

# Carillon

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about this year's  
Carillon feature





# Carillon

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Roland B. Tolentino  
Editor-in-Chief

Jeanette L. Yasol-Naval  
Associate Editor

KC M. Abalos-Orendain  
Managing Editor

Yvette Tan  
Copy Editor

Susan Claire Agbayani  
Thea Claudette R. Castaneda  
Kristine Cruz  
Yvette Tan  
Jaemark Tordecilla  
Rhodalyn C. Wani  
Writers

Cecilia Fe Abalos  
Adriel Noel R. Andonaque  
Geofe O. Cadiz  
GC T. Castro  
Rose Abigail E. Duarte  
Rene Estremera  
Fernando B. Garcia, Jr.  
Anna Regidor  
Evalyn A. Roxas  
Pauily May Valencia  
Contributors

Marie Ylenette W. Reforzado  
Layout and Design

Guido N. San Diego  
Graphic Artist

Misael Bacani  
Kevin Roque  
UP DIO Archives  
UP OU Office of Public Affairs  
Photos

Joper Cunanan  
Carillon Online Developer

Lyzete C. Balinhawang  
Nelson E. Carandang  
Carlo Vince W. Fernando  
Michelle L. Pollier  
Jovita Ronquillo  
Eileen D. Anonas  
Jomari C. Valdez  
Researchers

Jay C. Amorato  
Jennifer A. Duarte  
Benjamin P. Oleriana III  
Evan Jay A. Villacorte  
Administrative Support

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# From the Editor's Desk

When National Artist Juan Nakpil designed the Carillon Tower, did he realize how his creation would come to symbolize not just the passage of time, but timelessness as well?

As the steadfast staff of the UP System Office of Alumni Relations prepared for the 8th issue of Carillon—the only systemwide magazine made especially for UP alumni—I realized that we have yet to pay tribute to the edifice that gave us our publication's masthead. My cursory research led me to discover that its full name is actually the Andres Bonifacio Central Carillon Tower. Since its construction in 1952\*, it has stood as a literal timekeeper with its hourly chimes. But over the decades, it has come to signify so much more.

While UPCAT hopefuls offer their used pencils at Oblation's base, the Carillon beckons its graduates back. While Oble stands for honor and excellence, the Carillon is a beacon for constancy.

Carillon Magazine thus aims to provide such constancy of purpose. Despite financial challenges for its printing and publication, the Office of Alumni Relations maintains its commitment to publish it year after year. We do so, not merely to ignite nostalgia, but to chronicle our community's milestones and to inform our UP alumni, wherever they may be. Because, as the song goes, "malayong lupain, amin mang marating. 'Di rin magbabago ang damdamin."

In these pages, we highlighted some of the numerous programs and activities which our faculty, students, and alumni spearheaded in 2023-2024. These include the tedious but rewarding task of building an alumni association from the base of the iconic CASAA (College of Arts and Sciences Alumni Association) to an independent alumni association for CSSP (College of Social Sciences and Philosophy); the outstanding achievement of UPLB alumnus Jaemark Tordecilla as he relays his adventures as a Nieman Journalism Fellow at Harvard University; and a hooray for our own UP Maroons Pep Squad as they continue their onward fight to the top. We also invited an award-winning writer as our Copy Editor for this issue, UP Diliman alumna Yvette Tan, who also narrates our favorite campus haunted tales.

Our past is indeed illustrious, but this does not mean we do not forge ahead, conquering new pathways. At the heart of our 2024 issue is our featured constituent university, the UP Open University. We interviewed its forward-thinking leader, three-term chancellor, Dr. Melinda dela Peña Bandalaria, and also chronicled its pioneering academic programs.

As you peruse these Carillon articles, we hope that you feel connected to our community and that you see how these are testaments to how UP continues to innovate even as we celebrate our distinguished past.

My gratitude to OVPPA Assistant Vice-President Dr. Jeanette Yasol-Naval for her guidance and to my fellow directors, MPRO Dir. Larissa Mae Suarez and Padayon Dir. Cherish Aileen Brillon for their support. Last but certainly not least, deep thanks to the OAR Staff for their sincere commitment to our mandate of serving the UP alumni and our shared community.

**K.C. M. Abalos-Orendain, Ph.D.**  
Managing Editor  
Director, Office of Alumni Relations



ALUMNI  
RELATIONS

\*Source: <https://up.edu.ph/how-do-you-make-a-carillon-sing/>





# KONTRA-GAPI: One of UP's Ambassadors of Music and Dance

By Susan Claire Agbayani

“Gamelan literally means ‘pukpukan,” said Pedro Abraham Jr. (or “Edru” to friends), who retired as a professor at the Department of Arts Studies at the College of Arts and Letters of the University of the Philippines Diliman in June 2012. He is also the founder of the very popular Kontemporaryong Gamelan Pilipino (better known as Kontra-GaPi), the resident ethnic music and dance ensemble of CAL and the resident performing troupe of the Philippines’ Commission on Human Rights.

The word gamelan actually comes from the Javanese word “gamel,” meaning, to hammer, according to a material sent to Carillon by Kontra-GaPi.

“The gamelan is the quintessential orchestra of South East Asia. Africa may lay claim to massed polyrhythmic drums, Europe the symphony orchestra, and North America, jazz and rock bands; but no musical ensemble typifies this part of the world - its mysticism and timelessness, its beauty and grandeur, its heritage and ardor of community - the way the gamelan does,” Abraham said.

He added, “The wonder of it is that while the essential and multi-faceted tradition may be shared by many cultures, each has evolved a style, a sense of aesthetics and a mode of presentation unique to itself - a mirror of its people and society, history and lore, ecology and climate, (and) perceptions and values.”

## Instruments

Characteristically, a gamelan consists of percussion instruments such as gongs and drums of graduated sizes; wood and metal xylophones of varied timbre; flutes and whistles; assorted bamboo, wooden and metal percussion and voices for singing, and for creative vocables, according to Kontra-GaPi.

The ensemble actually “uses” ideophones such as the kulintang, gangsa, tongatong, kalutang gabbang; chordophones like the hegalong, kulibet, gitgit and kuritang; aerophones such as the diwidiw-as, esmi, tonggali and suling; and membranophones like the debakan, solibaw and Cordilleran drums of varying timbre, sizes and shapes.” Furthermore, “There are quaint pieces like the kuribaw or mouth harp and the tambu or zither-drum in a store of several hundred instruments.”

Interestingly, the human body plays a prominent role as an instrument! And this can be done “by way of applause, stomping, chest pounding, clicking and other means” that produce myriad sounds. A full evening program of Kontra-GaPi typically assembles 15 to 20 performers.

## Beginnings

Kontra-GaPi started when Abraham was commissioned to write a score of August Strindberg’s *A Dream Play in Filipino* in 1989. The sole instruction from the director appointed by Dulaang UP - the resident repertory theater company - was that “the music be distinctly Filipino and Asian.”

Consistent excellent reviews by critics, academics, students, and regular theater-goers encouraged the ad-hoc band “to transform itself into an independent performing organization,” according to Kontra-GaPi. It didn’t take long for them to be invited to have their first performance at the Heritage Arts Center in Quezon City on August 12, 1989.

In early 1993, the dean of CAL appointed Kontra-GaPi as the resident gamelan or ethnic music and dance ensemble. They also received from the UP Diliman Chancellor’s Office the Outstanding Achievement in the Arts (Performing Arts Category) “for their significant trend-setting and visionary contribution.”

## What is Kontra-Gapi?

“It is the quintessential South East Asian orchestra, organized to draw inspiration from Asian and indigenous roots of our rich and diverse culture,” Abraham said. “Because of its over 180 ethnolinguistic groups, the Philippines is a virtually inexhaustible cultural resource from which creative achievement can be mined.”

“Kontra-GaPi draws inspiration from this ancient and profound source nurtured and sustained by the depth, wealth, and cultural diversity of the Philippines and her Asian roots. The group strives to express music and kindred arts from Indigenous well-springs, reaping from the people and giving back to them in a new form as magical as the moonlight and constantly changing as water,” Abraham added.

“We don’t refuse anyone, as long as they’re willing to work,” Abraham further said, “We don’t even ask if they have talent or not. We have gifted performers sitting alongside average talents in the group. Everyone discovers what he or she is capable of doing. That’s pretty symbolic of community building, and of what we’re trying to do,” Abraham said.

In Kontra-Gapi, the concept is “the building of communities through music (and) the creation of excellence in people of varied abilities,” he said.

## Performances Nationwide, All Over the World

Through the years, the ensemble has done over 2,000 engagements for audiences “of all types, and age-groups in all kinds of venues, including concerts, lecture demonstrations, workshops in music, dance and mime, and interaction with fellow artists.

“From the state-of-the-art theaters of the Cultural Center of the Philippines, hotel pavilions and lobbies, school auditoriums and yards, church naves and parks, to make-shift stages, barangay or community all-purpose halls, sports courts, private residences, rice fields, the streets, markets & open spaces, Kontra-GaPi has brought its art to where the people are or to where they can or choose to come together,” Abraham shared.

They’ve been all over the isles: Ilocos Norte, Ilocos Sur, Abra, La Union, Benguet, Bontoc, Kalinga, Cagayan, Isabela, Quirino, Nueva Ecija, Nueva





*Filipinescas Dance Company "Sabong," a section of the full programme of PH life, legend & lore in dance choreographed by National Artist for Dance Leonor Orosa Goquingco. Edru Abraham - white cock; Rey Limcaco - red cock*


Vizcaya, Zambales Pangasinan, Pampanga, Tarlac, Rizal, Bataan, Cavite Laguna, Batangas, Quezon, Mindoro Occidental, Camarines Norte, Sorsogon, Masbate and Albay and Palawan in Luzon; Aklan, Iloilo, Romblon, Samar, Northern Samar, Leyte, Biliran & Cebu in the Visayas; Misamis Oriental, Agusan del Norte, Maranao del Norte and Davao in Mindanao.

From April to October in 1997, Kontra-GaPi traveled on its first international mission to Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, the Netherlands and Switzerland in Western Europe, and to Canada and the United States in North America - with a stopover in Hawaii - before they headed home.

"Tours of Laos, Vietnam and, again, the U.S. were launched in 1999. A return tour of half a year of Canada and, for the third time, the U.S. in the year 2000 proved to be a resounding success as were all the others. In 2003, Kontra-Gapi visited Australia followed next by tours

of Thailand in May 2009, featured performers in the Philippine Pavilion at the World Expo in Shanghai, China April to November 2010, and a return to Europe: Belgium, the Czech Republic, France, Germany, Luxembourg, the Netherlands and Switzerland, from May-July 2013, all to equally consistent high praise," said Kontra-GaPi in a communique.

Smaller troupes have since performed in Belarus, Indonesia, Malaysia including Sabah, Norway, Saudi Arabia, South Korea and Taiwan upon the invitation of festival organizers, government bureaus, international organizations, Philippine diplomatic missions, Filipino expatriate communities and friends.

Kontra GaPi has also released two albums World Music/World Beat - Filipino and Gong at Ritmo, Lunggating Pilipino. Several dozen videos are in YouTube including a version of the theme music of the teleplay "Game of Thrones" which has gone viral with over two million hits on Facebook, and 400,000 on YouTube. 

# UP: The University of PHANTASMS

By Yvette Tan

It's no secret that the University of the Philippines is haunted. The institution is old and has seen many lives pass through its hallowed halls—some of them choosing to stay behind.

Every campus has its own set of iconic ghost stories. The Carillon reached out to students and employees from UP Diliman, Los Banos, Manila, and Visayas for ghost stories from their respective campuses and the response was phenomenal, to say the least. While it would have been fun to include all the stories, there's a word count to follow, so this article will be limited to one story from each campus.

## UP Diliman - A Doppelganger in Bartlett Hall

Haidee C. Pineda, a longtime employee of the UP Diliman Information Office (UPDIO), talks about her experience in the UPDIO's first location, Bartlett Hall, which used to be a storage area in the College of Fine Arts. Even before her supernatural experience, Pineda was no stranger to the many spooky stories told by her colleagues about their encounters with the unknown. She herself never experienced

anything, until one morning in 2004, when she arrived at the office early and ran into her coworker, Kuya Joey. He was wearing a dark green polo, black pants, and boots with a very distinctive design. Pineda greeted her coworker "good morning," but didn't receive a reply. Instead, he sat at his desk, which was directly across hers.

She chalked it up to him getting off the wrong side of the bed and began to check her mail as the rest of her co-workers began to trickle in. She heard the door open behind her and turned to look at the newcomer. To her surprise, Kuya Joey stepped through wearing a light brown polo, black pants, and black leather shoes. He greeted her with a jovial, "Good morning! You're here early!"

Pineda immediately turned to the figure across her. He had her back to her but he was still there: dark green polo, black pants, boots. Her blood ran cold. She asked Kuya Joey if he had arrived before her. He replied that he had just gotten in. She dragged him to his desk, but the man from earlier had disappeared.



People avoid passing by Baker Hall in UPLB at night as there have been numerous reports of mysterious figures, including one with glowing red eyes, seen moving about inside the supposedly empty building. (Photo from <https://www.facebook.com/rgdobakerhall/>)





*Spectral children are but one of the many spirits that have been experienced in UP Manila's Calderon Hall. (Photo from <https://cm.upm.edu.ph/p/history/>)*



*The UPDIO staff are no strangers to the supernatural at the College of Fine Arts. (Photo courtesy of UP Diliman)*

### **UP Los Baños - Charles Fuller Baker Memorial Hall**

Set along the foot of mystic Mt. Makiling, UP Los Baños, popularly known as Elbi, is known for its proximity to nature. And because of Mt. Makiling's reputation as a supernatural hotspot protected by the mountain's namesake Maria Makiling, as well as its past as a Japanese interment camp, Elbi has its own fair share of supernatural stories and urban legends as well. The Charles Fuller Baker Memorial Hall is one of the oldest buildings on campus, and is used to hold events or some PE classes. It is also said to have been the main building of the Japanese interment camp. Figures walking around at night have been reported, as well as of a huge dark human shape with red eyes peeking out from one of the building's windows. There is also a story about a passer-by seeing a full-blown party attended by people in period clothing. The building's reputation is enough to deter most students and employees from walking near the area at night, for fear of seeing people who aren't really there.

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### **UP Visayas - UPV Main Building**

GC T. Castro of the UPV Office of Alumni Relations sent in a story about UPV's Main Building, with sources from various UPV personnel. Construction of UPV's Main Building began in 1931. It served as the Iloilo Municipal Hall and then as Iloilo City Hall in 1935, before being used as a concentration camp from 1942 to 1945 under the Japanese occupation. It was donated to UP in 1947 to open UP College Iloilo, now the Iloilo City Campus of UP Visayas.

It's said that one room on the north-east side of the building used to hold three prison cells where many Filipino and most probably American prisoners were tortured by their Japanese captors, and it was possible that some of their bodies were buried in the area. Accounts say that in as early as the 1950s, people were still finding bones scattered across the main building. To this day, UPV employees continue to report strange activity in the building that range from unusual sounds such





goings-on in what used to be a storage area of (an)



UPV's Main Building was used as a concentration camp during the Japanese occupation, and it is believed that the souls of some of the prisoners remain there to this day. (Photo courtesy of UP Visayas)

as a chair being dragged across the floor, doors closing, heavy steps on the stairs, the sound of newspaper pages being flipped, and even human voices that range from soft cries coming from nowhere to actual mimicking of voices of co-workers.

One personnel who has been working in UPV since the 80s claimed that he's seen the source of the sound of the chair being dragged—a pained human figure in ragged clothes with a ball and chain clamped to one ankle. He said that the sound was made by the figure dragging the ball and chain as it walked through the halls of the building.

### UP Manila - Calderon Hall

UP Manila, the original and oldest site of the UP System, carries with it a rich tradition of haunted tales that have persisted through the years. Forensic pathologist and current chair

of the Department of Pathology Raquel Fortun tells a story of her own: "I had a mezzanine office in the Department of Pathology (incidentally beside the lobby Admissions just separated by a wall) from 1995 when I returned from forensic pathology training, until 2018 when we renovated. I did not really pay attention to unusual sounds (for example small objects like coins or buttons would seem to fall on the wooden floor but nothing was there) and occasional feelings of uneasiness. I did not think the place was haunted until a guest (TV journalist) once waited there looking at my books. She later insisted there was a small girl at my desk, she asked was she my daughter? It took some time before I understood what she was trying to say and clarified my daughter was not with me that day and if she was she'd be in school uniform. The girl she saw wasn't. Since then I'd be wary of kids in the department, I would touch the child's head and ask our secretary if she sees him or her too." 1

# UP Alumni in Harvard

By Jaemark Tordecilla

In the late 19th century, a group of young men from the Philippines—the best and the brightest in the islands—were living in Spain for advanced studies. They were not Filipinos, at least not technically. At the time, the Philippines was still a colony of Spain, and there was a racial hierarchy that muddled their national identity.

At the top of that hierarchy were the peninsulares, Spaniards born in Spain. Then there were Filipinos, which is what they called people who had Spanish parents but were born in the Philippines. Then there were mestizos, of mixed Spanish and native races. Then came the natives, who were called indios, because the white people who conquered the Southeast Asian archipelago called brown people everywhere Indians, no matter where they were in the world.

These bright young indios, fourth class citizens even in their native land, wanted to push for change while living in Spain. So what did they do?

They started a newspaper.

One of the first things they teach us in history class is the importance of La Solidaridad, the newspaper started by the reform movement in Spain that eventually inspired indios to rise up in revolt.

I thought about this story while I was gearing up for my fellowship year at the Nieman Foundation for Journalism, and figured it was a fun story to share with everyone at the premiere institution for journalism at Harvard University: imagine coming from a country whose founding fathers are journalists.

But while I was looking for materials using Harvard's online library, I came across research that showed that the story wasn't quite right. A Spanish researcher, Gloria Cano, did extensive work studying the press during that period, and in her work, she argued that the importance ascribed to La Solidaridad in Philippine history



*The author at the TOYM Award ceremony in 2021.*

was overblown. The culprit, according to Cano: the Americans who took over from Spain, who wanted to push the narrative that they were better colonial masters because unlike the Spanish, they didn't suppress a free press.

In fact, what Gloria Cano found was that there was already a vibrant newspaper industry in the Philippines by the late 19th century. There were more than 100 newspapers and magazines ranging from liberal to conservative, with different languages, covering news but also arts and youth culture. There was even a publication, El Hogar, written exclusively by women that aimed for a female readership.

“By 1896 the Filipino people had reached an astounding level of political know-how, mentioned by the American Government when it decided to occupy the Archipelago,” Cano





**“Imagine coming from a country whose founding fathers are journalists.”**

*- Jaemark Tordecilla*

wrote in her research. For this, she credited the work of national heroes like Jose Rizal, who wrote novels as well as articles in *La Solidaridad*, but also on democratic journalism. I found it inspiring how, even before our country was a country, our people have been looking to journalists to shine a light on issues, to help them understand the world.

I became a journalist in 2009 for one reason: I wanted to focus my work in a field that promoted social justice. Prior to that, I was working in technology, a much more lucrative field, having graduated from Philippine Science High School before earning a Bachelor of Science degree from University of the Philippines Los Banos and a Master of Technology Management degree from U.P. Diliman. But perhaps because of all the years I spent at U.P., there was constantly a voice at the back of my head chirping: “Serve the people.”

It was an inauspicious time to join the industry. The Committee to Protect Journalists had just named the Philippines among the worst places in the world to be a journalist, primarily due to the culture of impunity prevalent given the unsolved murders of journalists speaking truth to power. Later that year, the Maguindanao Massacre happened, claiming the lives of 58 people, including 33 media workers, in what remains one of the deadliest events for the press in history. It was perpetrated by the Ampatuan clan, the most powerful political family in the region.

I was in the middle of it while beginning my career for the Philippine Center for Investigative Journalism (PCIJ), for which I covered the aftermath of the massacre. My stint at the PCIJ took me around the country giving me a first-person view of the issues faced by news



*The author at the Maguindanao Provincial Capitol in 2011.  
Photo by Bernard Testa.*

outlets across the country. Aside from the threat of violence, there were also continuing challenges such as political intimidation and legal harassment from entities seeking to influence coverage or silence critical reporting. There was also constant economic pressure as traditional revenue streams continued to decline, leaving many journalists especially in the countryside vulnerable to the temptations of corrupt practices.

Things have only gotten worse in the years since. The government continued to target and harass journalists. Rappler, founded by Nobel Peace laureate Maria Ressa, was the target of lawfare during the Duterte administration. In 2020, the country's biggest media company ABS-CBN saw its broadcast license canceled by lawmakers loyal to the president, who had declared the television network an enemy. The threats aren't always political. In January, CNN Philippines announced its closure after nine years following billions of pesos in mounting losses.

Many news organizations have struggled to adapt to digital models, facing competition from free online content and the dominance of tech giants in digital advertising. Furthermore, online spaces became an information wasteland for audiences, with Facebook's former policy

director for global elections once describing the Philippines as "Patient Zero" in the global disinformation crisis.

Meanwhile, since my PCIJ days, I had been hired for leadership positions at more mainstream news organizations. In 2014, I became editor-in-chief of GMA News Online. With my background in technology, I spent nearly a decade creating strategies and new journalism platforms that allowed my team to tell stories better and reach new audiences, usually on the latest emerging platforms. We did a lot of longform reporting and digital documentaries, but we also used graphics and animations to tell stories of various lengths. We used gimmicks like augmented-reality filters, Tiktok duets, and online games, and we've collaborated

with influencers. We were even the first media outlet in the world to air our evening news live on Tiktok. We were on the leading edge of social media, with our work recognized with a gold medal for journalism innovation by the World Association of News Publishers. I even won the prestigious TOYM Award for 2021 for my work in Digital Journalism.

Ours became the most trusted news brand in the Philippines, according to the Digital News Report by the Reuters Institute. In 2022, the brand had a trust score of 70% according to the study, even as "Trust in news overall" languished at 37% among Filipino respondents. The study also showed we had the most reach for both offline and online. This tracked with our consumption data. GMA News was among the top in the world, often reaching new peaks during moments when Filipinos were most

in need of news: lockdown announcements, COVID-19 surges, and elections.

Our analytics told a clear story: Filipinos in the country and abroad were hungry to find sources they could trust. But in a world of endless content, attention is the most important currency, and news organizations are no longer entitled to anything. We all need to fight for that attention every day.



Some days, we win. Any other news organization in the world would be glad to take our numbers. Some days, we lose. A University of the Philippines study found that because of intense misinformation operations during these past elections, the reach of news outlets for political discourse is “increasingly limited to news-reading publics,” with our gatekeeping function bypassed by politicians and new political actors. Much of our political reporting was not reaching these partisan communities.

Indeed, in the 2022 Philippine national elections, Ferdinand “Bongbong” Marcos, Jr., the son and namesake of the late dictator, won the presidency in a landslide without taking a single critical question from the biggest news organization in the Philippines.

—  
Despite this, mainstream newsrooms in Manila remain in a relatively privileged position. Many journalists working for alternative news organizations, usually in the countryside, often face more immediate and existential threats. Journalists like Frenchie Mae Cumpio, a regional journalist who has been accused by the government of being a rebel operative. She has been in jail over trumped up firearms charges. Another journalist, Lady Ann Salem, spent a year in jail. After her release, authorities went up to the appeals court to try and overturn her acquittal.

Then there’s Juan Jumalon, a.k.a. DJ Johnny Walker, a radio broadcaster who was shot dead live in his broadcast. The Philippines has been in the Impunity Index of the Committee to Protect Journalists every year since 2008. We continue to be one of the worst places in the world to be a journalist.

The fight is exhausting, and it’s easy to feel helpless. But it’s necessary.

—  
I recently reached out to Nenen Momay-Castillo, a Filipino nurse who I met while covering the aftermath of the

Maguindanao massacre. Her father Reynaldo “Bebot” Momay, a photojournalist, was among those murdered. But his body was never found, so for a while, Castillo couldn’t even file a case against the murderers.

Despite that, she took a leadership role organizing the families. She was always quick to make things light, always ready with a joke and a smile. She told me she does it because otherwise, she’d just be crying all the time.

The courts found the Ampatuans and their men guilty in 2019, but they were acquitted in the Momay case, because they ruled that his body was never proven to be there—all they found were his dentures.

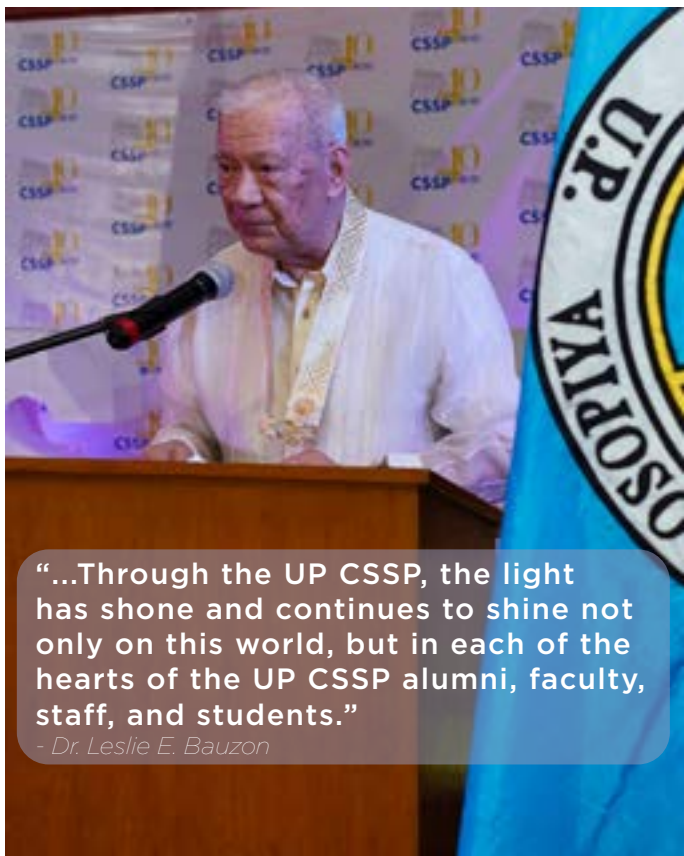
Castillo has left the Philippines to work in the United States as a nurse, but she’s still seeking justice. I reached out to her before Thanksgiving last year; I almost didn’t realize that it was the anniversary of the massacre. She was glad to hear from me. I asked her about her kids, who I had interviewed before, and she sent me a picture of their happy family.

She told me she can’t thank us enough for the work we did as she sought justice for her father. And I was thinking, I wasn’t able to do anything. But God bless her for believing that our work makes an impact, because if she believes it, then how could I possibly not? 🙏



*Children of the victims of the Maguindanao Massacre in 2011.*

## BRINGING ALUMNI HOME: Instituting CSSP's Alumni Association



“...Through the UP CSSP, the light has shone and continues to shine not only on this world, but in each of the hearts of the UP CSSP alumni, faculty, staff, and students.”

- Dr. Leslie E. Bauzon

*Dr. Leslie E. Bauzon, first Dean of CSSP from 1983-1989.*

By Rhodalyn C. Wani, PhD

When acting head of the College of Arts and Sciences Alumni Association (CASAA) Foundation Renan del Rosario discovered our plan to formally constitute a CSSP Alumni Association last year, he exclaimed, “Good luck!”

There was no hint of sarcasm in the statement and it really was a well-intentioned, well-humored greeting bestowed upon us as we began this journey of bringing our alumni “home.” Yet, it also served as a timely reminder that initiating, organizing, and sustaining an alumni association was no easy task and to do so would need dedication and perseverance.

Earlier in January 2023, former College of Social Sciences and Philosophy (CSSP) Dean Maria Bernadette Abrera had asked me to serve as the college’s External Affairs Officer. My primary task, she explained, was to organize an alumni homecoming for CSSP’s 40th year anniversary to be held in October, an event monumental in the history of the college as this was the year that the College of Arts of Sciences (CAS) split into the three colleges that we know today

as College of Social Sciences and Philosophy (CSSP), College of Arts and Letters (CAL), and College of Science (CS). This was an opportune time to look back and reflect on what CSSP had accomplished in the past four decades.

More than the homecoming, however, there was also an urgent need to finally constitute an alumni association for CSSP. In 2023, CASAA, which had served the alumni of CAS since 2000, was in the process of dissolving and its board was gradually dividing the foundation’s finances among the three colleges that came out from the split. It was hoped that with the formal constitution of an organization for CSSP, we would accomplish two goals: one, we would establish stronger ties with our alumni, and two, we would concretize channels that would make giving back to the college possible.

The very first step in our journey was speaking to acting CASAA head Del Rosario to gather practical information on establishing associations. When he had initially wished us luck, he was really drawing from his own experience. He shared that college-level alumni associations posed an immense challenge because our alumni often felt a deeper affinity to their home departments rather than the college. In some colleges in UP Diliman, he explained, the department-based alumni organizations were more active than the college-based ones. At that point, I thought how interesting that such a simple observation really made more sense the more you dwelled on it. Much of our college experience revolved around the relationships we established within our departments. We have countless stories of intimidating professors and stressful deadlines, but our happiest moments are anchored on memories of laughing, playing, drinking, and chatting with friends. To successfully bring our alumni together, therefore, any communication about alumni matters, including our invitation to attend an alumni homecoming, had to come from the home departments. Any other plans thereafter for the CSSP Alumni Homecoming and the CSSP Alumni Association were really drawn from this bottom-up strategy.

As October came around, we were finalizing our preparations for the homecoming. By then, we had decided to showcase two things in the event. We had invited the first dean of CSSP,





Dr. Leslie E. Bauzon, to serve as our guest of honor to speak of CSSP's early days in 1983. Always gracious with his time, Dr. Bauzon was quick to accept the invitation, later revealing he spent many happy years with the college. Secondly, we also wanted to recognize several distinguished alumni who, after leaving CSSP, went on to excel in their respective fields. After a lengthy vetting process, we presented to the following individuals their awards for being CSSP Distinguished Alumni: Nicomedes Alviar (Political Science), Darlene Berberabe (Philosophy), Jasmin Callosa-Tarr (Geography), Michael Charleston Chua (History), Jeffrey Crisostomo (Sociology), Mary Dorothy Jose (History), Daniel Kaufman (Linguistics), Rowena Pangilinan-Daquipil (Political Science), Bernadette San Juan (Geography), Mikko Tamura (Geography), Maria Tanyag (Political Science), and Susan Villanueva (History).

The event itself turned out wonderfully with food and music overflowing. There was in attendance more than 150 alumni who were excited to reconnect with friends and professors. In his speech, former CSSP Dean Dr. Bauzon remarked that "With the UP CSSP shining in academe, the devoted constituents need not feel trapped in a dark world, groping, toying to find their way with flickering candles. Through the UP CSSP, the light has shone and continues to shine not only on this world, but in each of the hearts of the UP CSSP alumni, faculty, staff, and students."

CSSP's celebration of its 40th year was, in fact, a testament to its commitment to the belief that for the betterment of the Filipino people and nation, we serve as critics of society and agents of change. Succeeding messages shared by our distinguished alumni also followed this theme of service and giving back. While many shared happy memories of college life and a few even narrated overcoming hardships, there was an overwhelming message that what they had learned while at CSSP inspired and influenced their work outside the university.

Following the Alumni Homecoming, we called together alumni representatives from each of the CSSP Departments to talk of next steps. There is undeniably a near future filled with paperwork and bureaucratic procedures as we begin filing our registration with the SEC, but there is also a sense of optimism and excitement that often accompanies new endeavors. We look forward to formalizing the organization and working together with our alumni. After all, if there is one essential lesson that CSSP has imparted to us, it is to love. It is a quiet type of love that grows as we explore further our disciplines, our community, and our country. It is an enduring type of love, too, that figures in our actions as we serve and attend to our people's needs. And even if this love is sensitive to injury when frustrations and anger boil over our nation's state of affairs, it is the kind of love that nevertheless sustains us, gives meaning to our work, and compels us to always act with kindness and gratitude. 📌

# In Memory of *Lived* Honor, Excellence, and Service

By Kristine Cruz

More than excellent *iskos*, the University's mission is to mold alumni who can take or create space to do great things and inspire change. The UP Office of Alumni Relations (OAR) honors two (2) amazing alumni whose memoirs were lived honor, excellence, and service within and beyond their stay in the University.

Prof. Leonardo de Castro, or Sir Deca, as his students and colleagues fondly called him, was the Director of the UP Office of Alumni Relations from 1984 to 1989. He was a bioethics pioneer in the Philippines and has led the field in other countries since its inception. He served as chairperson of the Philippine Health Research Ethics Board -the national body that sets policies and regulates research ethics committees in the country and was a Senior Research Fellow at the Center for Biomedical Ethics of the National University of Singapore. Sir Deca also served in other international organizations such as the Asian Bioethics

Association where he was president, UNESCO International Bioethics Committee where he served as Vice-Chair, Forum for Ethics Review Committees in Asia and the Pacific where he also served as Vice-Chair, and a Bioethics Consultant to the United Nations, the World Health Organization, the European Union and the European Commission.

Aside from the many hats he wore, he also wrote and co-wrote multiple publications such as "The Ethics of Organ Transplantation: Shortages and Strategies" (2009), "Poverty and Indigenous Peoples" in *The Sage Handbook of Health Care Ethics* (2011), "Organ donation in the Philippines: should the dead do more?" (2014), and lastly, "Age matters but it should not be used to discriminate against the elderly in allocating scarce resources in the context of COVID-19" (2020) which was published in the *Asian Bioethics Review*. This last paper talked







about the crucial implications of how the elderly should be treated during the peak of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Prof. Priscelina P. Legasto, our pillar of Philippine Studies, spent more than four (4) decades teaching and writing about Philippine Post-Colonial Studies, Comparative Literature, Philippine theatre, and feminism in the country. During her time at the University, she also served as Assistant Vice President for Public Affairs (May 2002-February 2005), Director of the UP System Information Office (May 2002-April 2005), and the Director of the UP Office of Alumni Relations (January 2003-February 2005).

Her passion for teaching was recognized multiple times through the UP Diliman Gawad Chancellor bilang pinakamahusay na Guro (1996), the Gawad Chancellor bilang Natatanging Guro (2010), and the Gawad Leopoldo Yabes bilang Pinakamagaling na Propesor ng Kolehiyo ng Arte at Literatura (2001).

In addition, she also received recognition as the first Dean of the joint Faculty of Social Sciences

and Humanities and Faculty of Science and Technology for creating a community of scholars, teachers, artists, and specialists of new technologies from various constituent universities to further establish and strengthen the UP Open University programs.

Some of her research and literary contributions include *Philippine Postcolonial Studies: Essays in Language and Literature* (UP Press, 1993, 2004) with Prof. Cristina Pantoja-Hidalgo as co-editor, *Sarswelang Pangasinan* (Ateneo de Manila University Press, 1996), *Filipiniana Reader: A Companion Anthology of Filipiniana Online* (UPOU, 1998), and of course, *Philippine Studies: Have We Gone Beyond St. Louis?* (UP Press, 2008).

Both Prof. de Castro and Prof. Legasto left legacies in their respective fields and it is an honor for the UP OAR to have had a fraction of their lives in the seats, activities, and hallways of our office. They have led changes, started beginnings, and created new spaces for more people to do great things. And isn't that what being an isko is? Truly a lived honor, excellence, and service for the nation and the world! 🇵🇭

*1 Leonardo De Castro, PhD (Swansea) retrieved: <https://philosophy.upd.edu.ph/faculty/leonardo-de-castro-phd-swansea/>*

*Prof. Leonardo de Castro, PhD (1952-2024) (2024), retrieved: <https://alum.up.edu.ph/prof-leonardo-de-castro-phd-1952-2024/>*

*2 Anna Regidor and Benito V. Sanvictores Jr. (Nov 2023) Farewell (Dr. Priscelina Patajo Legasto; Dr. Virginia Bonoan Dandan) retrieved: <https://alum.up.edu.ph/farewell-dr-priscelina-patajo-legasto-dr-virginia-bonoan-dandan/>*

*3 Jose Wendell Capili (Nov 2023), Dr. Priscelina Patajo Legasto: A Pillar of Comparative Literature, Postcolonial Studies and Open & Distance Education, retrieved: <https://alum.up.edu.ph/dr-priscelina-patajo-legasto-a-pillar-of-comparative-literature-postcolonial-studies-and-open-distance-education/>*

*4 Patricia P. Legasto, POSTCOLONIAL PATHS TO CONSTRUCTING THE NATION/BAYAN, retrieved: <https://networks.upou.edu.ph/6713/postcolonial-paths-to-constructing-the-nation/>*

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*Dr. Cristina Padolina (1995-2001)*



*Dr. Felix Librero (2001 to 2007)*

## Cover Page Story

# EMBRACING THREE DECADES OF EXCELLENCE: The University of the Philippines Open University

By Anna Cañas-Llamas

As the University of the Philippines Open University (UPOU) prepares to mark its 30th-year on 23 February 2025, its leadership in open and distance innovative education continues to revolutionize learning accessibility for Filipinos at home and abroad. UPOU has pioneered open and distance education, transcending borders and empowering Filipino learners from diverse backgrounds and locations.

Anyone who is 30 years, old or young, should have had a considerable amount of experiences, learnings, challenges, and victories. A 30-year-old individual born in 1995 would have learned enough to stand ON their own and stand FOR their own. A 30-year-old institution like the UP Open University (UPOU) should and would have been the same—and more.

### The Genesis: Dr. Cristina Padolina (1995-2001)

Despite having its roots in 1967's School-on-the-Air program and pilot implementation

through the Science Teaching Using Distance Education (STUDE) in the 1980s, UPOU's official establishment was on 23 February 1995 during the 1084th meeting of the UP Board of Regents when Dr. Emil Q. Javier sat as the 17th UP President. Dr. Cristina D. Padolina was the founding Chancellor. Still, before then, she led the task force that instituted the first programs offered through DE, the Diploma in Science Teaching (DST) program, with majors in Biology, Chemistry, Physics, and Mathematics. This new autonomous unit was mandated to provide wider access to quality higher education by offering graduate and undergraduate programs and non-degree programs via distance mode. In addition, it aims to develop a continuing education system to sustain the professional growth of the country's workforce through open learning. The UPOU is mandated to provide educational opportunities beyond the physical boundaries of the conventional school system.





*Dr. Grace Javier Alfonso (2007-2016)*



*Dr. Melinda dela Peña Bandalaria (2016-2025)*

Dr. Padolina laid the foundation for UPOU's commitment to quality education that is accessible to all. Her leadership was characterized by a dedication to academic excellence and a passion for quality education. During her term, UPOU reorganized from Transforming Autonomous University-Based SDEs to Discipline-Based Faculties and established the Online Teaching and Learning Lab (ONTELL) and Audio and Video for Teaching and Learning Lab (AVTELL).

#### **The Growth: Dr. Felix Librero (2001 to 2007)**

Dr. Felix Librero was appointed as the second Chancellor of UPOU and was a driving force behind UPOU's efforts to harness technology for educational innovation and advancement. Under his leadership, UPOU was reorganized to perform two key strategic functions as a center for distance education in selected areas of specialization where it will develop faculty expertise, offer its academic programs; and continue to develop and maintain a pool of highly trained educational learning technologists who shall provide expertise in the development and delivery of learning packages, whether online or using other educational

media and technologies, in collaboration with other CUs wishing to deliver courses in the distance mode. During this term, UPOU was designated as the Center of Excellence for Open Learning and Education by the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) and the e-Learning Competency Center by the Information Technology and e-Commerce Council of the Philippines (now the Commission on Information and Communications Technology).

#### **The Gear: Dr. Grace Javier Alfonso (2007-2016)**

Dr. Grace Javier Alfonso is one of the pioneers of the UPOU as the Dean of SDE-Diliman. She has spearheaded the production of multimedia learning materials as the former Director of the Audio-Visual Learning Laboratory and the UPOU Multimedia Center. As UPOU's third Chancellor, she has intensified the delivery of online courses through resource-based learning packages, supported UPOU's offering of the country's first massive open online courses (MOOCs), and strengthened the university's information technology and physical infrastructure.

Dr. Alfonso is a staunch advocate of women's empowerment and open and distance elearning (ODEL). It was during her term when the Open and Distance Learning (ODL) Law (RA 10650) was passed, which mandated UPOU to assist and provide expertise to CHED and TESDA, lead in the development of ODL in the country, and promote the best practices of ODL in the Philippines. Dr. Alfonso's three terms became the channel for UPOU to obtain leadership in open learning and distance education, not just in the country but also in the region.

### **The Goal: Dr. Melinda dela Peña Bandalaria (2016-2025)**

The fourth and current Chancellor is Dr. Melinda dela Peña Bandalaria, who assumed the Chancellorship in 2016 and will serve until 2025. Her vision for UPOU was "Pamatasang Bukas para sa Magandang Bukas," built on fulfilling the university's mandate in RA 10650. Under her term, UPOU served as President of the Asian Association of Open Universities (AAOU), massive open online courses (MOOCs) and Open Educational Resources (OERs) soared, and microcredentials were initiated. UPOU reached Philippine Higher Education Institutions (HEIs), organized the first TriConference, and established the Consortium for Open and Distance Education in the Philippines (CODEPP). This was part

of UPOU's aim to transform universities into universities of the future, producing learners equipped to be future leaders. It was also during the term of Chancellor Bandalaria that the Quality Assurance Office (QAO) and Center for Open and Digital Teaching and Learning (CODTL) were established, and UPOU programs underwent External Quality Assurance (EQA) Assessment.

### **30th Anniversary Celebration**

As UPOU celebrates another milestone for its 30th year in February 2025, it will be holding its Second TriConference, a three-conference-in-one comprised of the 6th International Conference on Open and Distance eLearning, the 2nd International Symposium for AI in Education Convergence, and the 3rd International Symposium on ASEAN Studies. These conferences were fused into one big event to allow participants from each conference to benefit from each other, especially in cross-cutting disciplines. UPOU is also looking forward to celebrating its achievements made possible through its constituents and partners.

UPOU's story is one of vision, innovation, and impact. One thing remains constant as it embarks on its next chapter: UPOU's unwavering dedication to shaping futures through the power of open education. 🏛️



*The Four UPOU Chancellors. From Left-Right: Dr. Cristina Padolina, Dr. Felix Librero, Dr. Grace Javier Alfonso and Dr. Melinda dela Peña Bandalaria*




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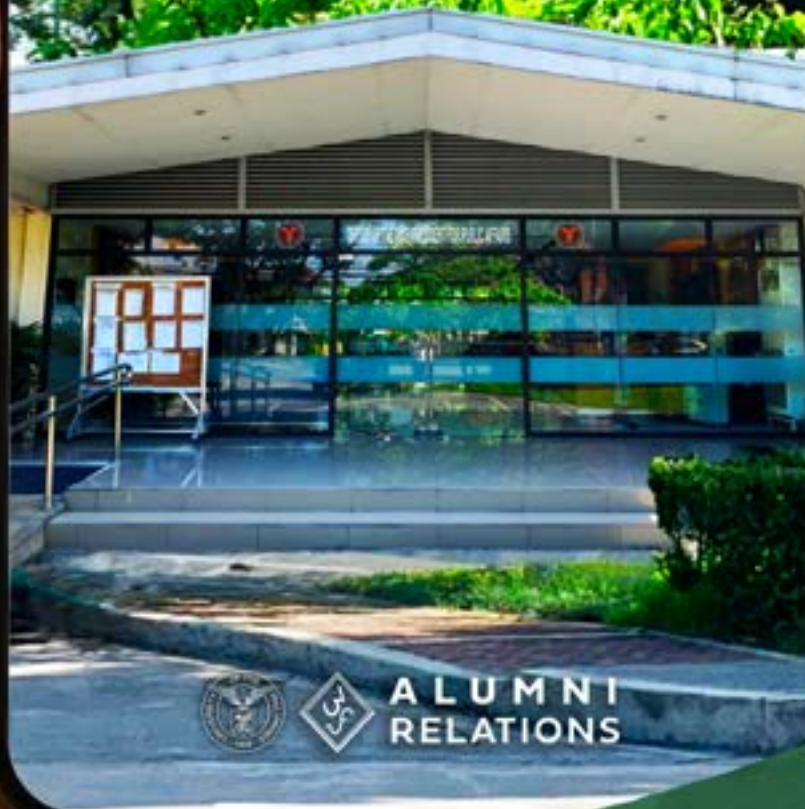
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# REVOLUTIONIZING DISRUPTIONS:

Dr. Melinda Bandalaria,  
on her Nine-Year Term  
as UPOU Chancellor



By Thea Claudette R. Castañeda

Under Chancellor Dr. Melinda Bandalaria’s nine-year term, UP Open University is recognized as one of the leaders in open distance e-learning, not only in Asia, but also globally.

The nature of UP Open University, or UPOU, is inherently different from the other UP Campuses, given that its platform is mostly- if not fully- online. This provides a big challenge, not only in spearheading the paradigm shift in education, but also in adapting to the ever-changing trends in technology, all while keeping the same quality of education that other UP campuses offer.

Revolutionizing disruption is a direction that Chancellor Bandalaria keeps in mind for UPOU. As technologies are disruptive in nature, such as with the internet in 1994 and with OpenAI today, Chancellor Bandalaria views them as tools to utilize and turn into something advantageous, especially for transforming education.

This means maximizing the affordances of modern ICTs to make available inclusive, accessible learning opportunities. Chancellor

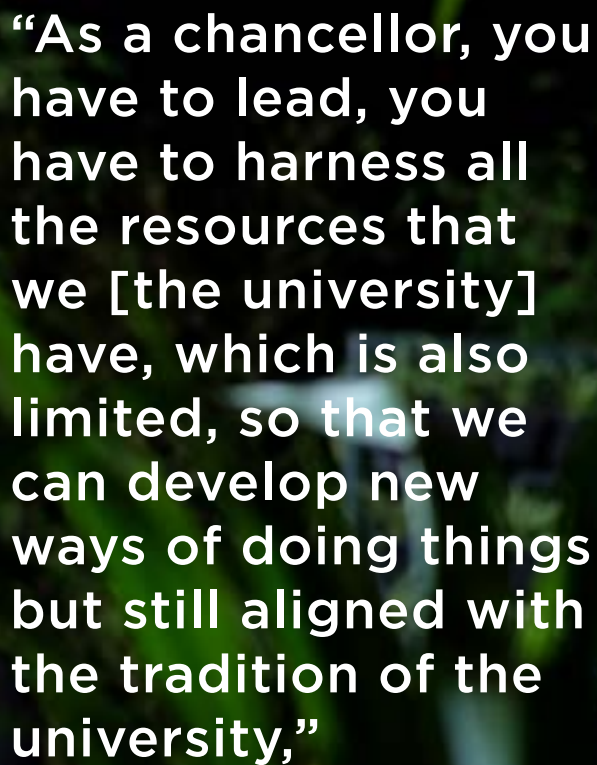
Bandalaria adds, “Wherever these learners are, there is an opportunity for quality education provided by UP. Openness and quality education are not mutually exclusive.”

## Challenges Faced as a UPOU Chancellor

“As a chancellor, you have to lead, you have to harness all the resources that we [the university] have, which is also limited, so that we can develop new ways of doing things but still aligned with the tradition of the university,” Chancellor Bandalaria said, when asked how the unique qualities of UP Open University affect her role as chancellor.

UPOU was established in 1995, a year after the internet was introduced to the Philippines. The campus incorporates innovation and new technologies into its essence as an Open University, while still preserving the values of Honor and Excellence that the University upholds. UPOU became fully online in 2007, becoming the first open university in Asia to do so.





**“As a chancellor, you have to lead, you have to harness all the resources that we [the university] have, which is also limited, so that we can develop new ways of doing things but still aligned with the tradition of the university,”**

*- Dr. Melinda Bandalaria*

With that said, friction in perceiving technologies and innovations, is something that innovators like Chancellor Bandalaria deal with on the norm. As she said in the interview: “When you introduce innovations, sa simula, hindi lahat ay may buy-in. You have to convince even your own people.”

Aside from filling the gaps in adopting innovations, UPOU also deals with the negative perception that online learning is an inferior way of learning compared to how other CUs implement education. Chancellor Bandalaria, however, views online education not just as an alternative option, but as a future of online education. “We look at distance e-learning as the way to go for the future. So pinanindigan namin ‘yon.”

### **Leading the Education Sector During COVID-19 Pandemic**

The challenges caused by the COVID-19 pandemic had forced the education sector

to shift to online platforms. UPOU had an advantage in that part, already implementing flexi-times and work from home setups while offering Massive Open Online Courses (MOOC) through their online platform, something the university had already been implementing since 2013.

Having initially thought that it would be business as usual, Chancellor Bandalaria retained UPOU’s setup, but later on realized that there are students that are going to be frontliners in the future, as the campus offers health programs. Stakeholders and staff are also facing their own challenges in their own homes, so. Chancellor Bandalaria then positioned UPOU as an education frontliner providing public service during that time. She led the campus in reaching out to volunteers to provide webinars for free, and maximized the existing MOOC to offer training programs for open distance e-learning, also for free.

These initiatives are under UPOU’s #OPENFight Against COVID-19 campaign, all in the name of the public service. Under Chancellor Bandalaria’s term, UPOU helped the academic sector transition to online learning not only in PH, but also in some other parts of Asia.

### **Legacy and Achievements**

Within her nine-year term, Chancellor Bandalaria became president of the Asian Association of Open Universities (AAOU) in 2017-2019, leading mega-open universities size-wise in terms of how things are done. She is also appointed as an ambassador for the International Council for Open and Distance Education Open Educational Resources Advocacy Committee (ICDE OERAC). The ICDE serves as a consultative partner to UNESCO, where Chancellor Bandalaria is also a member of its Open Educational Resources (OER) Dynamic Coalition advisory group, representing Asia. She is also currently elected a member of the executive board in both AAOU and ICDE.

Chancellor Bandalaria noted that these achievements have been memorable during her term because they are also indicators that UPOU is one of the leaders in open distance e-learning. While being able to achieve this status during her term, she also recognized the efforts of the previous chancellors, for paving the way in leading UPOU to where it is today. 📌

# Welcome to UP OPEN UNIVERSITY

Headquarters, Los Baños, Laguna



## Culture of Sharing Wisdom

The entrance to the UP Open University is marked by the UPOU seal and the statues of men and women in an art installation called "The Culture of Sharing Wisdom." This was conceptualized, designed, and sculpted by Dr. Grace Javier Alfonso, the third Chancellor of UPOU. This art installation was inaugurated on 20 February 2020, in celebration of UPOU's 25th Anniversary.



## Academic Residences

The UPOU Faculty and Staff Housing, dubbed "Academic Residences," is a 3-story building that sits on a 3,730 square meter lot at the UPOU headquarters in Los Baños, Laguna. It boasts 50 suites, a roof deck and indoor gardens. This facility was developed by the Department of Public Works and Highways as part of the Konkreto 2022 program and Build Build Build campaign. The building was completed on 6 April 2019 and was officially inaugurated on 20 November 2019.



## UPOU Oblation

The University of the Philippines Open University Oblation was conceptualized and sculpted by Dr. Grace Javier Alfonso. The sculpture reflects UPOU's vision of widening access to education. The replica of Guillermo Tolentino's UP Oblation stands at the center of a pedestal and appears to be lifted by a swirling ribbon. This ribbon symbolizes the Philippine flag with stars around it signifying Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao. The ribbon raises the oblation to greater heights which is very representative of the University's ultimate goal of widening access to education. As inspired by the original Oblation, it still represents the act of offering oneself for the service of the country. The models for the oblation are believed to be Anastacio Caedo, a former student of Tolentino, and Virgilio Raymundo, Tolentino's brother-in-law.



## Multimedia Production Building

The Multimedia Production Building is a two-storey building houses two video studios of varied sizes; several digital audio recording booths; video-conferencing rooms for online meetings and training; immersive learning laboratories; amaker space; video editing rooms.



## Centennial Plaza

The Centennial Plaza is a place for recreational outdoor activities such as exhibitions, mini-concerts, and other similar events. It is where you can find the UPOU Centennial Marker - a metal sculpture created by National Artist Napoleon V. Abueva. The sculpture is called "The Pursuit of Education", which symbolizes the strengthening of communities and the Filipino nation as well as education in all forms.



## Community Hub

The UPOU Community Hub was constructed in 2015. It serves as a venue for interaction, skills training, and idea generation and sharing among members of the UPOU Community and UPOU's immediate public.



## Where Boundaries Blur and Potential Soars: UPOU Fosters a Global Community of Lifelong Learners And Changemakers

By Zyrene Edrei Villanueva

The University of the Philippines Open University (UPOU) has become a haven for accessible learning and a space where knowledge is gained without boundaries, away from conventional education. UPOU has served as an inclusive channel for passionate lifelong learners of different backgrounds, showcasing the accessibility and inclusivity that should be at the forefront of educational policies. UPOU has proven that anyone from various walks of life can continuously learn with the alumni it has produced.

UPOU has enabled thousands of students to achieve their goals—advancing careers, fulfilling dreams, or continuously learning. These alumni narratives are evidence of the reach of UPOU's transformative distance learning paradigm.

Filipinos abroad and international students can achieve their academic dreams through UPOU's flexible programs. The following stories highlight individuals who embraced education without borders.

Mike Clester Perez (Class of 2023) brought his UPOU loyalty to the United Kingdom. While working as an engineer in the UK, he first pursued his graduate studies at UPOU—the Diploma in Research and Development Management (DRDM), then the Master of Research and Development Management (MRDM). By grounding himself and reminding himself of his goals, he was able to finish his studies and overcome the challenges he faced while studying, living, and working abroad.

Reynaldo Panopio, Jr. (Class of 2020) and Daphne Joanne A. Munoz (Class of 2021) found love. They became each other's support system while working as health workers in Saudi Arabia and pursuing a Master of Arts in Nursing (MAN) degree at UPOU. The couple found studying at UPOU transformative both personally and

professionally. Their academic goals were achieved with the great help of each other's company and support, creating a sense of community and belonging within UPOU.

UPOU champions inclusivity, ensuring education reaches everyone regardless of ability. The following stories are testaments to this ideal, showcasing inspiring individuals who overcame disability to achieve their academic goals at UPOU.

Joanne Laurice Caguicla (Class of 2021) has been wheelchair-dependent since being involved in a vehicular accident. Her circumstances as a woman with special needs did not stop her from pursuing and completing the Bachelor of Arts in Multimedia Studies (BAMS) degree at UPOU. Joanne was persistent in studying despite her condition. She felt that her personal growth would stop if she didn't continue her studies.

Marcelino Lacson (Class of 2020) proved that having a Speech Disability would not hinder anyone from continuously learning. Obtaining his Master of Development Communication degree in 2020 was more convenient for him with UPOU's distance learning program.

Age is not a barrier to getting an education at UPOU. This glimpse into these alumni's lives proves that education can flourish at any stage.

It has been a lifelong dream for Edwin C. Tan (Class of 2021) to obtain a degree at one of the top schools in the country. Truly, fulfilling a dream knows no age because even as a Senior Citizen, he was able to reach his dreams by getting a degree in UPOU. Being a UPOU student is challenging, yet it continuously pushes him to learn no matter how old he is. Being a part of the UP alumni has helped him build character and gave him a sense of belonging within the UP community.

Teresita Vistro (Class of 2023) found it helpful to study for a Master of Public Management (MPM)





at UPOU, considering her age and demanding work schedule. Teresita finally finished the degree that would help advance her career. This learning experience inspired her so much that she also became an inspiration to her colleagues, encouraging them to take the same path in choosing UPOU.

While managing the responsibilities of motherhood and work, Cherry Mae Ladja, a UPOU Master of ASEAN Studies (MAS) graduate from Zamboanga, found UPOU's program to be a breath of fresh air. The university's flexible structure allowed her to pursue her studies despite a busy schedule, ultimately deepening her appreciation for learning.

The following stories highlight the stories of UPOU alumni who excelled in their chosen fields and found ways to give back to their alma mater.

Ambassador Elizabeth Buensuceso (Class of 2020) is one of UPOU's most notable alumni who has made a continuously relevant contribution to the university after graduation. After getting her Masters in ASEAN Studies (MAS), she published a book that explores the authentic meaning of "ASEAN Centrality" based on her point of view and her practice and experiences as a diplomat from one of ASEAN's five founding members. Recently, UPOU collaborated with Ambassador Buensuceso to promote Open and Distance e-Learning (ODEL) in the ASEAN region.

Louise Emmanuelle De Guzman Mabulo (Class of 2020), a graduate of the Associate in Arts program, has shown that she can do so much at a young age. She was one of the 2020 National Geographic Society Young Explorers with her "The Cacao Project" initiative. The Cacao Project helps farmers be more self-sufficient by providing them with the necessary resources and knowledge to succeed.

Glenn Fernandez (Class of 2020), one of the ten representatives of Early Career Researchers across the world, is a lifelong learner. He graduated at the top of the Diploma in Environment and Natural Resources Management (DENRM) class in 2009 and enrolled back again at UPOU to finish his Master in Public Management degree in 2020, even after obtaining his master's and PhD degree in Japan. UPOU's online platform allowed Glenn to balance work and studies, exploring new fields for career and personal growth. Investing in education, especially in impactful fields, is crucial for societal progress.

UPOU adheres to its mandate of making quality education accessible, inclusive, and open. Indeed, these inspiring alumni are testaments to UPOU's transformative values. Their stories reflect the accessibility, inclusivity, and academic excellence that UPOU is known for. Throughout the years, UPOU has enabled thousands of lifelong learners to put their goals and dreams in the palm of their hands. 📖



## UP Open University

By Susan Claire Agbayani

The world has changed so much in the last four years. The pandemic and ever-changing versions of lockdowns kept us locked in our homes. We even jokingly called one another “fellow detainees.” As for the education or academic sector, we learned to “pivot” and rely more heavily on off-site classes. Even after the lockdowns had been lifted, we resorted to “hybrid” classes. And today, people have become so much more open to learning online.

But long before the pandemic descended upon us, the University of the Philippines System already had its Open University, with headquarters in the sprawling Los Banos campus.

According to an interview of Carillon with UPOU Chancellor Dr. Melinda Bandalaria, the pandemic behooved the education sector to shift to online platforms. But UPOU had the edge of having done so years prior to the debacle. Who would have known back then, right? But as early as 2013, UPOU had been “implanting flexi-times and work-from-home setups while offering Massive Open Online Courses (MOOC) through (its) online platform.”

Even back then, Bandalaria saw distance e-learning “as the way to go for the future;” notwithstanding the negative perception that online learning was an inferior way to learn.

Interestingly, Bandalaria was convinced to go this route because she had tried it herself way back in 2008, when she was Registrar. “I joined, I studied, and enrolled.” She saw the importance of how it could be implemented. This advocacy is rooted in the passion and desire to “make open education available to various types of learners, wherever they are.”

Bandalaria sees distance education, and UPOU as a “disruption” along with online technologies. She believes that “Technologies, such as internet – and now, OpenAI – must be utilized and revolutionized to turn it into something advantageous,” she told Carillon.

Today, UPOU is recognized “as one of the leaders in open distance e-learning” in Asia and the world.



Original caption: The UPOU Class of 2019 takes the Oath of Loyalty to the U

Within her nine-year term as chancellor, Bandalaria became president of the Asian Association of Open Universities (AAOU) in 2017-2019, leading mega-open universities...in how things ought to be done.

### What is an open university?

In the first place, what is an “open university?” According to the UPOU web site, “An open university espouses a philosophy of open learning which differs in degree and dimension from institution to institution.”

The UPOU’s philosophy of open learning is evolving though, with emphasis on “widening access to quality higher education,” the site states.

The UPOU is the fifth autonomous university of the UP System. It was established in 1995, barely a year after the internet was introduced in the Philippines. It became fully online in 2007, “the first open university in Asia to do so.” It was meant for students to develop discipline and capability to be lifelong learners “who are at home in today’s knowledge society.”

“The campus incorporates innovation and new technologies into its essence as an open university, while still preserving the values of honor and excellence that the university upholds,” the Carillon piece stated, and added, “The nature of...UPOU, is inherently different from the other UP campuses, given that its platform is mostly- if not fully – online. This provides a big challenge, not only in spearheading the paradigm shift in education, but also in adapting to the ever-changing trends in technology.”





University (Photo by Arlyn VCD P. Romualdo, UP MPRO)

Among the key features of D.E. – as practiced at UPOU are that:

- UPOU utilizes an open-source learning management system (LMS) as its virtual classroom. This is otherwise known as MyPortal
- To enhance interaction and discussion, the faculty-in-charge (FIC) uses various online collaboration and communication tools available today
- Final examinations are conducted either face to face at designated learning and testing centers, or online

### How do students and teachers interact with each other?

If traditional universities have classrooms and lecture halls, UPOU has course sites or “virtual classrooms” where students and teachers log in to discuss the lessons as well as do other learning activities.

Via the course site, the FIC interacts with the students, and students chat with one another. It is also where the students submit course requirements, take online quizzes, and do other online activities. Interactions may take place weekly, or throughout the term, depending on the FIC’s directions.

Just like in regular university, students sit for supervised examinations through either a pre-identified examination venue, or at a Philippine embassy/consulate or any academic institution/credible organization abroad “under the supervision of a qualified proctor in the area, or online.”

Examination Services is a program under the Office of Student Affairs. Academic examinations include the following: midterm, make-up exams, removal/completion, final exams, comprehensive exams, and admission tests.

Around 15 percent (15%) of UPOU students are based abroad, according to UPOU. Most of the courses are taught online, so one can study any course, wherever he or she is. Some subjects though require “pre-scheduled face-to-face meetings” such as for laboratory work or field practice.”

“As a chancellor, you have to lead, you have to harness all the resources that we have - which is also limited - so that we can develop new ways of doing things but still aligned with the tradition of the university,” Bandalaria said. 📖

The Open U was declared a national Center of Excellence in Open Learning and Distance Education by the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) due to its “vital role in pushing the frontiers of learning in service to the Filipino nation.”

The site states that Distance Education or D.E. “favors an independent self-learning style which takes place outside a formal classroom.” D.E. offers other benefits as well, among them, inclusivity, being able to immediately apply what one has learned to one’s work, and “access to institutionally-developed learning. The teachers do not conduct classes in physical classrooms where they meet students face-to-face. Interaction between the teacher and students take place through the internet. Unlike in face-to-face classes, course materials are usually the starting point for study. Off-site classes are mediated through print modules, online articles and exercises, audio or video recordings, and the internet.

As we have learned throughout the pandemic, D.E. allows one to be able to hold on to a job - whether full-time or part-time - and spend more time with family. One need not take a leave from his/her job, or part with family members to attend university in another city, province, state, or country.

### What is UPOU’s mode of instruction?

UPOU espouses Open and Distance e-Learning (or, OdeL), “a worldview that combines the philosophy of open learning, the pedagogies of distance education, and the technology of eLearning.” This worldview, according to the UPOU site, “guides OPOU’s mode of teaching.”



By Susan Claire Agbayani

In December last year, the Varsity Pep Squad (or UP Pep) of the University of the Philippines paid homage to homegrown band Eraserheads for the Cheerdance Competition (CDC) Season 86 of the University Athletic Association of the Philippines (UAAP). The theme of their routine was “AlapaUp” (how apt!).

They executed “a high-level performance:” flips, jumps, and pyramids to excerpts from the Eheads’ “Alkohol,” “Overdrive,” “Huling El Bimbo,” “Huwag Kang Matakot,” “Pare Ko,” “Tindahan ni Aling Nena,” “Magasin,” “Harana” and ended with, what else, but “Alapaap?” They did routines with Black-Eyed Peas as a theme the year prior. In 2010, the squad “executed flawless routines that incorporated Filipino traditions, such as the Masskara and Panagbenga festivals...before 20,950 spectators” according to a story published in the Philippine Star (“UP Pep Squad thrills, awes”).

The squad’s Head Coach Fae Pascua said that this Eheads-themed routine represents “the journey, freedom from struggles, and challenges faced by the team.” She added that by placing fifth, the team “finally (broke) a streak of being at the bottom three since 2017.”

The team held championships in eight non-consecutive years: for three consecutive years from 1999 to 2001; for two consecutive years in 2007 and 2008; and after not being the champs in 2009, they regained the championship again for another three consecutive years: 2010, 2011 and 2012. And then came the “dry” years. However, UP holds the “unprecedented” 20 consecutive podium finishes from 1995 to 2015. (There was no competition in 1997)

Through the years, UP Pep - or at least, several of its members - have represented the country in the Asian Games in Busan, South Korea in 2002; The Cheerleading Asia International Open Championships in Tokyo, Japan in 2008, 2009 and 2013; and the Cheerleading World Championships in Hong Kong in 2011, in

Bangkok, Thailand in 2013, in Tokyo, Japan in 2015, and Berlin, Germany in 2016.

UP Pep in March last year “bagged” the championship title for the All-Girl College Cheer Division at the 16th National Cheerleading Championship (NCC) in Pasig City, at its first appearance at the NCC after a 16-year absence. In March this year, UP Pep competed in the 17th season of the NCC at PhilSports Arena, where the girls “clinched the national championship in the Open All-Girl Group Stunts L6 Premier Division with a score of 342.5 points.” On Day 2, the team finished fifth in the Open Coed Cheer L5 Elite Division, with a score of 217.5 points.

It has been a decade since UP Pep reached the top at the UAAP CDC. Prior to last year, it had consistently finished sixth in the last five editions. It had hoped to “turn its fortunes around” in Season 86, and aspired to “crack the top three for the first time since 2015,” and “to deliver a performance to remember” according to a story published in Rappler in 2023. And wasn’t that performance with the Eheads as a soundtrack truly memorable?

### The Hecklers

The squad was formed in 1994. It started as a group of five UP basketball fans known as the “Hecklers.” It eventually became the official cheerleading and cheerdance team of UP.

The UP Pep Squad has two halves: the cheerleaders and the drummers. They perform at the halftime of basketball games of the UP Fighting maroons, at different university events and functions, and at the CDC of UAAP.

Apart from Pascua, the team’s coaches include Herbert Gerard Villafranca, Drummers’ Coach, who graduated from UP Diliman in 2015 with a baccalaureate degree in Computer Science; and a master’s degree, also in Computer Science, in 2022.

The coaches were appointed two years ago, when the UP Pep Squad sought to return to the top of the UAAP CDC. Both of them are UP alumni and were previous members of the squad.

Back then, Pascua promised a new era “for UP Pep Squad, for the Fighting Maroons, and for the UP community,” according to an article written by Micah Formoso for The Philippine Collegian (“With a New Coaching Team, UP





*The UP Pep Squad during its annual team building activity in Laiya, Batangas in January 2024 early this year. Photo credit: Lean Pelenio*

Pep Squad Eyes a Podium Comeback”). Pascua was quoted as having said, “We want to build a new legacy moving forward...: new generation, new everything.”

The coaches bring something unique to the table: their unique strengths and weaknesses. They endeavored “to conduct training that are safe spaces (and) a coaching strategy that would bring out the best of the team.” Part of this strategy, of course was “communication,” and “operating on trust, not fear.” As well as “maximizing the team’s energy in strength and conditioning, gymnastics and dance.” Their concerns included the physical as well as mental health and emotional wellbeing of the team’s members.

Villafranca is ably assisted by Assistant Coach Seldane Donne Tagao, who is also an alumna of UP Pep, and was also a former Head Drummer. She graduated from UP with a baccalaureate degree in Biology in 2019. The team’s Strength and Conditioning Coach is Josiah Cabanag.

Pascua says that while her coaching style is uniquely Filipino, she incorporates cheers from different countries where she trained in cheerleading: Malaysia, Singapore and Canada. She was part of the UAAP Season 77 cheerdance performance.

“I joined the team in Season 74,” Villafranca told Carillon through a message on social media. “I was a Head Drummer during the season.” [Note: there are two head drummers]. “I was an active alumnus, and I continued to help after I graduated after Season 77. I rejoined the team as Senior Resident in Season 82 while taking my masters,” he added. “I joined as the Lead Coach

for Drummers, and Assistant Team manager in 2022, right as Season 85 started. I primarily coach the drummers,” he further said.

### **Tough Training**

The squad relentlessly trains for three to four hours on weekday nights at the UP Diliman Football Field. The drummers train at the Baseball Garden of the College of Human Kinetics for three hours daily on weekdays, Villafranca said.

“We are honored to witness and compete against teams from all over the country. We are excited for the future of Philippine cheer and we hope it continues to grow with every Filipino cheerleader pushing the sport even further,” Pasco said in April.

With full confidence, Pascua said, “The team is getting ready to bloom come UAAP Season 87, where the University of the Philippines (is) set to host.”

“UP Pep has come a long way from where we started when we revamped the program in late 2022,” said Villafranca. “This is not the work of any one person, but the combined efforts of the current and previous members of the coaching staff, the community that supports us, our alumni, and, of course, the student-athletes themselves. We are immensely grateful for the continued support and encouragement we receive, and we remain hopeful for the future of the UP Pep Squad,” he concluded. ↓



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*Dogs undergoing training. Photo from the UPMV K9.*

## Vanguard, Inc. Trains Dogs For Obedience, Search-And-Rescue

By Anna Regidor

Over 24 happy pets and their owners finished a basic obedience workshop conducted by the UP-Metro Manila Development Authority (MMDA)-Vanguard K9 Corps (UPMV K9) as part of an ongoing program to provide search and rescue (SAR) training to volunteer civilian pet owners.

The participants were taught basic dog handling skills and foundational obedience commands, such as “sit,” “down,” “stay,” and “heel,” and how they can utilize these commands in their daily activities.

According to incoming UPMV K9 president Elah Tendero, the handler/ owner of rescue asong pinoy “Satchmo,” dog training “is as much about the owner as it is about the pet. We don’t just teach dogs how to behave. We teach people how to better understand and communicate with their dogs. We want pet owners to understand that learning foundational obedience can elevate their companionship and keep their pets safe in public and unfamiliar places.”

The obedience workshop graduates can also apply for the UPMV K9’s free SAR training, a 24-session course where “the handler will be trained for search and rescue skills, and the K9 for scent work which is highly needed in search and rescue operations,” Tendero said.

In the 2017 Rappler article, How K-9 units helped in Naga and Itogon landslide search operations, then head of the MMDA K9 SAR Unit Ramon Santiago said, “Having trained dogs may be able to augment life-saving efforts should a [7.2 magnitude earthquake] occur. If all the more


than 1,700 barangays in Metro Manila just have a tandem of five dogs and owner-handlers each, we can greatly increase the number of those who can help.”

In September 2018, a UPMV K9 group was among those who assisted in SAR operations in Barangay Ucab in Itogon, Benguet following a massive landslide in the wake of Typhoon Ompong.

The UPMV K9 is a multisectoral K9 search and rescue volunteer and non-profit organization founded largely by the Makati Chapter of alumni group UP Vanguard, Inc., with the help of UP and the MMDA. Tendero said UP Vanguard, Inc. continues to be the primary supporter of the program today.

“We envision every barangay to be equipped with search and rescue K9 units. As we continuously train volunteers, we hope to see more and more pet owners give purpose to their dogs as K9 companions and also be an integral part of search and rescue operations,” Tendero said.

According to its website, UP Vanguard, Inc. “started as a fraternity (the ‘Diamonds and Studs’ fraternity) in 1922 composed of those enrolled in both basic and advanced ROTC courses. On 29 March 1952, it was further revitalized as an alumni organization composed of graduates of the UP ROTC advanced courses, and in 1963 it was incorporated as a non-stock, non-profit corporation.”

The basic obedience workshop was held on Feb. 3 and 10. 

# Kwentong Alumni: The Roads Already Traveled

By Adriel Noel R. Andonaque, Prof. Rose Abigail E. Duarte, Dr. Evalyn A. Roxas, Dr. Fernando B. Garcia, Jr.

Feeling overwhelmed with career choices is a common experience for many public health students. Amidst laboratory reports, quizzes, and class presentations, they also have to contend with the certainty that a world of possibilities and daunting life-long choices is just around the corner.

To provide guidance and inspiration to its students, the College of Public Health (CPH) through the Student and Alumni Relations and Monitoring Cluster, partnered with its alumni to hold the CPH Alumni Forum series as part of its 97th Founding Anniversary. This year's anniversary theme is "Banyuhay: Dangal at Husay sa Pampublikong Kalusugan, Tugon sa mga Hamon ng Panahon" ("Metamorphosis: Honor and Excellence in Public Health, Response to the Challenges of the Times"). The inaugural session was entitled "Kwentong Alumni" and took place on 20 February 2024, at the Emilio T. Yap Auditorium of the UP Manila College of Pharmacy.


"Do what is fulfilling, no matter how challenging," Dr. Luceli Cuasay advised the students in the audience as she shared her journey in the field of public health. The BS Hygiene 1968 alumna is the Biostatistician and Epidemiologist for her Texas-based, sole proprietorship consultation company, "Research for Health."

Director Frances Rose Elgo-Mamaril then candidly shared how she faced a similar

crossroads when deciding on her career path. A BS Public Health and Master of Public Health (MPH) alumna, she is now the Director of the Universal Health Care Health Services Cluster - Technical Office of the Department of Health (DOH).

Inspired by the two alumni, Mr. Pio Justin Asuncion shared the straightforward advice of "Searching for a good mentor." The MPH alumnus is the current Chief Health Program Officer of the Health Research Division of the DOH - Health Policy Development and Planning Bureau (HPDPB). Mr. Asuncion explained how the public health programs at CPH were responsive to the needs of DOH and the country. To provide the student perspective in the discussion,

Ms. Kristine Fei Pataueg, Chairperson of the CPH Student Council, also shared her reflections on the messages given by the alumni speakers and expressed appreciation for the unique opportunity provided by the forum.

The event aimed to encourage BS Public Health students by inviting distinguished CPH alumni to share their career journeys in public health. It also broadened students' perspectives on the significance and importance of serving the public through public health and gave them a sense of being heard—especially at an important turning point in their lives when they stand on the doorstep of their future. 





# FOREVER LINKED, FOREVER STRONG: Uniting UPLB Alumni Across the World



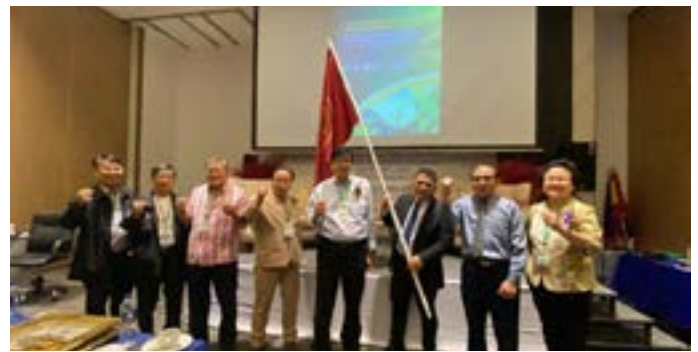
*UPLB alumni in Houston, Texas*



*UPLB alumni in Los Angeles*



*UPLB alumni in Sual, Pangasinan*



*UPLB alumni in Thailand*

By Paulty May Valencia

UPLB has fostered a community that extends far beyond its physical borders. The UPLB Office of Alumni Relations (OAR) in partnership with the UPLB Alumni Association (UPLBAA) has unveiled an endeavor, the Organizing Chapters of Alumni Associations from Regions of Domestic and International Scenes (ORCHARDS) project.

Launched in 2021, ORCHARDS represents a concerted effort to rejuvenate and fortify the bonds between UPLB and its illustrious alumni network. The project seeks to nurture alum engagement and involvement. ORCHARDS aims to organize alumni from diverse backgrounds and geographical locations. The aim is to encourage convergence, collaboration, and contribution to the growth and development of our alma mater.

The significance of ORCHARDS transcends mere nostalgia. It is a testament to the enduring legacy of UPLB and the enduring spirit of its alums. Through this initiative, the University endeavors to harness the collective wisdom, experience, and expertise of its alum community to address contemporary challenges and shape the future trajectory of UPLB. Central to the ORCHARDS project is the establishment of regional chapters both within the Philippines and across international

borders. These chapters will serve as hubs of connectivity, providing alums with a platform to connect with fellow graduates. By fostering a sense of belonging and camaraderie, this project aims to empower alums to become active stakeholders in futureproofing UPLB. As of 2023, there are already twelve places visited – 8 local and 4 abroad (Pangasinan, Ilocos Norte, Benguet, Bacolod, Bataan, Oriental Mindoro, Davao, Isabela, Texas, Los Angeles, Las Vegas, and Thailand).

This project serves as a conduit for meaningful collaboration between UPLB and its alums, facilitating mentorship opportunities, knowledge exchange initiatives, and collaborative research endeavors. Through partnerships forged under this project, UPLB endeavors to leverage the collective talents and resources of its alum network to drive innovation, foster academic excellence, and make a tangible impact on society.

OAR and UPLBAA know the importance of its alumni community. With this partnership, it will ensure that the legacy of excellence continues to thrive for generations to come. For those who want to organize an alumni gathering for this purpose, please e-mail the organization at [oar.uplb@up.edu.ph](mailto:oar.uplb@up.edu.ph). 📧



*Left to right: Mr. Roland Wong-current President of Rotary Summer Capital, Atty. John Ray Libiran, Judge Isagani Calderon, Ms. Faith Joy Calderon and Mr. Gil Bautista.*

## **UPAA Baguio-Northern Luzon Chapter Board Recognizes by Rotary Club Summer Capital**

By Cecilia Fe Abalos

The UPAA Baguio-Northern Luzon chapter, under the auspices of its previous Board of Director President Lilia R. Bautista, was commended by the Rotary Club Summer Capital on April 8, 2024 in Baguio City. Receiving the APO KAKADWA Award from the Rotary Club Summer Capital, the former board of directors of the UPAA Baguio-Northern Luzon Chapter was recognized for consistent public service rendered to Baguio and Northern Luzon Community from covering the years of 2021 - 2022.

The former board of the UPAA Baguio -Northern Luzon Chapter has worked closely with Rotary Club Summer Capital in providing vitamins and medicines for UP Baguio students, faculty, and non-teaching staff in 2021, donating baking equipment for indigent women of Baguio, giving PPE suits to health frontliners of Baguio General Hospital are only a few among the many philanthropic projects of this previous UPAA Chapter board of directors.

To date, former directors of the UPAA Baguio-Northern Luzon chapter now compose the core members of the UP Baguio Alumni Volunteers and Friends (UPBAVF), a loosely organized group who continue to serve the university and the larger community. Among its ongoing projects: Food For Thought - a project that provides free nutritious meals for selected indigent undergraduate students; Legal Aid which was conducted last year for free legal advice and notarization services for the university and the public; and the recent financial donation for the renovation and refurbishing of student offices and hallway at the Alumni Center, UP Baguio.

Former Board of Directors of the UPAA Baguio-Northern Luzon Chapter are: Ms. Lilia Bautista, Atty. Yzanne Merced, Judge Isagani Calderon, Atty. John Ray Libiran, Ms. Monalie Sta. Cruz-Romero, Mr. Benny Alhambra, and Rep. Marquez Go -ex-officio. Current President of UPAA Baguio-Northern Luzon Chapter is Dr. Mario Imson. 📌



# Resurgence of Alumni Engagement in UP Cebu

By Geofe O. Cadiz

UP Cebu has witnessed a resurgence of active engagements from its beloved alumni after the restrictions imposed by the pandemic were lifted.

## UPAA Cebu Chapter

The UPAA - Cebu Chapter (UPAA-CC) successfully organized the 'Huni ug Hudyaka sa Pasko,' a debut concert of UP Symphony Orchestra in Cebu City last December 2023 in collaboration with UP Cebu. The alumni and the Cebuano public were awed by the superb orchestra performance on the first night of the concert. An exclusive show on the second night was for the UP Cebu faculty, staff, and students.

UPAA-CC also launched its Sablayera project last July 2023, which extended support to the graduating students of UP Cebu by offering free use of Sablay to the underprivileged. UPAA-CC also extended aid to the community, particularly a barangay in Lapu-lapu City that was ravaged by a blazing fire.

The Board of Trustees also actively participated in the different events of UP Cebu such as the 84th Commencement Exercises, annual exhibition of the UP Cebu Fine Arts faculty, and the UP Cebu Christmas Tree Lighting.

The set of officers and members of the UPAA-CC Board of Trustees are:

President: Marylou "Lotlot" L. Neri; Vice-President: Dr. Bryan Albert Lim; Secretary: Atty. Emi Rose S. Remoroza-Parcon; Treasurer: Randy Nelson Cabahug; Trustees: Atty. Maria Jane Paredes, Lelani Echaves-Paredes, Dr. Sofia Logarta, Darmae Tan, Barbette Lominoque, Monica Manluluyo, Atty. Jay Pujanes, Jeruel

Roa, Nasvin del Rosario, Annabelle Maglasang, Jae Mari D. Magdadaro; Ex-officio Trustees: Atty. Leo B. Malagar (Chancellor of UP Cebu), Dr. Geofe O. Cadiz (Director, UP Cebu Office of Alumni Relations; Chairperson, UP Cebu Alumni Committee), Nico Booc (Chairperson, UP Cebu Student Council), and Atty. Ria Lidia Espina (immediate past president of UPAA-CC).

## "Paglantaw 2023" - UP Cebu College of Science Grand Alumni Homecoming

'Paglantaw 2023' was an amazing time of getting together and catching up among the College of Science alumni of UP Cebu in July 2023. Different alumni batches from the BS Biology, BS Computer Science, BS Mathematics, MS Environmental Studies, and MS Computer Science programs had a day of campus tour, fun games, a pleasant meal, and exciting prizes.

The CS Alumni Steering Group was formed during the homecoming night, and is composed of alumni representatives from the different programs: Maria Earla Caracut-Arnibal (BS Biology 1991), Lindo Estrera (BS Mathematics 1997), Gloridel Malingin (BS Computer Science 2000), Kim Bondoc (BS Biology 2002), Dexter Gabica (BS Mathematics 2002), Jasper Carillo (BS Mathematics 2007), Arthur Alipante (BS Computer Science 2008), Bea Ulson (BS Biology 2022), and Deson Maquilang (BS Computer Science 2023).

The new CS Alumni Tracker was also launched. All alumni from the College of Science UP Cebu can now register to the official alumni tracker of the College of Science and create their personal alumni account at this link: [alumni-upcebu.ph](http://alumni-upcebu.ph)



2023 Paglantaw UP Cebu College of Science Grand Alumni Homecoming



Huni ug Hudyaka sa Pasko: A Debut Concert of the UP Symphony Orchestra in Cebu.

# The September Affair Returns



By GC T. Castro

Since its opening in 1947, University of the Philippines Visayas (UPV), then called UP Iloilo College (UPIC), has been providing a good mix of academics and socials for its students. It has held events such as acquaintance parties, sportsfests, Christmas parades, oratorical contests, musicals, theater plays, proms, and dances. It has held monthly socials to have the students get acquainted. But the bigger and more sought-after of the socials has always been the September Affair.

The September Affair was a binayle (dance/ball) originally organized by the student council of UPIC's Lower Division (high school) and Upper Division (college). This was held until the late 60s.

Students would come to the Main Building all dressed up for the dance. During the event, young girls would sit at chairs around the dance floor, and young boys would approach and ask their female classmates for a dance. Music played included sweet music, cha-cha, twist, boogie, and other dances of the decade. It was a time when phonographs and vinyl records were used to bring the music throughout the venue.

In the 80s, a revival was organized by the UPCI High School at one point, and the College of Arts and Sciences at another. For a couple of years, these were held at the UPV Little Theater (LT). Students now came in more casual attire.

A more modern set of music was now being played in the hall like disco and swing.

More than three decades later, the September Affair had another revival in September of 2023. It was held at the UPV LT after a donor recognition program. This incarnation of the famed event now featured a DJ, playing more energetic dance music alongside the older dance classics like cha-cha, disco, and swing. Dance instructors from UPV Department of Physical Education were also present to lead a Zumba-style dance. Enjoying the dance were alumni guests, students, faculty, and staff.

During the event, Prof. Melanie J. Padilla (HS 1965, BSEd 1970, MEd 1983) shared her experience on how the September Affair was when she was a student in the 60s. She hopes that this tradition will be revived a couple more times during this modern time. 📌



*September Affair photos from old UPV yearbooks*





## UP MINDANAO: In service to Mindanao

By Rene Estremera

Upon the call of UP Alumni for equitable access to UP quality education in Mindanao, the University of the Philippines Mindanao became the sixth constituent university of the UP System through Republic Act 7889 on February 20, 1995.

UP Mindanao envisions itself to be at the forefront of distinctive interdisciplinary education, responsive and relevant research development, and public service in Mindanao. To actualize this vision, the university offers degree programs that are anchored on Mindanao needs and realities.

The University currently offers an Associate degree in Sports Studies, Bachelor's degrees in Anthropology, Architecture, Communication and Media Arts, English (Creative Writing), Sports Science, Computer Science, Biology, Food Technology, Agribusiness Economics, Applied Mathematics, and Data Science.

UP Mindanao also has postgraduate programs with diplomas in Urban and Regional Planning, Exercise and Sports Science, Master's Degrees in Management, Urban and Regional Planning, Food Science, Human Movement Science, and a Dual Ph.D. by Research. The university will soon offer programs in Medicine, Engineering, and Entrepreneurship.

In line with its mandate to serve the people, UP Mindanao also extends its projects and initiatives to nearby communities through the Office of Extension and Community Service (OECS), Ugnayan ng Pahinungod, including collaborative projects with the indigenous communities of Marilog and Laak Land Reservation areas through Land Reservation and Management Office (LRMO) and the proposed UP-Bangsamoro Development Institute (UP-BDI) which aims to help our brothers and sisters in the Bangsamoro region.

The university also houses the Davao City-UP Sports Complex, Disease Watch and Analytics (DiWA), and the Philippine Genome Center, to serve the Mindanao region. UP Mindanao will also be the future home of the Davao City Public Hospital.

UP Mindanao's projects and programs are aligned with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, with emphasis on the use of innovative systems and technologies and cognizant of the region's heritage and biodiversity. As such, UP Mindanao endeavors to continue its participation in nation-building through its service to Mindanao and its people. 📌

# UP

# IKOT

# TOKI

## Hindsight

*Ang UP student ay parang Pantranco jeep – dumadaan sa Pag-Ibig.  
Ang love ay parang Ikot: hindi dumadaan sa Masscom.  
Ang lahat ay dumadaan sa Music. Dumadaan lang.  
Ang love ay parang jeep na dumadaan sa AS. Hindi tumatagal.  
Ang love ay parang Toki: matagal dumating  
- compiled by Dennis Arroyo*

By Susan Claire Agbayani

Television producer and director Adrian Arcega (UP Fine Arts-Viscomm, '96) said that sometime between 1995 and the early 2000s, their literary organization Quill used to have an initiative called "Ikot Poetry."

"We posted our poems on Ikot jeeps. It was always a hoot secretly watching who would be reading our poems," Arcega said. Unfortunately, their organization got dissolved because there was a semester when no one bothered to register it.

Don't we wish that somebody would take it from there and continue this noteworthy practice?

### Anecdotes about Ikot-Toki rides on campus abound

In mid-2019, Color It Red vocalist Cooky Chua posted a photograph of herself accompanying her only child Waki Ignacio riding the Ikot jeep. He was then applying to be a freshman at the College of Fine Arts. Chua admitted to nearly getting lost on campus, were it not for the help of a fellow passenger.

"First time ko sumakay. Hindi pa (ako) sanay mag-commute. Pagbaba ko ng ikot jeep, I

very cheerfully and politely said to the driver, 'Thank you po. Bye bye.' I heard the passengers snickering as I left the jeep. Kahiya," corporate trainer ("and feeling artist") Gege Cruz Sugue - BS Clothing Tech alumna - said of her first Ikot ride when she was a freshman in 1984.

Mindanao State University-Marawi (MSU-Marawi) Instructor II Diandra Macarambon shares the story of a friend (who shall not be named!) "Yung friend ko at friend niya, habang nakasakay ng Ikot (spoke) in Kapampangan. Tapos, may nakasakay silang lalaki na may goatee. Sabi nu'ng friend ng friend ko in Kapampangan, 'Tingnan mo 'tong lalaki, mukhang kambing sa balbas niya.' Tawanan sila. May isa pang lalaki na sumakay, binati at kinumusta niya si guy-with-a-goatee. Sabi raw ni guy-with-a-goatee, 'Ito, mukha na raw akong kambing.' Hahaha! Hiyang-hiya 'yung friend ko at kasama niya," Macarambon shared.

Freelance writer and illustrator May Tobias-Papa (FA, '82), describes a cute guy's experience with her and her sharp things: "Ikot jeep. Freshman ako. 'Yung only available space ay sa tabi nitong matangkad na cute na guy naka-plaid at may salamin. Siyempre, kilig. Maya-maya - ang likot niya - shift nang shift siya sa kanyang upuan.



Tapos sabay pasipat-sipat ng tingin sa akin. Hinihimas-himas niya ang braso niya. 'Manyak,' naisip ko. Buti na lang, Malaki ang tote bag ko. Magpakasawa siyang himas-himasin ang bag ko."

Tobias-Papa continues. "Bumaba siya sa likod ng Eng. 'Hmp,' sabi ko. 'Cute sana, pero kadiri.' Inayos ko ang bag ko sa harap ko kasi maluwa na ang dyip at di ko na kailangang ipansanggalang sa manyak. Natusok ako. Pagtingin ko, mga 1/4 inch ng matulis na bagay ang nakalusot sa nylon na tela ng aking bag. Binuksan ko ang bag para suriin kung ano yun - yung compass ko, nabuksan ang hard case! Huhuhu. Natusok pala si cute guy! Hindi niya sinabi sa akin na may tumutusok sa kanya mula sa bag ko. :("

Not everyone's experience was pleasant. Comic book writer, manga editor and children's book author Bambi Eloriaga-Amago said, "Top of mind ay yung nakasabay kong flasher. No pics, wala pang cellphone cams nun, hahaha! Pero ang style niya is umupo sa pinaka-dulo sa may estribo tapos kapag may girl na sasakay, bubukaka siya. Ang suot niya ay yung maluwa na sports shorts." Eloriaga-Amago was a freshman BA Journalism major in 1993.

And a story goes about a girl who almost fell for a guy named "Mike" who would habitually drive around campus seeking out a potential victim by pretending to be lost, and would

ask for directions. One time, she followed him while on board an Ikot jeep. "I observed him and noticed that he would only stop if a girl was walking by herself." This was posted by the Society of Mechanical Engineers on Facebook in February 2023

### **Toki lightbulb moment**

Training consultant Tess Dean (BSBA '80) said, "I never knew there was Toki, until my British hubby asked me where Toki was. He saw it on a jeepney. I was wracking my brains, 'Where is Toki?' Until it hit me. It was Ikot spelled backwards. 'Ah, they made it two-way na!!! Hahaha.' And that's how I learned where Toki (was)."

### **UP Ikot Toki exhibit at Parola**

And because Ikot (and the counter-clockwise route of Toki) is so much part of the Isko and Iska experience, during the (still) pandemic year of 2022, Daniel "Dansoy" Coquilla had a one-man exhibit of paintings titled "UP Ikot Toki" at the Parola UP Fine Art Gallery. In a sense, he "christened" the gallery by having been the first to exhibit there.

### **How much was the Ikot/Toki fare when you were a freshman?**

We did a survey via social media and were able to trace as far back as 1967 when Dr. Ruby G. Alcantara - UP professor of Filipino language and Philippine literature - paid five centavos (P0.05) for her Ikot fare! By 1970, actress and



*Toki Oil on Jeepney Ceiling Shaped Canvas by Dansoy Coquilla, 2022*







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## UP ALUMNI ASSOCIATION NEW YORK CHAPTER

Distinguished Service Award for a Chapter Abroad

President Carmencita “Menchee” Quesada Fulgado, Ph.D.

UPAA Distinguished Service Award ‘84 \*UPAAA Outstanding & Most Distinguished Alumna ‘89  
Writer-Editor Memories Book I ‘08 \*Book II ‘12 \*Book III ‘19 Culinary Memories ‘23

**GIVING BACK:** Dr Menchee Fulgado is the “shepherd” of the UPAA-NY chapter to alumni in the US and in the Philippines in this Give Back Mission; her brainchild was “born” during her two-term UPAAA presidency (1995-1999) when the first DOD signing was in 2000 with President Francisco Nemenzo, the first \$10,000 (Scholarship I) and duplicated by UPAA-NY’s Adopt-a-UP-Scholar which raised another \$10,000, both with UP Foundation (UPFI), In April 2006, following his UPAAA Presidency, Fel Tabangay Esq & Dr. Fulgado signed a \$20,000 DOD (Scholarship II) when Chancellor Cao visited New York and in October of the same year, President Emer Roman received the \$10,000 from UPAA-NY’s Adopt-a-Scholar. This Scholarship Fund managed by UPFI was boosted by Dr. Fulgado’s appointment as Commissioner Abroad for the UP Centennial Celebration. UP MEMORIES came alive!



Book I was the Centennial Memoirs of UP Alumni Abroad (2008) followed by Book II Memories...a Legacy Gift of Filipinos and Friends (2012) Each Book brought \$50,000. Funds were consolidated to get more scholarship slots, and in 2012 was renamed UP Alumni, Quesada-Fulgado & Friends Scholarship Fund. The last of the UPAA-NY Memories, Book III Memories of UP Alumni and Friends United (2019) was originally proposed under Team One U.P. following President Fred Pascual’s view as presented in his inaugural address and with him as Honorary Chair and UPAA included in the trio Team. However, the project was on hold in 2014 for UPAA-NY’s Haiyan Relief which brought \$2000 + some 20 Balikbayan Boxes shipped to UPV OAR for Tacloban. Meanwhile, reaching out to fellow alumni for their memoir writing continued, and to encourage more to participate, especially in the Philippines. Dr. Fulgado signed a \$10,000 pre-publication donation at the June 2016 Homecoming. Unfortunately, the new UPAA President withdrew from the Team and would not invite the UPAA awardees to write their memoir. Notwithstanding, we continued working, in cooperation with the Office of President Pascual. The next challenge was in the changes in administration, teamwork was lost, but thanks to UPFI, and Office of Students Scholarship, project continues and publication was re-scheduled as new UP President Concepcion took over. Our messages, acknowledged by OP staff, but received no response, neither his Message for inclusion in Book III, published in 2019, just in time before the Covid-19!



**THE SCHOLARSHIP FUND:** Since 2007, 42 students have graduated; fund can now sustain more scholarship slots in each of the 8 CU’s. For the first semester 2023-2024 the awardees were: UP Diliman 28 \* UP Baguio 5 \* UP Cebu 5 \* UP Los Banos 5 \* UP Manila 6 \* UP Mindanao 6 \* UP Visayas 4 \* UP Open University 4 Total = 63 recipients in one semester.

**CUP RUNNETH OVER:** As Covid-19 was looming, Dr. Fulgado came up with another and timely brainchild, Culinary Memories: Treasured Filipino Recipes, each has a story to share. This clicked well as alumni and friends were in lockdown, reminiscence of family eating together, remembering their grandma and her special dishes, etc. The book, with Siliman University and UST friends contributing united with UP Alumni, was published September 2023. This, plus the proceeds of Book III that Pres. Concepcion could not have time for us to sign a deed of donation made our “cup runneth over”. Now, we are able to fund SDP (Student Development & Progress) SMART projects:

### SPECIFIC MEANINGFUL ACTIVITY RELATING to a TIMELY need

**REMINISCENCE:** is the act of recollecting past experiences or events. Studies have shown that this sharing of memories is great in community building, cultural integration, finding perspective, a sense of history, respect, creativity, empowerment...and in most of our cases here, renewal of friendship and expression of gratitude. But these four books were reminiscence brought to a higher level...it created THE FUND, now symbolized by the “cup that runneth over”, our GIFT that will continue to GIVE now and in generations to come. [mencheeqf@yahoo.com](mailto:mencheeqf@yahoo.com)

*Signing of Deed of Donation with Quesada-Fulgado and Friends*



### UP Alumni in Philippine Basketball Association

+Fortunato D. Acuna; BSME 1970  
1975-1978 Toyota player;  
1978-1979 Toyota asst coach;  
1979-1980 Toyota head coach

Jireh Ralph A. Ibanes; AB 2005  
2006-2017 Welcoat Dragons /  
Rain or Shine Elasto Painters

Ronald Borbon Magsanoc  
AB 1988  
1989-1998 Formula Shell;  
1998-2000 Sta. Lucia Realtors;  
2001-2002 Purefoods Tender  
Juicy Hotdogs

Samuel Joseph S.J. Marata  
BPE 2019  
2013-2014 Petron Blaze Boosters  
/ San Miguel Beermen

Venancio Johnson Paras, Jr.  
BS Tourism 1991  
1989-2002 Shell Turbo Chargers;  
2002-2003 San Miguel Beermen

Magi King T. Sison; BEEEd 2009  
2011-2012 Shopinas.com Clickers  
/Air21 Express; 2012-2013 Petron  
Blaze Boosters; 2013-2014 Barako  
Bull Energy

Paul Joseph R. Sorongon  
BPE 2010  
2015 Barako Bull;  
2016 Phoenix Fuel Masters

Woodward L. Co; BS Tourism 2011  
2012 Barako Bull

Jose Anton Teodoso V. Manuel  
BSCE 2016  
2017-2018 Barangay Ginebra  
Kings

Javier Joaquin Sison Gómez de  
Liaño; BPE 2021  
2022-present Terrafirma Dyip

Kyles Jefferson T. Lao; BSBE 2017  
2018-2019 NLEX Road Warriors

*\*Benjie Paras and Ronnie  
Magsanoc are part of the 25 PBA  
Greatest Players and were elected  
to PBA Hall of Fame.*

### UP Alumni Beauty Pageant Titleholders

+Paz J. Marquez-Benitez AB 1912  
Manila Carnival Queen (Pre-World  
War II Miss Philippines)

+Pacita O. Delos Reyes-Phillips  
AA 1930; LLB 1934  
Manila Carnival Queen (Pre-World  
War II Miss Philippines)

+Maria V. Kalaw-Katigbak  
AA 1930; PhB 1932; MA 1954  
Manila Carnival Queen (Pre-World  
War II Miss Philippines)

+Margarita Favis Gomez  
DiPDEco 1997; MDEco 2000  
Miss Philippines - World Emma

Ruth Yulo-Kitiyakara; BAPA 1970  
Miss Philippines Queen of the  
Pacific

Vida Valentina F. Doria-Legaspi  
AB Broadcast Comm 1976  
Bb. Pilipinas Universe;  
Miss Universe - Miss Photogenic

Yolanda A. Dominguez-Zaragoza  
BSHE 1971  
Bb. Pilipinas International

Nanette M. Prodigalidad-Slynn  
AB Broad Comm 1971  
Bb. Pilipinas Maja

Lizbeth S. de Padua-Sussman  
BS Biology 1976 scl; MD 1981 cl  
Bb. Pilipinas Universe

Criselda F. Cecilio-Palanca  
BSBE 1985  
Bb. Pilipinas Universe

Ma. Isabel Pagunsan Lopez  
CFA 1977  
Bb. Pilipinas Universe

Ma. Cristina Martha R. Recto-  
Hansen; CFA 1996; BFA 1988  
Bb. Pilipinas Maja;  
Maja Internacional; Miss Talent  
and Best in National Costume

Ma. Luisa S. Jimenez-Andrews  
BS Nut 1989  
Bb. Pilipinas Maja

Ma. Hyacinth Barbara V. Lotuaco  
BS Tourism 1991  
Mutya ng Pilipinas Asia Pacific

Estrella S. Querubin; AB 1991  
Mutya ng Pilipinas World

Sarah Jane Davis Paez  
AB Speech & amp; Drama 1990  
Bb. Pilipinas Universe

Myrza Cinco Sison; BS Stat 1986  
Best Model of the World  
Philippines

Michelle Zulueta Aldana-Burke  
AB European Language 1999  
Mutya ng Pilipinas - Asia Pacific

Alma Carvajal Concepcion  
BS ID 2014  
Bb. Pilipinas International, Miss  
Friendship

Kristine Rachel G. Florendo  
BE Ed 2002 cl  
Bb. Pilipinas World

Anjelly C. Gamboa-Dizon  
AB Broad Comm 1999  
Miss Philippines - Water;  
Best in Long Gown

Carlene Ang Aguilar-Ocampo  
AB Art Stud 2010  
Miss Philippines Earth;  
Bb. Pilipinas World

Zorayda Ruth B. Andam-Faustino  
BSBE 1996 cl; LLB 2004  
Bb. Pilipinas-Universe

Marjorie Flora U. Maristela-Fasano  
AB Art Studies 2003  
Best Model of the World  
Philippines

Ma. Karla R. Bautista-Siao  
AB Mass Comm 2008  
Bb. Pilipinas-World

Lia Andrea Aquino Ramos  
AB Political Science 2002  
Bb. Pilipinas Universe;  
Miss Universe - Miss Photogenic

Catherine Yu Untalan-Vital  
AB Psych 2006 cl; DipENRMgt  
2009; MENRMgt 2012  
Miss EarthPhilippines

Anna Theresa Luy Licaros  
AB Broad Comm 2005 scl; DJuris  
2009 cl  
Bb. Pilipinas Universe;  
Miss Universe - Miss Photogenic

Patricia Isabel Medina Fernandez  
AB Speech Comm 2007 cl  
Bb. Pilipinas International

Jinjung Camilla C. Kim-Galvez  
AB Broad Comm 1997  
Mrs. Philippines Universe  
2nd Runner Up

Maria Venus B. Raj; MCD 2017  
Bb. Pilipinas Universe

Shamcey Gurrea Supsup-Lee  
BS Arch 2008 mcl  
Bb. Pilipinas Universe  
3rd Runner Up

Athena Mae Duarte Imperial  
AB Comm Res 2008  
Miss Earth Philippines;  
Miss Earth Water

Samantha San Agustin Purvor  
BS Sports 2016  
Miss Philippines - Water

Rodaliza Bustos-Schneider  
BS HRA 1987  
Mrs. International Philippines

Ariella H. Arida; BS Chem 2010  
Bb. Pilipinas Universe

Diane Carmela Querrer  
AB Broad Comm 2017  
Miss Philippines - Air

Maria Candida A. Ramos  
BS Tourism 2012  
Miss Earth Philippines

Ilene Astrid Cañete de Vera  
AB Mass Comm 2016  
Mutya ng Pilipinas - Asia Pacific  
International; Miss UP Cebu

Jerelleen Alix Rodriguez  
BSBAA 2013 cl  
Miss United Continents PH

Danielle Alison B. Black  
BSBA 2020; Miss Eco Philippines

Shannon Christie R. Kerver  
AB History 2018 cl  
Miss World Philippines  
1st Princess

Bea Patricia D.G. Magtanong  
BSBE 2014; DJuris 2018  
Bb. Pilipinas International;  
Bb. Megawide

Cassandra Colleen B. Chan  
CFA Visual Comm 2016;  
BFA Visual Comm 2017 cl  
Bb. Pilipinas - Miss Talent

Llena Amor L. Tan-Arcenas  
BSCN 1992; MS Nut 1998  
Mrs. Asia Pacific Philippines  
Worldwide

Patricia Sherly D.L. Santos  
DJuris 2019; Miss Philippines - Air

Ma. Giselle B. Sanchez-  
Buencamino; AB Broad Comm  
1994 mcl; Noble Queen of the  
Universe International

Danielle Alison Beronilla Black  
BSBA 2020  
Miss Supranational Philippines

### **UP Gawad Oblation Awardees**

Magdaleno B. Albarracin, Jr.  
BSEE 1956; MBA 1964

+Alfonso Antonio Aliga, Jr.  
MD 1942

Pilar Juliana Schramm Cayetano  
AB Eco 1985 cl; LLB 1991

Ignacio B. Gimenez; BS 1967

Robina Gokongwei-Pe  
UP Former Student

Lorna Regina B. Legarda  
AB Broad Comm 1981 cl

Rogelio L. Singson; BSIE 1971

Reynaldo Gopez Tagudando  
MPA 2006

Isidro T. Ungab; BSA 1983

Manuel Bamba Villar, Jr.  
BSBA 1970; MBA 1973

Lilia Ronquillo Bautista; AB 1974

Virgilio C. Bautista; BSBA 1967

Francis Chua; BS IE 1972

Napoleon E. Concepcion  
MMgt (Pub Mgt) 1983

Polly S. Cortez; BSBA 1966

Zenen Renan B. Dalisay  
AB (Pol Sc) 1992

Arthur R. Defensor, Jr.  
AB Philo 1992

Sonia Teresa T. Delen-  
Fitzsimmons; BSFS 1977

Benjamin E. Diokno; BAPA 1968;  
MPA 1970; MA Eco 1974

Ignacio B. Gimenez; BS 1967

John P. Gregorio; BS Tour 1988 cl

Francis C. Laurel; BSA 1969 mcl

Rodrigo B. Libunao  
AB Eco 1983; LLB 1987

Ronald Daniel R. Mascarinas  
BSA 1982

+Venus V. Reyes-Navalta  
AB Broad Comm 1978

Juanito Victor Catibayan Remulla  
AB Philo 2013

Agaton Teodoro O. Uvero  
AB Philo 1990

Orlando B. Veja; AB Eco 1969 cl

Susan A. Yap; AB Ling 1987

J. Prospero Estabillo De Vera, III  
DPAd 1999; AB History 1978

Marcus Antonius C. Adoro  
BA Philosophy

Ely Eleandre B. Buendia  
BA Film

Raimund Emmanuel P. Marasigan  
BA Communication

Hector "Buddy" Avanceña Zabala  
BLIS



## Topnotchers

### June 2023 Occupational Therapists Licensure Examination

- 1st place 85.40%  
Nadine Frances Y. Reyes
- 2nd place 85.20%  
Matthew Luis Lubos Berad
- 3rd place 84.40%  
Khrushchev Creus Magcaling

### July 2023 Master Plumbers Licensure Examination

- 10th place 84.80%  
Lindon Benedict C. Lumpas

### July 2023 Interior Designers Licensure Examination

- 1st place 87.00%  
Jena C.E. De Guzman
- 9th place 82.80%  
Andrea Ruth T. Lim
- 10th place 82.55%  
Mark Laurenz Catli Garcia

### July 2023 Landscape Architects Licensure Examination

- 1st place 80.75%  
Albertene Manabat Aloc

### July 2023 Environmental Planners Licensure Examination

- 1st place 82.45%  
Janine Montalban Tabares
- 2nd place 81.55%  
Frann Christian R. Serrano
- 3rd place 80.10%  
Alexisse Diarra G. Pablico

### August 2023 Psychologists Licensure Examination

- 2nd place 86.05%  
Tricia Denise Clarito Zafra
- 4th place 85.30%  
Joy Ann Ngan Malapit

### August 2023 Food Technologists Licensure Examination

School Performance (All Candidates):  
UP Diliman - 100.00%  
UP Los Baños - 92.86%  
UP Mindanao - 83.33%  
UP Visayas - Ilollo City - 78.57%

- 1st place 87.255%  
Dominic Castro Panaligan
- 2nd place 86.75%  
Ma. Cristina Romabiles Ilano
- 2nd place 86.75%  
Jose Gabriel Lugue Luna
- 3rd place 86.50%  
Portia Aliwanag Crisostomo
- 3rd place 86.50%  
Ingrid Panaligan Puentespina
- 4th place 86.00%  
Theresa Marie Tuason Rigor
- 4th place 86.00%  
Darwin Ray Librado Tuazon
- 5th place 85.75%  
Gerieka Ramos Anapi
- 5th place 85.75%  
Caleb Joshua T. Chingcuanco
- 6th place 85.50%  
June Vincent Ramos Blas
- 6th place 85.50%  
Jenica Tagel Javier
- 6th place 85.50%  
Elden Pamiloza Muncal
- 6th place 85.50%  
Riann Martin Oliquino Sarza
- 6th place 85.50%  
Albei Keith Capito Tolete
- 6th place 85.50%  
Mary Michelle M. Velasquez
- 7th place 85.25%  
Patricia Victoria A. Abella
- 7th place 85.25%  
Jocelle ramilo Del Rosario
- 7th place 85.25%  
Hannah Joy Agravante Segura
- 7th place 85.25%  
Maria Sandra Renee C. Tapia
- 8th place 85.00%  
Toni Abigail E. Almosara
- 8th place 85.00%  
Sharmaine Therese H. Daya
- 8th place 85.00%  
Joanne Kathrine M. Escoreal
- 8th place 85.00%  
Abbie Glenn M. Estribillo
- 8th place 85.00%  
Donnel Paulo G. Signey
- 8th place 85.00%  
Vanessa Gayle T. Tangcuenco

- 9th place 84.75%  
Dave Antonio Agcaoili
- 9th place 84.75%  
Argel Arizala Largado
- 9th place 84.75%  
Joshua Arizala Largado
- 9th place 84.75%  
Justin Godfred B. Peralta
- 9th place 84.75%  
Ryan Nikkole Bondoc Pineda
- 9th place 84.75%  
Mary Denize Celine V. Portal
- 9th place - 84.75%  
Joshua German Palma
- 10th place - 84.50%  
Jan Carlo Cristobal Aningat
- 10th place - 84.50%  
Judea Mae Cortez Estrada
- 10th place - 84.50%  
Nikkie Del Agua Francisco
- 10th place - 84.50%  
Cielo Therese Lait Manalo
- 10th place - 84.50%  
Gyle Doringo Tampil
- 10th place - 84.50%  
Alyana Marie Chua Tanlimco
- 10th place - 84.50%  
Angela Cantillo Vilorio

### August 2023 Psychometricians Licensure Examination

- 9th place 87.40%  
Yziel Gale Bula Alagos
- 9th place 87.40%  
Chrislynn Joy Giray Cerbito
- 9th place 87.40%  
Carla Angela Oberio Ladrado
- 9th place 87.40%  
Jhio Jan Aligarbes Navarro
- 10th place 87.40%  
Trisha Marie B. Amistad

### August 2023 Mechanical Engineers Licensure Examination

- 2nd place 93.60%  
Rowill Christian R. Rempillo
- 4th place 91.90%  
John Michael Latayan Bustamante

### **September 2023 Electrical Engineers Licensure Examination**

- 1st place 90.95%  
Timothy Regionald R. Zepeda
- 4th place 88.70%  
Ian Patrick Janolino Perez

### **September 2023 Librarians Licensure Examination**

- 5th place 88.05%  
Lemuel Capulong Solano
- 6th place 87.85%  
Arvin Jason Aguilar Aquino
- 6th place 87.85%  
Dominique San Juan De  
Guzman
- 8th place 87.50%  
Albert Joriz Verdadero Nardo
- 10th place 87.35%  
Christine Joy P. Manongsong

### **September 2023 Agricultural and Biosystems Engineers Licensure Examination**

- 2nd place 82.70%  
Trixie Anne Sison Teodoro
- 3rd place 82.38%  
Mica Ramos Mandia
- 10th place 81.06%  
Hera Bianca Cordova Bulatao

### **September 2023 Social Workers Licensure Examination**

- 1st place 88.60%  
Patricia Marie R. Imperial
- 2nd place 87.20%  
Queenie Anne C. Umadhay
- 4th place 86.60%  
Maria Theresa Dacanay Lucas

### **September 2023 Certified Public Accountants Licensure Examination**

- 1st place 91.17%  
Allaine Beduya Collamar
- 6th place 89.17%  
Paula Angela M. Magdugo
- 7th place 89.00%  
Kate Wenjie V. Basoy  
Aira Nicole Altres Sabornido

### **September 2023 Professional Teachers (Secondary Level) Licensure Examination**

- 1st place 94.80%  
Trilbe Lizann Espina Vasquez
- 3rd place 94.20%  
Matthew Kyle Yee Oronce
- 4th place 94.00%  
Fritzie Anne Cebrian Bueno
- 8th place 93.20%  
Maro Rapog Peña
- 10th place 92.80%  
Rachel Anne G. Concepcion

### **October 2023 Metallurgical Engineers Licensure Examination**

- 1st place 87.95%  
Aaron Tabuzo Tomas
- 2nd place 86.65%  
Andre Victor Puyo Suarez
- 3rd place 85.15%  
Sarah Marcelin M. Evasco
- 7th place 80.20%  
Annsherina Milleret V. Cruz  
Lloyd Nathanael Tabao Reyes
- 8th place 80.10%  
Mary Nyah Asilo Alcantara

### **October 2023 Veterinarians Licensure Examination**

- 3rd place 83.42%  
Diego Antonio G. Hernandez
- 6th place 81.98%  
Denielle F. Germodo
- 8th place 80.78%  
Princess Jamie A. Provido
- 9th place 80.70%  
John Kenneth Lee Dudan

### **October 2023 Chemical Engineers Licensure Examination**

- 2nd place 87.90%  
Jude Nathan T. Montallana
- 6th place 86.50%  
Erin Faye Lee Dizon
- 8th place 85.60% -  
Jaen Patrick Catalan Barreras  
Jose Gabriel Hipolito Escorial
- 10th place 84.70%  
Karl Brylle Loterte Cablaida

### **October 2023 Foresters Licensure Examination**

- 2nd place 91.85%  
Ethel Roe Yasto Ramirez
- 6th place 90.20%  
Christine Jane M. Natividad
- 8th place 90.10%  
Mitsui Chin Sen Angeles Yu

### **October 2023 Electronics Engineers Licensure Examination**

- 7th place 86.60%  
Ferdinand Joshua L. Bacud
- 8th place 86.40%  
Andrew James Solis Lim

### **October 2023 Fisheries Professionals Licensure Examination**

- 2nd place 86.75% -  
Allen Patrick R. Araneta  
Klynne Clarise M. Kuizon  
Rizza Mae Tagupa Guyapale
- 4th place 85.75%  
Reyland Alilaen Alegroso
- 5th place 85.50% -  
Carl Brylle Mosura Rosal  
Gyll Anne Marie L. Moquera
- 8th place 84.75%  
Hanna Raiza Molina Grantzoza
- 10th place 84.25%  
Chris Jan Panisa Dinaga



## October 2023 Geodetic Engineers Licensure Examination

- 2nd place 89.40%  
Genny Marie Ceruela Geñoso
- 4th place 88.60%  
Aubrey Lalaine A. Lomibao

## October 2023 Physicians Licensure Examination

- 4th place 88.42%  
Jon Michael Saluta Kimpo
- 5th place 88.17%  
Tranquil Matthew Apasan  
Salvador IV

## November 2023 Pharmacists Licensure Examination

- 4th place 92.28%  
Joseph Benedict L. Carpio

## November 2023 Midwives Licensure Examination

- 4th place 91.05%  
Rona Fe Magadan Cepri
- 5th place 90.95%  
Maricel Camarillo Loberiano
- 7th place 90.75%  
Rey Mark C. Florendo
- 8th place 90.70% -  
Jayvee Orias Dotarot  
Claire Eva Sabangan
- 9th place 90.60%  
Kim Usop Inde
- 10th place 90.50%  
Precious Grace Baula Montes

## November 2023 Geologists Licensure Examination

- 1st place 84.70%  
Jerome Garcia Formaran
- 2nd place 83.80%  
Paulo Lim Realengo
- 3rd place 83.00%  
Twinkle Caubalejo Kang
- 4th place 82.80%  
Gerard Vann Vincent Tacuyan  
Gomez
- 5th place 82.70%  
Venus Aquino Tagle

- 6th place 82.50%  
Aris Paolo Afable Castro
- 7th place 82.40%  
Paul Joshua Paclibar Villora
- 8th place 82.20%  
Sophia Therese L. Pamati-An
- 9th place 81.80%  
Rio Angela Funakoshi Castro
- 10th place 81.60%  
Rose Valerie Aranda Pimentel

## November 2023 Speech-Language Pathologists Licensure Examination

School Performance (All  
Candidates): UP Manila - 100.00%

- 1st place 84.70%  
Pristine Ellise Ty Chua
- 2nd place 83.80%  
Gillianne Joy Sarte Cruz
- 2nd place 83.80%  
Marion Louise Gaya Virtucio
- 3rd place 83.00%  
Serena Justine Tanbaucio Tan
- 4th place 92.75%  
Mariam Lujain Jajurie Anwar  
Bahraq
- 4th place 92.75%  
Nina Alexis De Los Santos  
Benedicto
- 4th place 92.75%  
Jonathan Averilla Cruz
- 5th place 92.50%  
Melissa Romaine Koa Cheng
- 5th place 92.50%  
Justine Maetus Baldino  
Medina
- 5th place 92.50%  
Jean Kaye Millan Tolentino
- 6th place 92.25%  
Julianna Ysabel Garcia Aleta
- 6th place 92.25%  
Abiegail Ventura Bonifacio
- 6th place 92.25%  
Ana Sophia Flores David
- 6th place 92.25%  
Indiana Louise Jalimao Ramos
- 6th place 92.25%  
Maria Blanquita Mata  
Salvador
- 7th place 92.20%  
Annika Jennie Dela Cruz Uy
- 8th place 91.75%  
Sophia Ellyse Tieng Chua
- 8th place 91.75%  
Julienne Isabelle Cabildo  
Galang
- 8th place 91.75%  
Nicole Bernadette C. Mercado

- 8th place 91.75%  
Lara Francesca Royong  
Rempillo
- 8th place 91.75%  
Hillary Kaylin Chua Sy
- 8th place 91.75%  
Paula Marie Sanvictores Tison
- 9th place 91.50%  
Andrea Jade Aguirre Bondoc
- 9th place 91.50%  
Katrina Isabelle Estrada  
Desquitado
- 9th place 91.50%  
Katrina Ysabel De Leon  
Dimayuga
- 9th place 91.50%  
Kyla Kristiana Faelnar Lu
- 9th place 91.50%  
Tiffany Toney Ponte Magpoc
- 9th place 91.50%  
Katrina Claire Reyes Marcaida
- 9th place 91.50%  
Justine Mirabelle Mayor
- 9th place 91.50%  
Nicole Angelika T. Pingol
- 9th place 91.55%  
Ainah Barte Tarawi
- 10th place 91.25%  
Ramon Angelo Patawaran  
Jacinto
- 10th place 91.25%  
Micah Faith Malitan Marcial
- 10th place 91.25%  
Miguel Eduardo Manianglung  
Mercado
- 10th place 91.25%  
Vicenta Maritoni Mago Rosero

## November 2023 Civil Engineers Licensure Examination

- 3rd place 91.90%  
Jonas Rhein Pruelo Esguerra
- 5th place 91.50%  
Maria Erica Pacatang Gomez
- 6th place 91.20%  
Ayrton Dave S. Bautista
- 8th place 90.85%  
Reiner Vince Mallari Chavez

## November 2023 Nutritionist-Dietitians Licensure Examination

- 2nd place 92.05%  
Michelle Orot Udarbe
- 3rd place 91.35%  
Mark Jherome C. Morgado
- 7th place 90.65%

- Alyssa P. Arnoco
- 8th place 90.60%
- Arvin Jay Arce Entereso
- 10th place 90.45%
- Kathrin Ellen Tan Lavadia

### November 2023 Philippine Nurses Licensure Examination

- 6th place 90.00%
- Rackel Eliza Manalo Diquit

### November 2023 Agriculturists Licensure Examination

School Performance (All Candidates):  
UP Los Baños- 99.02%

- 2nd place 87.33%
- Kathleen Joy Dirain Franco
- 3rd place 86.67%
- Quenee Anne Zaidem Aurin
- 4th place 86.50%
- Carmel Rose M. Rolloque
- 5th place 86.33%
- Joel John Salonga Cariño
- 8th place 85.67%
- Chiara Angeli Kilat Dela Peña
- 8th place 85.67%
- Ghar Christian Rieza Tesorero
- 9th place 85.50% Daniella
- Jean E. Pamulaklakin
- 9th place 85.50%
- Luis Angelo Tetangco Tabasa
- 9th place 85.50%
- Caila Caballes Villegas
- 10th place 85.33%
- Krizza Jane C. Manatad
- 10th place 85.33%
- Jairo Pua Rabano
- 10th place 85.33%
- John Kenneth Lojo Tabiolo

### November 2023 Licensure Examination for Dentists

- 2nd place 82.54%
- Aljin Capusi Prado
- 3rd place 82.10%
- Ma. Evan Ezra Reyes Cadag
- 5th place 82.04%
- Christine Jennifer D. Padilla
- 6th place 82.03%
- Zen Alfred B. Nemenzo

- 7th place 81.77%
- Ana Marie Obtiar Orbase
- 9th place 81.40%
- Paul Benzo Inserto Sia

### December 2023 Physical Therapists Licensure Examinations

- 2nd place 89.40%
- Ma. Barbara T. Manalaysay
- 6th place 89.00%
- Claire Chan Bathan

### December 2023 Bar Examination Results

- 6th place - 88.4750%
- Ralph Vincent S. Samaniego
- 13th place - 87.9125%
- Marvin Joseph M. Ocampo
- 15th place - 87.8375%
- Dionisio T. Pobar III
- 16th place - 87.8000%
- Vince Benedict A. Barrion
- 17th place - 87.7875%
- Paolo L. Guzman

### December 2023 Occupational Therapists Licensure Examinations

School Performance (All Candidates): UP Manila- 95.45%

- 1st place 84.70%
- Kizha Marie Sevidal Gabutan
- 4th place 92.75%
- Adrian Andag Silva
- 6th place 92.25%
- Chloe Julienne K. Abrasada
- 7th place 82.00%
- Irish Marie Esguerra Ilagan
- 7th place 82.00%
- Ericka Josh Therese Kang Lo
- 7th place 82.00%
- Jamie Christine E. Meneses
- 7th place 82.00%
- Nicole Mari Savillo Olorvida
- 7th place 82.00%
- Betina Mae Untalan Untalan
- 8th place 81.80%
- Leny Crystel Flores San Diego

### December 2023 Chemists Licensure Examinations

- 3rd place 89.70%
- Larz Emmanuel V. Labsan
- 4th place 89.30%
- Gil Phillip Caballero Inocando
- 6th place 88.50%
- Raine Chloe Alparaque
- Velesrubio
- 7th place 88.40%
- Kyle Perez Dupa
- 7th place 88.40%
- Samara Francine C. Gaerlan
- 10th place 87.90%
- Nicole Aeronne S. Cura

### December 2023 Chemical Technicians Licensure Examinations

- 1st place 92.50%
- Marjorie Del Campo Ocampo
- 3rd place 91.50%
- Kyle Perez Dupa
- 5th place 90.50%
- Anne Harriette B. Andaloc

### January 2024 Architect Licensure Examination

- 3rd place 84.70%
- Kryzia Maryzela V. Medina
- 7th place 83.60%
- Andrew John P. Reyes
- 9th place 83.20%
- Chester Neil D. Cunanan
- 10th place 82.90%
- Angela Beatrice L. Badiola

### 2024 Philippine Academy of Microbiology (PAM) Certification Examination for Registered Microbiologist

- 2nd place 86.75%
- Kiara Nicole D. Rodriguez
- 4th place 84.08%
- Marl Jimberson R. Olarte
- 8th place 82.99%
- Camille Andrea R. Flores



## In Memoriam

Monaliza I. Adviento-Maghanoy  
BSportsS 2004; MA Psyc 2018  
March 15, 2024

Benigno A. Agbayani, Jr.  
BS Bio 1986; MD 1991  
October 05, 2023

Mila D. Aguilar; AB 1969  
October 13, 2023

Vyva Victoria M. Aguirre  
BSFS 1966; MLS 1975; LLB 1992  
June 12, 2023

Manuel B. Agulto; BS1967; MD1973  
December 18, 2023

Ulysses B. Alama; BSFish 1995  
October 10, 2023

Juana J. Alvarado-Cimatu  
BS HT 1958; Master of HE 1981  
September 2023

Delfin A. Anareta; BS Agri 1975  
September 16, 2023

Cecilio R. Arboleda;  
BS Agri 1960; MS 1964  
January 2024

Elizabeth Y. Arcellana-Nuqui  
BS 1965; MD 1970  
August 22, 2023

Francisco A. Arellano  
BS Chem Engineering 1975  
November 01, 2023

Diana Lee S. Arevalo-Español  
BS Human Ecology 1984  
August 17, 2023

Roberto P. Argonia; BS Agri 1968  
March 31, 2024

Evelina B. Asuncion-Pangalangan  
AB 1955 cl; MSW 1965  
March 15, 2024

Brian C. Bernal; BSCE 2013  
February 2024

Nancy P. Bontogon-Florendo  
AB SocSci 1982; MA Psych 1989  
September 2023

Ma. Reina H. Boro-Magbanua  
AB History 1990; MA 1997  
November 17, 2023

Ernesto S. Borromeo  
MA Teaching Physics 1968  
September 22, 2023

Nicomedes De la Cruz Briones  
BS Agri 1973; MS Agri Econ 1977  
September 20, 2023

Emmanuel E. Buendia; AB Econ  
1983; Doctor of Public Ad 2001  
March 29, 2024

Cheryl B. Bundalian  
MS Horticulture 2021  
July 26, 2023

Charito E. Cabulisan-Cariaga  
BS Home Technology  
August 11, 2023

Bartolome S. Carale; Assoc in  
Arts 1951; LLB 1955; BA 1958; cl  
August 5, 2023

Eulogio Jr. V. Cardona  
BSA 1974; MMgt 1983  
October 31, 2023

Salvador T. Carlota  
BSFS 1962; LLB 1967  
March 15, 2024

Lynette B. Carpio-Serrano  
BS Dev't Comm 1999  
MS Dev't Comm 2009  
October 18, 2023

Joyce A. Cartagena  
BS Bio 1995; MS Microbio 1999  
August 2023

Fe M. Casillan-Garcia; BS Educ  
1955; MA Educ 1977; PhD 1991  
November 22, 2023

Mirafior E. Castor  
BS Dev't Comm 2014  
January 2024

Reynaldo C. Castro  
BSAE 1978; MS in AgriEng 1983  
February 2, 2024

Hannah Jay Adato Cesista  
BA Pol Sci 2018 cum laude  
February 23, 2024

Ephrem Gabriel Santos Cortes  
BA of Arts History 1983  
February 11, 2024

Helvis Martin C. Cura; BSCE 2007  
June 14, 2023

Virginia Bonoan Dandan  
Doctor of Social Dev't 2018  
November 9, 2023

Sherry Ann E. De La Cruz  
BSA 2017  
October 2023

Beulah R. E. De Vera-Schmitz  
BS Archi 1972; Master of  
Environment Planning 1977  
December 14, 2023

Olivia R. Del Castillo-Caoili  
AB 1961 cum laude  
February 9, 2024

Luis Camara Dery; BS Educ 1970  
MAT 1971; Doctor of Philo 1987  
July 31, 2023

Carmen Gloria Diaz de Ventanilla  
MA Spanish 1980;  
PhD Philo 2000  
December 14, 2023

Mario V. Dumaul;  
AB Comm Arts 1980  
July 5, 2023

Rolando T. Dy  
BS Metallurgical Eng 1971  
October 18, 2023

Salcedo L. Eduardo; MS Zoo 1973  
October 8, 2023

Oscar L. Evangelista; AB 1956  
August 20, 2023

Sir Keiffer F. Fano; BS Nutri 2015  
August 6, 2023

Jocelyn M. Francisco  
BS Stat 1978 cl  
March 31, 2022

Florenda S. Gabriel  
BS HE 1992 cl; MHE 2004  
August 14, 2023

Rogelio U. Jamorabon; BSF 1970  
July 27, 2023

Milagros E. Jorda-Tubelleja  
BSHT 1955; MS Fam Resource  
Mgmt 1977  
October 31, 2023

Lisa Lourdes L. Juliano-Redoble  
BSHRA 1984; Master of Family  
Life & Child Dev't 1992  
[June 29, 2023](#)

Rae Bernadette I.M. Lapitan  
BS Dev't Comm 2012  
[September 21, 2023](#)

Zoilo M. Lapus  
ROTC 1967; DVM 1970  
[September 19, 2023](#)

Hanna Leen P. Lapuz-Capinpin  
CertFor 1999; BSF 2002;  
MS Social Forestry 2009  
[June 15, 2023](#)

Teodoro P. Lavadia; BS Agri 1978  
[June 25, 2023](#)

Amanda Kristine P. Legasto  
BFA 2007 mcl  
[December 4, 2023](#)

Violeta J. Lit; BSHT 1971  
[October 2023](#)

Keithlyn Joy B. Lorenzo-Reyes  
BS in Human Ecology 2010  
[September 15, 2023](#)

Benjamin V. Lozare  
AB 1968; ROTC1968  
[February 8, 2024](#)

Joselito R. Madrigal  
ROTC 1979; BS Agri 1981  
[September 23, 2023](#)

Virgilio B. Marzo; BSFish 1980  
[June 5, 2023](#)

Aleli B. Matundan-Luna; BSF 1974;  
MSF 1981; PhD Forestry 1991  
[February 13, 2024](#)

Conrado P. Medina; BS Agri 1975;  
Master of Mgmt in DevMgmt 1997  
[September 2023](#)

Rosalina A. Mendigo;  
ABFil 1985; MA PhilStud 1995;  
PhD PhilStud 2007  
[August 2023](#)

Carmen C. Millar-Paule  
BS Agri 1963; MS Stats 1976  
[August 10, 2023](#)

Wilfrido S. Nepomuceno; BFA1971  
[July 26, 2023](#)

Walfrido P. Novero; BS Agri 1951  
[October 2023](#)

Joseph Penano Olarve; DVM  
2004; MS in Animal Sci 2010  
[October 9, 2023](#)

Nilo B. Oponda; PhD Philo 2009  
[March 11, 2024](#)

Jocelyn J. Pacheco; BSBA 1980;  
Dip PE 1994; MS PE 2003  
[July 4, 2023](#)

German P. Palabyab  
ABEcon 1970; MBA 1974  
[April 13, 2021](#)

Rica D.G. Panganiban  
BS Math 1955  
[August 26, 2023](#)

Priscelina T. Patajo-Legasto  
AB 1972; MA CompLit 1976  
PhD PhilStud 1988  
[November 8, 2023](#)

Azucena Patano-Pestano  
BS Educ 1966; MMgt 1982  
[August 8, 2023](#)

Gerardo C. Payumo, Jr.; BSST 1979  
[October 26, 2023](#)

Leticia Z. Penano-Ho; BA 1968  
MEduc 1974; PhD Psych 1989  
[January 14, 2024](#)

Ruelito Ren Pine; BS Zoo 1997  
[July 26, 2023](#)

Romulo G. Pizana; BS 1971;  
MS Math 1981; PhD Math 1993  
[March 13, 2024](#)

Quincel E. Ramos  
BS Agri and Biosystems Eng 2016  
[January 19, 2024](#)

Henry J. Ramos  
BS Math 1972; PhD Physics 1990  
[March 11, 2024](#)

Therese Marie B. Rico  
BS in Human Ecology 2000  
[October 2023](#)

Aniceto G. Saludo, Jr.  
AA 1956; LLB 1960; BSJ 1960  
[January 25, 2024](#)

Salvo O. Salvacion  
MS Soil Science 2018  
[July 26, 2023](#)

Josefa M. Saniel; BSEduc 1949 mcl  
[December 21, 2023](#)

Josimar B. Sobrevinas; BSF 1983  
[December 28, 2023](#)

Nenita B. Tamayo-Herrera  
MS Comm Dev't 1979  
[January 2, 2024](#)

Daniel Oliver O. Tan; BS Bio 2000  
[December 27, 2023](#)

Cynthia J. Ticao  
BS 1978; MA Psych 1991  
[November 12, 2023](#)

Mitzi V. Tijana-Pollisco; BSF 1982;  
MSF 1991; PhD Silviculture and  
Forest Influences 2005  
[September 15, 2023](#)

Pamela Bianca P. Tolentino  
BSF 2018  
[June 14, 2023](#)

Mary Rose M. Tolentino-Evaristo  
BS Zoo 1993  
[March 22, 2024](#)

Guillermo C. Trinidad  
BS Agri 1964  
[October 6, 2023](#)

Clarita M. Valdellon-Ramos  
BA 1954; BS Educ 1958  
[September 16, 2023](#)

Benito M. Valderama, Jr.  
BS Agri 1979  
[February 2024](#)

Mary Joan Therese C. Valera-  
Kourdache; BSN 1991; MPH 2007  
[November 23, 2023](#)

Cristeto C. Vertido; AB 1981  
[March 18, 2024](#)

Marcelo V. Fernandez; BSBA 1965  
[March 17, 2023](#)

Sheryl A. Capanas  
BA Broad CommMgt 2001  
[March 29, 2024](#)

Roger B. Galvan; BA History 1998  
[November 2023](#)

Jan Renzel L. Tengco  
BS Food Tech 2015  
[November 6, 2023](#)



## OAR Directors



### UP Baguio

Cecilia Fe Abalos  
Alumni Relations Officer

Contact information:  
alumni.upbaguio@up.edu.ph  
(074) 444-8719



### UP Open University

Myra Almodiel  
Director, OPA

Contact information:  
iodirector@upou.edu.ph  
(049) 536-5992



### UP Mindanao

Krishna Balaga  
PDA for Alumni Relations

Contact information:  
ovcaa.upmindanao@up.edu.ph  
(082) 293-0402



### UP Visayas

Ma. Elisa D. Baliao  
Director, OAR

Contact information:  
oar.upvisayas@up.edu.ph  
(033) 336-8837



### UP Cebu

Geofe O. Cadiz  
Director, OAR

Contact information:  
oar.upcebu@up.edu.ph  
(6332) 232-8104



### UP Diliman

Jose Carlo de Pano  
Director, UP DIO

Contact information:  
updio@up.edu.ph



### UP Los Baños

Eileen Lorena M. Mamino  
Director, OAR

Contact information:  
oar.uplb@up.edu.ph  
(049) 536-0844



### UP Manila

Dr. Valerie P. Tiempo-Guinto  
Director, OAR

Contact information:  
upm-alumni@up.edu.ph  
(02) 8525-3802



### UP System

KC M. Abalos-Orendain  
Director, OAR

Contact information:  
up.alumnioffice@up.edu.ph  
(02) 8929-9226



Fonacier Hall located at Magsaysay Avenue in UP Diliman houses the three offices under the Vice President for Public Affairs - the Offices of Alumni Relations, Media and Public Relations, and Padayon Public Service.

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