (NIH) Executive Director Eva Cutiongco-Dela Paz affirmed the commitment of the NIH to the program through relevant researches to improve the screening and management of newborns with metabolic and genetic disorders.

In a speech delivered by Assistant Secretary Maria

Rosario Vergerie, Health Secretary Francisco Duque shared his involvement in the program as DOH Secretary and as PhilHealth Chief from 2005-2010 by laying down the enabling policies to implement and meet the objectives of Republic Act 9288 or the Newborn Screening Act of 2004. Sec. Duque pointed out that the strategic directions of newborn screening are aligned with the goal of Universal Health Care in the country, hence, the bold commitment of DOH to push for its targets by 2030.

Five plenary sessions kicked off the convention: the status of newborn screening in the country NBS roadmap, highlighting the Strategic Framework for Newborn Screening for the next 13 years, PhilHealth's Newborn Care Package; role of the Newborn Screening Reference Center of the UPM-NIH as technical arm of the DOH Unit Head; mechanisms for implementing the newborn screening policies and NBS Facilities, Centers, and Continuity Clinics.

VINA MENDOZA



UP Executive Vice President Teodoro Herbosa, UP Manila Chancellor Carmencita Padilla, UP President Danilo Concepcion, UP Medical Alumni Foundation Inc. Chairman and President Rody Sy, UP College of Medicine Dean Charlotte Chiong, former UP College of Medicine Dean Agnes Mejia, and UP Manila-Philippine General Hospital Director Gerardo Legaspi with building project partners, Jorge Consunji of DMCI (extreme left) and Architect Prosperidad Luis (second from right), during the ground-breaking for the UP College of Medicine Medical Sciences Building.

New Medical Sciences building to rise in 2020

Adding to the wave of buildings set for completion at the UP Manila campus in the next two to three years, the UP College of Medicine held the groundbreaking ceremony of the 11-story Medical Sciences building on October 22.

The new building will rise near Calderon Hall and Sports and Wellness Center. The first two floors will house two modern auditoriums with 240 and 260 seat capacity, respectively; classrooms of various sizes that can accommodate 10-100 students; clinical simulation facilities for basic and advanced teaching; and two multipurpose halls and special event halls that seat 400-500 persons. The upper floors will be saved for future needs.

Present during the

groundbreaking were UP President Danilo Concepcion, UPM Chancellor Carmencita Padilla, UP Medical Alumni Foundation Inc. President Dr. Rody Sy, UPCM Dean Charlotte Chiong, former UPCM Dean Agnes Mejia, D.M. Consunji Inc. CEO Jorge A. Consunji, and other UP Manila deans, faculty, and directors.

Several speakers expressed appreciation to the donors and companies who extended their services for the project. This includes UP Medical Alumni Foundation, Inc. President Dr. Rody Sy who remarked, "With all of you around, I can safely say that 'the end is near.'"

Similarly, Chancellor Padilla thanked all the minds that made the project possible including UP President Concepcion who

collected funds to add four more floors to the initially seven-story building. "Everything is a product of teamwork. Every building that comes out of UP Manila is for the Filipino people. This building is the dream of the College of Medicine for the future doctors who will eventually serve the country," she added.

Referring to the additional four levels, President Concepcion proposed more floors to the building in the event of future need instead of building another facility that will require exploring for available land. He also raised PhP 70M for these floors announcing that the fund is already available. He ensured that "If more funds are needed later on in order to complete this building, you can count on me for support."

On the other hand, Dean Chiong reported that aside from infrastructure, a request was sent to the Commission on Higher Education to ask for an institutional development grant. This will secure funds that will allow the college to have dual degree programs and consequently multiply the number of researchers and teachers in the university.

"Dala ito ng ating adhikain na makapagsilbi ng tapat sa ating mga kababayan at ang ating minimithi at bukal sa loob natin na makatulong," she said.

In the same day, a memorandum of agreement signing was held to acknowledge UP System's formal acceptance of the donation given by the UPMFI for this development.

ANNE MARIE ALTO

Hearing for Life Project posts achievements

In the Philippines, one in 1,000 babies are born deaf in both ears. Unfortunately, less than 10% of newborns each year are screened for hearing loss due to limited facilities which offer screening devices because of their expensiveness, limited number of audiologists, lack of certified hearing screeners, and parents lost to follow-up process. The children's deafness are usually detected when they are 2 or 3, even up to 6 years old, which meant that developmental problems in speaking, learning, and living had begun.

To lessen and, eventually, arrest these problems, health professionals, scientists, engineers, and educators from here and abroad came together to form the Hearing for Life (HeLe) Project. The Project's main objective is

to increase the number of babies screened for hearing problems so that early diagnosis and intervention could be provided for them. It is a collaboration between the University of the Philippines and the University of California, and funded by the Philippine-California Advanced Research Institutes and the Commission on Higher Education (PCARICHED).

On 6 September 2018, the group held the first Hearing for Life (HeLe) Research Forum and the 9th Annual Collaboration on Newborn Hearing Screening Advocacy to update stakeholders on its work. Participants were interested in the current progress of the implementation of Republic Act 9709 or the Universal Newborn Hearing Screening and Intervention Act of 2009.

Among the presentations those that garnered attention were the HeLe Device, the Computer-based Training (CBT) Course for Healthcare Providers, and Telereferral System. The HeLe device is a cost-effective Automated Auditory Brainstem Response hearing screening device with telehealth capabilities which was developed by Filipino and American scientists. It had passed FDA approval and registration. The CBT Course is an e-Learning system for device user training and screener's accreditation. The Telereferral System promotes a service delivery network which handles the healthcare needs of a deaf child and his/her family.

The HeLe Project is led by the UPM NIH's Philippine Newborn Hearing Screening and Intervention Act of 2009.

Center and the Electrical and Electronics Engineering Institute of UP Diliman. The other collaborating institutions are the Center for Information Technology Research in the Interest of Society-Banatao Institute (University of California Berkeley) and the UC Davis Center for Health and Technology.

The HeLe's main Principal Investigator is Dr. Charlotte Chiong, Director of both the Newborn Hearing Screening Reference Center (NHSRC) and the Philippine National Ear Institute (PNEI). She is also the Dean of the UP College of Medicine. The Project Manager is Dr. Rosario Ricalde, a neurotologist and Clinical Associate Professor of the Department of Otorhinolaryngology at UPCM-PGH. FEDELYNN JEMENA

PGH Cath Lab marks 20 years with 2 Biplane Angiography System

The PGH Cath Lab marked its 20th anniversary on September 4, 2018 with the inauguration of two commissioned new Cath Lab systems that would improve the delivery of much needed diagnostic and interventional services for patients afflicted with cardiovascular diseases.

"It was in 1992-1993 when I was Vice Chair of the PGH Department of Surgery and active head of the Cardiovascular Unit. At that time, in response to the rising need for arteriography or arteriograms capacity, all we could do was open arteriograms. The neurosurgeons were doing direct carotid injections, while us, we perform the translumbar aortograms to make a diagnosis for an aortic aneurysm. We put catheters that were usually used and sterilized by Cidex overnight," recounted Dr. Enrique Ona, former Health Secretary.

Toshiba unit there. They realized, "OK naman pala." I have to go back to Senator Romulo and ask him to pressure then UP President Emil Javier and then UPM Chancellor Perla Santos Ocampo who eventually decided to award the project to Toshiba."

In 2006, the PGH Cath Lab Pacemaker Bank was initiated with Heartbeat International and Rotary Club of Manila to provide pacemakers and other intracardiac devices to PGH indigent patients. In 2011, a second Cath Lab was acquired with funding from the DOH through the efforts of then DOH Secretary Francisco Duque and Department of Social Welfare and Development Secretary Esperanza Cabral.

In 2013, a new Cath Lab proposal was set into motion during the term of PGH Director Jose Gonzales, which Dr. Ona helped bring



UP Manila and PGH officials grace the PGH Cath Lab anniversary.

"Senator Alberto Romulo happens to be my neighbor and we would sit down and talk over coffee. With his pork barrel, he was able to allocate 54 million pesos," he stated.

He narrated that the project was on hold for 5-6 years due to the problems in choosing the companies who participated in the bidding for the equipment purchase.

"Fortunately, two or three of the cardiologists attended a meeting in Australia and saw a

to fruition.

"I think this morning no less telling that we are here standing tall because we are standing on their shoulders, Dr. Ona, Dr. Rogelio Tangco, Dr. John Anunuevo, all in line in vascular intervention and surgery, and the new generations that we have. We are all here because of all these contributions and as the director, it is my duty to give justice to everything that you do in PGH," stated PGH Director Dr. Gerardo Legaspi.

CHARMAINE LIGNDAS



Dr. Charlotte Chiong presenting the HeLe project to the stakeholders.

PSO Centennial Professorial Chair conferred on parasitology researcher



Dr. Vicente Belizario Jr. receives the certificate of appreciation for being the recipient of the PSO Centennial Professorial Chair Award

The Perla D. Santos Ocampo Centennial Professorial Chair for Research was conferred on Dr. Vicente Belizario, Jr, a parasitology professor and researcher, on October 22, 2018 during the celebration of the 39th year of the Health Science Center's autonomy and the 36th year of its being renamed to UP Manila.

The grant was approved by the UP Board of Regents on Nov. 26, 2010 in recognition of Dr. Santos Ocampo's achievements in pediatric research. As an acclaimed researcher, PSO, as Dr. Santos Ocampo is fondly called, acknowledged that research is the lifeline for the creation, dissemination, and application of knowledge and innovations that benefit the people.

Her researches have been used as basis for major policy decisions and program designs on child health. It was largely due to her studies that the Oral Rehydration Therapy (ORT) was accepted by the Department of

Health on diarrhea-related health concerns. Her ORT became a requirement in the medical curriculum and was endorsed by the Philippine Pediatric Society. It eventually became an integral part of good clinical practice nationwide.

PSO put up the Diarrhea Disease Research Unit at the Philippine General Hospital for studies on the various types of ORL suitable for children with diarrhea. The task was commissioned by the World Health Organization to improve prevention and management of acute diarrhea. Her studies on the relation of malnutrition and child growth and development were instrumental to the country's fight against child malnutrition.

She established the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit, Silahis ng Kalusugan School for Chronically Ill Children, and enhanced the training programs and conduct of more researches and local and international linkages

at the PGH Department of Pediatrics.

As UP Manila chancellor, she was noted for developing academic programs to enhance health education and securing the university's research function. She was instrumental in establishing the National Institutes of Health (NIH) in 1998 through Republic Act 8503, National Graduate School of the Health Sciences, and National Telehealth Center.

On June 25, 2010, she was conferred the title and rank of National Scientist by the National Academy of Science and Technology (NAST) for her contributions in the field of pediatrics, as medical educator-leader and mentor, institution builder, and advocate for the health of Filipino children.

Dr. Belizario is a renowned researcher on parasitic infections and other tropical diseases. He has conducted several studies on different parasites and the prevalence of parasitic infections among Filipinos, particularly pre- and school children. He is spearheading the government's "War on Worms" among school children from provinces with high infection rates.

He is lead author of the book "Philippine Textbook on Medical Parasitology" that won the NAST Outstanding Book Award. He is former DOH Undersecretary and former UP Manila Vice Chancellor for Research and NIH Executive Director.

CYNTHIA VILLAMOR



Chancellor Carmencita Padilla administers the oath of office of newly-appointed SHS Dean Dr. Filedito D. Tandinco. Behind them are the Dean's parents and siblings.

Investiture rites held for new SHS dean

New School of Health Sciences (SHS) Dean Dr. Filedito D. Tandinco was formally invested in rites held on September 21, 2018 by UP Manila Chancellor Carmencita D. Padilla. The investiture program was also attended by Faculty Regent Patricia B. Arinto, former and current college officials and former and current faculty and staff, as well as representatives of the School's development partners and extension campuses in Baler, Aurora and South Koronadal, Cotabato City.

In the afternoon of the same day, a Commitment and Candle Lighting Ceremony was conducted. The commitment ceremony is the SHS' equivalent of the capping and sashing ceremonies in traditional nursing schools.

Chancellor Padilla gave a short message prior to the candle-lighting ritual. An alumna of the school, Dr. Karen Y. Olitan delivered an inspirational message, drawing from her own experience of surviving college despite suffering from a neurologic condition that temporarily rendered her quadriplegic. Dr. Olitan is currently working as a Municipal Health Officer in Northern Samar.

Academic and Administrative Profile

Prof. Tandinco possesses the relevant academic qualifications and administrative experiences for the SHS deanship. He earned his MD degree from Divine Word University Tacloban in 1992 and passed the licensure exam in 1993. He has a degree in Master of Science in Social Development from Ateneo de Manila University earned in 2007. In 2014, he

passed the specialty board examination that qualified him as a Diplomate of the Philippine Pediatrics Society. Since 2017, he has been enrolled as a Ph D student of the Health Social Science International Program at the Mahidol University, Thailand.

As a physician, he has been intensively exposed to both hospital and public health practice in the Eastern Visayas. After residency training in pediatrics at the Eastern Visayas Regional Medical Center in 1999, he worked as Municipal Health Officer of Talalora, Samar from 2000-2004. He was promoted to Regional Health Program Coordinator at the Local Health Assistance Division of the Center for Health Development Region XIII of the Department of Health from 2004-2009. He had brief stints as UP Visayas Tacloban College instructor and as Health and Nutrition Specialist of Plan International before becoming an SHS Palo, Leyte faculty.

As an SHS faculty teaching courses under the Department of Medicine since 2009, Dr. Tandinco's work includes field monitoring and supervision of medical students. As a researcher, he has published articles in academic journals and presented the work and accomplishments of the SHS in international conferences.

Flagship Programs

- Strengthen the Midwifery, Nursing, and Medicine programs by tightening the rules on recruitment and admission and strict enforcement of entry requirements
- Institute innovative programs, such as short courses on primary care,

integrative health care, and community resilience

- Establish a curricular monitoring system that will track learning outcomes given the new curriculum
- Place a premium on prior community health experience in faculty recruitment
- Institutionalize a faculty mentoring system where senior, tenured faculty will be twinned with junior, untenured faculty and work with UP-based journals for the publication of the researches of the SHS faculty
- Enhance research, publications, and creative work by continuing to work closely with funding institutions, such as the Eastern Visayas Health Research Development Consortium and enhancing policy research by working closely with DOH and DOST;
- Popularize SHS's research findings through lay fora, radio-TV spots and publishing own magazine
- Enhance public service function by continuing to engage with DOH, DILG, NEDA, Office of the Presidential Adviser on the Peace Process, National Anti-Poverty Commission, etc
- Have at least one faculty to undergo Ph D every year
- Create an SHS health and wellness program for the faculty, staff, and students
- Establish a health care clinic in each SHS campus with basic clinic equipment and supplies
- Strengthen capability of the Alumni Relations Office to help in finding placements for alumni
- Strengthen resource generation from non-traditional income sources, including research, training, and consultancy services of faculty members.

CYNTHIA VILLAMOR

UPM visits Tarlac State Univ for possible SHS extension campus



UP Manila and Tarlac State University officials after the ocular inspection.

UP Manila Chancellor Carmencita Padilla, together with Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Nymia-Pimental-Simbulan and School of Health Sciences Dean Fidelito Tandinco made an ocular visit to the Tarlac State University on August 6.

The visit was in connection with the possible establishment of SHS in Tarlac. An initial meeting between UP Manila and Tarlac Municipal

health officials where the SHS program and its community-based, innovative step-ladder curriculum was presented was held on July 20 facilitated by University Professor Emeritus and former UPM Chancellor Ernesto Domingo.

The provincial government was very supportive of the initiative and has offered half of a new building complex in the campus. The details of the arrangement for the

implementation of the program are being finalized. The plan is to initially start with 50 midwifery students to be increased to 100. Currently, there are three SHS campuses, the first in Palo, Leyte that started in 1976, the second in Baler, Aurora that opened in 2008, and the third in Koronadal City, South Cotabato that opened in 2009.

The SHS takes pride in having a radical approach to community health education using a ladderized curriculum that starts with a Certificate in Community Health Work (equivalent to the Midwifery program of other schools), and on to the BS Nursing and finally Doctor of Medicine. Eighty-five percent of the doctors, nurses, and midwives it has graduated during the past years are serving in depressed and underserved areas in the Philippines.



The Outstanding Awardees for 2018 with Chancellor Carmencita Padilla (extreme left).

THE 2018 GAWAD CHANCELLOR AWARDEES

JOANNA V. TORALBA OUTSTANDING TEACHER

She introduced innovations in teaching through revision of laboratory manuals, implementation of active learning strategies in laboratory classes of pharmaceutical analysis, and in course syllabi to include developments and new trends in pharmacy. She included research in the undergraduate courses to increase appreciation and learning of students of pharmaceutical chemistry that resulted in student researches being accepted for poster and oral presentation in pharmacy conferences. She has advised 13 undergraduate thesis groups, seven of which were given funding by the National Institutes of Health and two published in the Philippine Journal for Health Research and Development.

She has received an Outstanding rating in teaching for six consecutive semesters and was awarded the Gawad Dekana for Outstanding Faculty in numerous occasions. She served as a member of the Drug Committee of the Philippine General Hospital, as technical reviewer of the Technical Review Board for research proposals, and as one of the proponents of the good laboratory practices policy of the College. She organized a workshop on chemical waste disposal for the academe, coordinated a science internship program with the Philippine Science High School System, and provided technical advice on researches of high school and college students.

DR. ANNA MA. LENA L. LOPEZ OUTSTANDING RESEARCHER

She has been advancing knowledge in the field of pediatric infectious diseases, with focus on vaccinology and developing vaccines not for commercial purposes but for the diseases of the most impoverished. She was instrumental in making available low-cost oral cholera vaccine to the world. As a Senior Scientist at the International Vaccine Institute, Seoul, South Korea, it was under her coordination that the development, field trials, and licensing of the first low-cost oral cholera vaccine were done. She is considered a global expert in cholera, having published extensively in the *The Lancet*, and written a chapter on Cholera in the 2015 edition of the *Nelson's Textbook of Pediatrics*, the pediatric textbook used around the world.

She is a constant participant in regional and global international expert panels on cholera and other pediatric infectious diseases and has been a consultant for the World Health Organization, UNICEF, US Center for Disease Control, and the Department of Health. She is a prolific researcher, specifically on pediatric diseases that are of public health significance, such as Hepatitis B, rotavirus, Japanese encephalitis, tuberculosis, and rubella.

DR. MARIE DIONE A. PARREÑO-SACDALAN OUTSTANDING FACULTY IN EXTENSION SERVICES

As Vice Chair for Academic Affairs and junior consultant of the PGH Department of Surgery, she strengthened the capability of the faculty to teach undergraduate students of the UP College of Medicine, especially with the thrust on Outcome-based Education. Under her leadership, evaluating the old curriculum and injecting changes and innovations based

on the principles of OBE was one of the achievements of the Committee.

Introducing nutrition and patients safety in the undergraduate curriculum has been her advocacy as she leads the department in improving undergraduate programs for surgery. She has been working with other clinicians from Surgery, Pediatrics, and Internal Medicine to launch a multi-disciplinary team for Nutrition Management in the hospital.

She is part of the Organizing Committee on Quality Improvement and Patient Safety of the PGH providing updates and current practice guidelines in the fields of Nutrition, Enhanced Recovery in Surgery, and Colorectal Surgery. Through her researches and publications, she extends to the larger society valuable knowledge and skills on ensuring the health and safety of patients. She has presented several papers and served as lecturer in national and international conferences. From 2013 to 2018 covering a total of 10 semesters, she was consistently rated "Outstanding" by her students.

ARTURO M. ONGKEKO, JR. OUTSTANDING RESEARCH, EXTENSION, AND PROFESSIONAL STAFF (REPS)

He organized the Connectathon forums to show the importance of information standards on interoperability of electronic information systems that were supported by the WHO Western Pacific and Philippine offices.

He managed a team of research faculty, research assistants, software developers, technology and administrative staff for the major projects of the National Telehealth Center. These include the homegrown Community Health Information Tracking System or CHITS installed in government primary care clinics; project rCHITS for maternal and child health in the Philippines; and CHITS mReports, an android-based application that documents clinical data through a smartphone by rural health midwives and a local government unit dashboard that visualizes maternal and child health indicators to facilitate timely and evidence-based decision-making.

He is at the helm of the design, development, and implementation of a Maternal and Neonatal Tele referral System and co-manages the implementation of 169 other CHIT sites nationwide – the largest in OpenMRS in Asia. He authored instructional designs and training manuals on CHITS, and other IT-related topics.

In 2017, he was a fellow of the Leaders in Innovation Fellowship Program that aimed to facilitate commercialization of innovative researches for wider adoption and sustainability. In 2018, he was granted a Fulbright CHED Scholarship and will pursue the Master of Science in Health Informatics at the University of California Davis in 2019.

MARIAN T. VILLANUEVA OUTSTANDING ADMINISTRATIVE EMPLOYEE (LEVEL 2)

Her most significant accomplishment as a psychiatric nurse are her initiatives on promoting mental health and psychosocial well-being for patients and families, nursing staff, and students.

She is known for high quality and time-efficient work in the midst of high patient workload and limited resources.

This is evident not only in her grade of "Outstanding" in her Individual Performance Commitment Review for nine years now but also in the feedback from clients and colleagues.

Aside from her work, she provides free family therapy to clients in need. She has initiated several programs to improve patient care and promote staff development in the unit. These include the "Nurse-led Psychoeducation Program for Psychiatric Inpatients," "Psychiatric Nursing Care Checklist," the standard documentation form for nursing care in the ward, competency standards for clinical mental health psychiatric nursing specialty in PGH, and the "Psychiatry Home Instruction Form."

She has been serving as a resource speaker and clinical preceptor on mental health and psychiatric care. She actively participated in nursing audits for quality management and conducted several researches one of which was published in the Philippine Journal of Nursing. She was awarded with Excellence in Clinical Nursing Practice in 2015 and Outstanding Nurse Training Coordinator in 2014.

MARIANITO V. RAMOS OUTSTANDING ADMINISTRATIVE EMPLOYEE (LEVEL 1)

As Laboratory Aide II at the College of Pharmacy, his performance rating for two rating periods was Outstanding. Apart from rendering assistance in the conduct of the researches of the College, he was able to develop an inventory system of chemicals in the laboratory so that it would be easier for other laboratory personnel and faculty to know the availability and location of the chemicals and reagents in the stock room.

He is considered a "Jack of All Trades" because of his skills on painting, carpentry, plumbing, basic electricity works and others. His willingness to assist others and his commitment in educating other laboratory personnel is unequalled. In December 2017, he received a special award for his exemplary performance in the College's Gawad Dekana.

ANNA ROMINIA D.P. CRUZ OUTSTANDING STUDENT

As UP Medicine Student Council Chairperson for AY 2017-2018, she made sure that the Council is attentive to the needs of the students and the people outside the college. During her term, the MSC was more active in local and national issues, conducting community educational and public health discussions.

She is a member of the Medical Students for Social Responsibility-International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War where she actively participated in health and global networking among the health professions. She was a delegate to the Asian Medical Students Exchange Program (AMSEP) Taiwan and AMSEP Indonesia for Philippines. Her representation in those programs allowed new networks to be formed and knowledge shared.

Besides her global representation, Anna joins in local conferences on the medical field and interactions with other members of the Asian Medical Students Association-Philippines. She was the organization's Assistant Health Commissioner for AY 2014-2015 with her committee focusing on health

information dissemination among patients of the PGH and the importance of early breastfeeding.

UP MEDICAL STUDENT'S SOCIETY OUTSTANDING STUDENT ORGANIZATION

The oldest medical organization in the UP System has enabled over 1,300 members to pursue their passions and collectively utilize them to contribute on a larger scale to the community. It takes pride on its flagship events, such as the Tao Rin Pala (TRP), Interscholastic Clinico-Pathologic Conference, Red Alert and Code Yellow, Fridays at the East, and MSS Scholarship Fund.

The Interscholastic Clinico-Pathologic Conference is the first student-organized conference of its kind in the Philippines that provides a venue for exchanging ideas, displaying clinical prowess, and providing an atmosphere of a formal scientific gathering. It caters to the best minds of the country to take part in scintillating discussion on pressing health issues, controversial societal realities, and relevant developments in the field of medicine.

Red Alert is a Disaster Preparedness Program to improve awareness of disaster risk reduction and management through a two-day conference that allows students to learn their roles on disaster preparedness and management. Code Yellow is an intersectoral Disaster Risk Reduction and Management case competition which aims to unite different disciplines and underline the importance of fostering communication and unity among national sectors in preparing for a disaster.

JANUARY R. KANINDOT OUTSTANDING ARTIST

As a graphics designer, she has created a variety of high impact visual artworks, such as covers and inside pages of manuals, magazines, and brochures, websites, advertisements, backdrops, exhibits, souvenir programs and items, plaques, product packages, gift tags and cards, certificates, and programs/invitations. Her task entails creative skills, thinking out-of-the box in terms of new concepts, graphics and layouts and high proficiency in the use of design software programs.

The visual materials she has designed have graced significant events and contributed greatly in generating positive impressions and perceptions on the contributions of UP Manila to national health goals and development. Such materials have been distributed widely to institutional partners and visitors.

She is currently managing and designing official UP Manila souvenir items that are used by the university as tokens for visitors and guests, such as t-shirts, mugs, neckties, calling cards, and bookmarks. The tokens are exchanged during visits of officials and delegations from national and international universities, research institutions, and professional societies and they carry the imprint, values, and ideals of UP Manila as the health sciences center of UP.

LENITA REYES-OTADOY OUTSTANDING ATHLETE

Prof. Otadoy continues to exemplify the qualities of a true athlete, disciplined and committed, balancing all aspects of life while excelling in her sport.

Dr. Cutiongco-dela Paz conferred 2018 Dangal ng Bayan award



President Rodrigo Duterte confers the Dangal ng Bayan award on Dr. Eva Cutiongco-Dela Paz.

Geneticist-pediatrician Eva Maria Cutiongco-Dela Paz is one of the *Dangal ng Bayan* (DnB) awardees for 2018 recognized for her significant contributions in the field of genetics in the country. She joined 27 individuals and three groups from government who were honored by President Rodrigo R. Duterte at Malacanang Palace on 27 September 2018.

Dr. Cutiongco-Dela Paz is UP Manila's Vice Chancellor for Research and concurrent Executive Director of its National Institutes of Health. She is also the Program Director for Health of the Philippine Genome Center and one of the Project Leaders of the CHED-Philippine California Advanced Research Institutes (CHED-PCARI).

The DnB (Outstanding Public Officials and Employees) award is one of three categories under the annual "Search for Outstanding Government Workers" of the Honor Awards Program of the Civil Service Commission. It is conferred on individuals for performance of an extraordinary act or public service, and who consistently demonstrated exemplary ethical behavior based on the "Code of Conduct and Ethical Standards of Public Officials and Employees" (Republic Act 6713).

In her response on behalf of the semi-finalists and finalists of the National Capital Region, Dr. Cutiongco-dela Paz said: "One of life's greatest privileges is to be able to serve not for personal gain but for public good. *Naniniwala ako na wala po sa ating mga Lingkod Bayan, Pag-asa ng Bayan, at Dangal ng Bayan semi-finalists and finalists na nandito ngayon, ay ginawa ang kanilang tungkulin upang makakuha ng award. Nandito sila dahil tinupad nila ang kanilang sinumpaang pangako na maglingkod bilang isang kawani ng gobyerno.*"

She then cited the notable contributions of her other fellow finalists: Gelson A. Rili of Marikina City (*Dangal ng Bayan*) who ensures that the streets of the City are clean every day; Police

Chief Superintendent Rodelio B. Jacson of Quezon City (*Pagasa*) for his many notable contributions among which is a one-stop-shop queuing component for systematic issuance of police clearance; Amulfo B. Agluba of QC (*Pagasa*), a carpenter who saves MWSS money by conscientiously practicing the 3Rs of waste management—Reduce, Re-use, and Recycle; and, Police Director Cedric G. Train of QC (*Lingkod Bayan*), who developed and implemented community-based programs that promote quality, productivity, accountability, and good governance.

"Each one of these awardees knows his purpose in life, seeks to grow to his full potential and sows seeds for the benefit of others. These are vital ingredients for success according to John Maxwell, a world renowned leadership expert," she added.

Dr. Cutiongco-Dela Paz is a multi-awarded scientist, clinician, and faculty. She received the UPAA Distinguished Alumna for Health Research in Genomics (2017); Dr. Jose Rizal Memorial Award for Research (2012); UP Manila's Outstanding Researcher & Professorial Chair for Excellence in Teaching & Research in Pediatrics & Genetics (2011); Ten Outstanding Young Women in the Nation's Service (2007); Ten Outstanding Young Men (2002); and, the NAST Outstanding Young Scientist Award.

She obtained the BS Biology degree (UP Diliman, 1984); Doctor of Medicine (UP Manila, 1989); completed Residency in Pediatrics (UP-PGH, 1992); Research Fellowship in Molecular Genetics (International Center for Medical Research, Kobe University Graduate School of Medicine) as a Monbusho Scholar; Subspecialty training in Clinical Genetics (Hospital for Sick Children, University of Toronto, Canada) as a UP Medical Alumni Society of America Scholar; and, board-certified Fellow of the Canadian College of Medical Geneticists (2000).

FEDELYNN M. JEMENA

Her latest international achievements include two silver medals in Category A: Woman's Sabre Individual and Team Events at the 4th Asian Veterans Fencing Championships held in Wakayama, Japan on September 1-4, 2018 and two bronze medals in the Women's Individual Saber Event and Women's Saber Team event at the 3rd Asian Veterans Fencing Championship

held in Bangkok.

Her consistent involvement in sports is evidence of her competitiveness and discipline that contribute to the pursuit of excellence, and willingness to work harder to achieve better to glorify God and to give pride and honor to the country and university.

CYNTHIA M. VILLAMOR