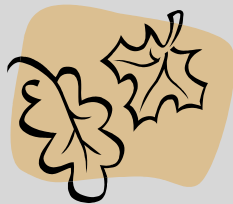


### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

President's Corner	2
Fall Meeting 2007 - Fresno	3
Minutes - Summer Meeting, Modesto	4
UPAAA Convention 2007 San Francisco	5
Photo Gallery	6-7
A Year in Review by Dr. E. Roman	8-9
Top 20 Schools in the Philippines	10
Letter from Jovanni-Rey V. de Pedro	11
New UPAACC Scholar	11
2007-2008 Schedule of Activities	12



**Fall 2007**



# UPAACC NEWSLETTER

The Official Publication of the University of the Philippines Alumni Association of Central California

## UP President Roman Visits Fresno

UP President Emerlinda Roman, along with UP College of Music Dean Ramon Acoymo and Ms. Rhodora Maligalig, former President of UP Alumni Association of Greater LA Area, met with UP alumni from Central California as part of her continuing effort to strengthen ties with alumni and to raise funds for the university.



Coming from Los Angeles on her way to San Francisco for the 2007 UPAAA National Convention, her 2-day stop in Fresno was warmly received by UP alumni from Central California.

The get-together was held at the home of Johnny and Grace Lim Fong in Fresno and attended by over 20 alumni and guests. The occasion included a report by Dr. Roman on the progress made on her 10-point UP Plan (2005-2011) in strengthening of UP's position as the leading research and development university in the country and in the region (*excerpts on page 8*).

President Roman shared an overview of the objectives and critical challenges of the

University of the Philippines during the next decade. This was followed with questions from the attendees:

- 1) *What are the plans of UP in increasing the salaries of faculty members in order to be competitive with private schools such as Ateneo and De La Salle colleges;*
- 2) *How are funds designated for the Alumni Fund from America handled and its accountability;*
- 3) *What are the current criteria for admission to UP? The evolving perception is that the economically well-off "advantaged" educational background are*

- the predominant students that are accepted;*
- 4) *What are the plans and programs of the University with regards to cutting-edge technologies, such as, biotechnology, nanotechnology, etc?*
  - 5) *What are the current thoughts and strategies in getting the UP Charter revised or updated, knowing that a congressional bill to revise the UP Charter has failed in the last 10 years.*

To summarize, the most important priorities expounded by President Roman are as follows: Continue to pursue an aggressive attempt to revise the UP Charter which is almost 100 years old in order to accomplish the following:

- 1) Exempt UP from the "Salary Standardization Law" in order to compensate quality faculty competitively with those of private universities. At present, the maximum compensation of a full professor does not exceed P30,000 per month:

.... continued on page 2

### COMING EVENTS: 2007-2008

- **October 13, Saturday:** *Fall General Meeting & Picnic - Lakeview Picnic Shelter, Woodward Park, Fresno (see details on page 3)*
- **December 1, Saturday:** *Board of Directors Meeting, Cadiz Residence, Merced*
- **January 12, Saturday:** *Winter General Meeting & Post-Christmas Celebration, Galvez Residence, Stockton*



## President's Corner

By Helen  
Reyes

### IT IS PAYBACK TIME

It has been an exciting last couple of months for the University of the Philippines Alumni Associations of America (UPAAA). University President Emerlinda Roman came to California, visited some local chapters, and then was guest of honor at the UPAAA Centennial Convention in San Francisco. She came to present the current state of affairs of the university, laid out her vision for the next century, and her financial goals and strategies to achieve that vision. She also indicated how far along the fundraising campaigns are at this time.

Last August 29, Dr. Roman was the guest of UPAACC in Fresno, where she

gave a speech about our university. After listening to it, I (and I am quite sure like all those present) was inspired to continue to work harder to be in support of our Alma Mater. I realized that we were blessed to be the recipients of the best and most expensive education in the Philippines, and yet we only paid a very small fraction of its cost. We have been using that education to fulfill our American dream. One can argue that we are all "success stories" in our own right because of that education. *It is payback time.* Our university needs our support no matter how small that support may be in the scheme of things. In this regard, we already have the mechanism in order to do this. We are all members of this organization called

UPAACC, through which we have been lending our support all these years. All we have to do is make sure it survives to continue its good deeds.

I would like to give special thanks to Johnny and Grace Fong for hosting the meeting with Dr. Roman in Fresno, Maribelle and Orly Dyoco for that fun number we "performed" for the presentation night at the Convention, Rey Elizondo for preparing that beautiful advertisement layout for the Convention souvenir program, and for preparing the organization flyer in time for the Convention. You make us all look good!

**Push on UP!**

Helen

## UP President Roman visits Fresno . . . *continued from page 1*

2) President Roman repeatedly emphasized that the need to supplement the compensation of quality faculty is very critical to stop the migration of quality staff to private universities.

3) Change the current tax status of the university from "taxable" to a "tax-exempt" status. Once the University is tax-exempt, donations "in-kind", such as slightly used equipment from donors in North America can be sent to the Philippines without being taxed. This is critical since UP is the only institution in the country and region that is expected to train students in science and technology. Private universities are not keen in investing in science and technology since it is very expensive relative to training students in social sciences.

4) Another high priority item of the university is to continue the selective



admission of quality students to enhance the standard of UP.

5) The last item that President discussed was the need to improve "administrative efficiency" to maximize the utilization of the very limited financial resources of the university.

Dr. Roman also raised awareness on UP Centennial and the activities that UP Alumni overseas can participate on next year in the Philippines.

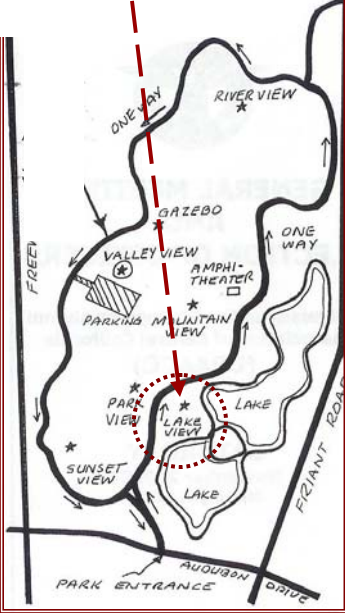
In addition to the \$5,000 that

UPAACC already approved to support projects at UP Mindanao as part of the President's "wish list", an additional \$2,000 from UPAACC and \$ 1,500 from personal donations were presented to the Dr. Roman by Helen Reyes to support other projects in her "wish list" on her discretion.

The meeting was culminated with the presentation of a US\$30,000 UP Centennial Professorial Chair by Johnny and Grace Lim Fong. The formal signing of the grant was witnessed by their children and UPAACC members and guests.

It was a memorable gathering of UP alumni from the region and a chance to reminisce about UP and renew commitments to support the University during its Centennial celebration and beyond. ♣

Lakeview Picnic Shelter



# Fall General Meeting & Picnic

**October 13, 2007**  
**Saturday, starting at 11 AM**

at the  
**Lakeview Picnic Shelter**  
**Woodward Park**  
**Fresno, CA**

*TO ALL OUR GUESTS: If you wish to do so, bring along desserts, fruits or your favorite dish to share.*

Area 3 Members:  
Fresno & Vicinity  
suggested potluck  
contribution:  
**A to D - main dishes**  
**E to L - rice or dessert**  
**M to R - vegetables & Fruits**  
**S to Z - side dishes**  
  
+\$5.00 to cover picnic supplies

FUND-RAISING\*\*\*  
  
RAFFLE (TO ALL)  
  
**BRING ITEMS OR PACKAGED FOOD VALUED \$10 OR MORE AS RAFFLE PRIZES**

**Meeting Agenda**

- Report on Dr. Roman's visit to Fresno
- Review of the UPAA of America Convention 2007 - San Francisco
- Fund-raising activities - 2008
- Support for the 2008 UP Centennial Celebration
- Other Association business

**DIRECTIONS:**  
**FROM THE NORTH:**

- From Hwy 99, take the Herndon Ave exit, turn left on Herndon Ave, cross over the RR tracks.
- Head east on Herndon Ave for about 10-11 miles until you reach N. Blackstone Ave; turn left at N. Blackstone Ave (heading North).
- After passing under Hwy 41, N. Blackstone Ave turns to Friant Road. On Friant Road, bear left, pass N. Fresno St., and then take a left turn on Audubon Drive. The park entrance will be on your right. Lakeview Picnic Shelter is on your right after entering the park.
- Seniors are admitted free.  
(The traffic in Woodward Park is now 2-way).

**DIRECTIONS:**  
**FROM THE SOUTH:**

- From Hwy 91, take Hwy 41N to Yosemite.
- Take the Friant Road Exit, turn right at the traffic light.
- On Friant Road, bear left, pass N. Fresno St. and take a left on Audubon Drive. Park entrance will be on your right.

**\*\*\* FOR EVERY POTENTIAL MEMBER YOU TAKE ALONG WITH YOU, YOU WILL GET 5 FREE RAFFLE TICKETS**

**Please RSVP to your Area Directors before October 6**

**Area 1 - Stockton and Vicinity**  
Jose Galvez (209) 465-5863  
Tessie Miguelino (209) 478-5164  
Rolando Simeon (209) 334-2637

**Area 2 - Modesto/Turlock**  
Mark Abenoja (209) 569-0859  
Nora Cadiz (209) 384-1220  
Mauro Casillan (209) 667-5265  
Johnny Quijano (209) 526-1149

**Area 3 - Fresno & Vicinity**  
Susan Cayco (559) 275-3574  
Lydia Favor (559) 435-5578  
Arthur Nisperos (559) 658-2498  
Helen Reynolds (559) 916-1421

# Minutes of the Summer Meeting - Modesto



Minutes of the UPAACC Summer Meeting at Davis Park, Modesto, CA.

Date: June 30, 2007

## A. Welcome by the President:

Helen Reyes called the meeting to order at 12:55 PM. Attendance: 28 members/guests.

Group Prayer was led by the Helen Reyes and singing of the "UP Beloved" was led by Johnny Abilay.

The minutes of the general meeting held last January in Stockton was approved.

## B. Treasurer's Report:

Presented by Gemma Biscocho:

Checking:	\$ 15,522.24
CD	15,807.52
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 31,329.76</b>

Net proceeds from the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and Induction Dinner amounted to \$4,088.76.

Also discussed was the need to prepare a financial report on current budget vs. actual expenses and to be presented next meeting.

## C. Project Updates:

1. **Books Donation** – Johnny Quijano reported the shipment of 10 boxes of books to UP: 3 boxes to Mindanao; 3 Boxes to Iloilo; and 3 boxes to Baguio. 1 Box was also sent to Los Banos in the name of Pete Mayol who saved the books on pathology & microbiology when he was still teaching. He personally requested that the books be sent to Los Banos.

2. **Books Donation to UP Cebu** – A request for specific books on Bioinformatics was received. We will coordinate with August Lansigan on this request. \$1,000 was allocated for Computer Science books.

There was discussion on whether to

continue with the book shipment or rather just send cash to procure the needed books. Helen Reyes mentioned that the board had voted to keep this item in the budget and will be made available for other projects as necessary

3. **Scholarship-** Copy of the UP Foundation acknowledgement letter for the \$5,000 donation for the Crisologo Cabacungan Scholarship Fund was presented to the assembly. The March 2006 Scholarship Fund Statement with a balance of P493,361.40 was also presented (not including the recent \$5,000 donation). Scholarship benefit was increased to P25,000/semester plus a one time donation of computer laptop per scholar. There was a motion to have the association look into the financial matter of the scholarship fund so that funds are made available in a timely manner to the foundation. Motion was approved.

Johnny Quijano will request report from the Foundation on interests earned and disbursements and if possible have a system in place to notify the association when additional funds are needed in the principal for the "perpetuity" of the Scholarship Fund. Helen Reyes indicated that \$1,000/year is included in the budget for the Scholarship Fund so it will not run out of money on the interim. But with increasing cost of living the association does need to raise more funds for its projects and prioritize each one.

## D. UPAACC of America General Assembly and Convention:

Sept. 1-3, 2007 at the Hilton Financial District. UPAACC donated \$150 for a colored advertisement in the convention souvenir program. Rey Elizondo will take care of the layout. He also mentioned that the \$100 prize for the logo will be donated to UPAACC. There were discussions about having a booth at the convention but was voted down due to costs. Rey presented samples of UPAACC

brochures for the convention which were approved unanimously. Rey will request that UPAACC brochures be included in the convention packets of those coming from the Central Valley.

## E. UP Centennial Celebration:

**June 2008.** Elena Mangahas presented one of the UP Centennial Fundraising Project, The Brick Walk. Proceeds will be for Faculty Development. Details of the fundraiser can be found in the UP System website.

## F. UP Wish List:

The Board has chosen UP Mindanao College of Science and Mathematics as the recipient of our donation towards the Wish List. Out of their Wish List, the Board decided to donate funds towards the purchase of laboratory equipment such as microscopes, fume hoods, cabinet dryers, etc. Nora Cadiz is in charge of researching details and specifics of equipment to be donated, price and the mechanics of donation, and coordinating all these with UP Mindanao. The Board will make recommendation, based on the information gathered, on the items to be donated to UP Mindanao. It was approved that \$5,000 will be appropriated for this cause.

## G. Fundraising Activities:

Ways and Means Chairman will recommend fund-raising activities for the year. A major fund raising activity needs to be scheduled next year.

## Meeting adjourned at 2:35 PM:

Group picture-taking right after. Our appreciation to the Modesto-Turlock folks who barbecued and prepared for the picnic. Thanks also to Pete Mayol whose jokes made everybody laugh.

Submitted by:

*Helen Reyes, President*

Prepared by:

*Gemma Biscocho, Acting Secretary*



# UP Alumni Association of America

## Pre-Centennial Convention and Alumni Reunion

### San Francisco - September 1, 2 & 3, 2007

This year's UPAACC General Assembly was held at the heart of the beautiful city of San Francisco. The UP Alumni Association of San Francisco, Inc. (UPAASF) hosted this historical event that ushered in UP's Centennial in 2008. The theme of the convention was: **"Celebrating the UP Legacy! Forging the Next UP Century!"**

It lived up to the hype! At least that was the opinion of the six UPAACC members who attended this convention.

#### FELLOWSHIP NIGHT

The convention started with the Fellowship Night on Saturday, September 1, 2007 in which the theme was **"Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow"**.

After the customary welcome addresses by UPAAA President Ted Aquino and UPAASF President Melchor Gaspay, UP President Roman spoke before the gathered alumni who were very eager to hear what she had to say regarding the state of the university after her 2- 1/2 years in office. Her speech primarily covered her report in the **"A Year in Review: 2006"** (see page 8), and she also focused on the UP Centennial celebration and how alumni abroad can participate in its yearlong festivities.

On the lighter side, the crowd was entertained by the various presentations by alumni associations with their own interpretation of **"UP Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow"**. The presentations ranged from comedy skits to songs and dances depicting the respective era at the university. UPAACC's presentation of **"Handog"** and **"Boom Tarat Tarat"** earned itself



Induction of New UPAAA Officers

the most entertaining award among more than a dozen or so participants. **"Boom Tarat Tarat"** was the overwhelming favorite with the participation of not only by Dr. Roman and her entourage but also the rest of the audience. The crowd also received a rare treat from Ramon Acoymo, Dean of UP College of Music, who wowed the guests with his rendition of various folk and love songs from all over the Philippines.

#### WORKSHOPS

The following day, Sunday, was primarily devoted to concurrent workshops on the following subjects:

- A. *Visioning the Next UP Century: Visions of the plans for the next 100 years of UP*
- B. *Medical/Public Health Workshop: Future of Genetics and Genomics/ Emerging Infectious Diseases*
- C. *Retiring and Investing in the Philippines: Incentives for retiring Balikbayans and current development projects*
- D. *Research and Technology: Climate Change and Our Future Environment/ Population and Environment*
- E. *Social Development Workshop: The Future of Developing Countries/Social Responsibility and Caring for the Less Fortunate*
- F. *Visiting the Philippines for the UP Centennial Homecoming*

After the workshops, a new set UPAAA officers was elected by the membership.

#### GALA NIGHT CELEBRATION

The main activity of the convention was the Gala Night Celebration on September 2nd. This was a formal dinner-dance event that was highlighted by the parade of the Jubilarians (*among them: Orly Dyoco, MD '68 - Ruby, 40 years; Art Nisperos, BS Geology '62 - Sapphire, 45 years*); recognition of the Thomasites (volunteer professors from the US during the early years of UP); Outstanding UP Alumni Award; and the induction of the newly elected UPAAA officers. It was also announced that the next UPAAA convention will be held in Washington, DC in 2009.

The culmination of the event was the announcement by President Roman of the donation of US\$500,000 from Diosdado Banatao to support the UP College of Engineering and the National Science Complex and Technology Incubation Park in UP Diliman.

Diosdado Banatao is an established Filipino Technopreneur and is regarded as a Silicon Valley visionary. An electrical engineering graduate of Mapua Institute of Technology and with a Masters Degree from Stanford, he is credited with developing several key semi-conductor technologies such as the first Ethernet controller chip that enabled computers to link up and to communicate with one another. He is also the recipient of an Honorary Doctoral Degree in Engineering from UP. Banatao contributes his time, money and experience to companies and various institutions in the Philippines, among them UP.

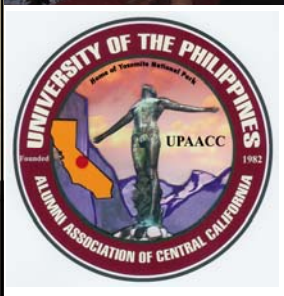
The last day was devoted to convention post-evaluation and planning for the next one in 2009. ♣



**SUMMER GENERAL MEETING IN MODESTO, CA**



**DR. ROMAN VISITS FRESNO**





I am pleased to report the progress we have made in the areas which we marked out as priorities.

When I took over as UP President in February, 2005, an important part of my 10-point UP Plan (2005-2011) was the strengthening of UP's position as the leading research and development university in the country and in the region, and the strengthening of science and technology programs in all UP campuses. This was in recognition of the importance of a scientific manpower base for a developing country like ours.

## **Agenda for Emerging Fields in Science and Technology (S&T)**

We have put in place our agenda for the Emerging Fields in Science and Technology Program, to develop cutting-edge fields that need to be advanced at the highest possible level of inquiry in order to generate new knowledge, building on our existing resources - i.e., our rich pool of scientists, our updated infrastructure (such as the National Institute of Physics, National Institute of Health, our Biotechnology units in the campuses, the different centers of excellence), and the high tech equipment and laboratories acquired from unexpected balances and through the support of government agencies.

The program is focusing on the development of emerging technologies on (1) materials (like bio-materials, bio-fuels, nano-materials, pharmaceuticals and molecular medicines); (2) biotechnology (like nano-technology, food sufficiency, bio-informatics, and bio-diversity); (3) pervasive computing (advanced microelectronics and computational algorithms, "systems on a chip," and environmental monitoring); and (4) measurement and instrumentation in support of the first three.

The Emerging Fields in S&T Grand Fund, established by the Board of Regents (BOR) in 2006, has two components:

- (1) The Institutional Development Grant - for the acquisition of equipment and for maintenance and operating costs to be used by existing as well as proposed R&D programs; and,
- (2) The Emerging S&T Research Grant - for undertaking research projects in support of the emerging S&T fields research programs. The guidelines shall be patterned generally after the existing UP System Research and Creative Work Grant.

Two proposals for institutional development have been approved for funding at a cost of P8.6M. This will boost

the research capabilities at the College of Science, UP Diliman, in materials, and in ultra-fast and high resolution optical signal measurement, which is a core technology in nanoscience and nanotechnology R&D. It will also enhance the research and training capabilities of the College of Engineering, UP Diliman in pervasive computing.

## **The UP Scientific Productivity System (SPS)**

We also have put in place a UP Scientific Productivity System (SPS) aimed at encouraging scientific productivity for regional development. The System also aims to serve as both an award system and an incentive system, whereby deserving scientists among our faculty and research staff in the natural and physical sciences, medicine, agriculture, fisheries, engineering, and social sciences are given the rank of Scientist I, II or III. The Scientist rank is a recognition given by UP as an Award, called the UP Scientific Productivity Award.

Under the SPS, UP faculty and research staff are evaluating using a set of high standards that will enable "UP Scientists" to occupy their rightful place in the international community of scholars. Only the best and the more deserving are conferred the title which they will hold for three years and which can be renewed depending on their performance.

Scientific productivity is evaluated based on the following general criteria:

- *scientific publications in referred reputable journals and books.*
- *peer-reviewed technological output and discoveries*
- *scientific standing in the international science community*
- *professional standing in the international science community*

The SPS is UP's version of the Scientific Career System (SCS) of the Civil Service Commission and the DOST.

## **The National Science Complex**

The National Science Complex and Technology Incubation Park was established through Executive Order (OE) 583, signed by President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo on 8 December 2006. It is envisioned that the Science Complex will "serve as the national hub for the generation and application of new scientific knowledge in the natural and applied sciences and mathematics."



The article includes excerpts from the UP President's report on the progress made on her 10-point UP Plan (2005-2011) in strengthening of UP's position as the leading research and development university in the country and in the region.



The National Science Complex and Technology Incubation Park will be completed on a 21.9-hectare lot in UP Diliman.

### **The North S&T Park**

The groundwork has been laid for the North Science and Technology Park on the 38.6-hectare property in UP Diliman, in partnership with Ayala Land, Inc. This project, started during President Francisco Nemenzo's term, culminated in the signing of a long-term lease and development agreement between UP and Ayala Land Inc. in October 2006.

Governments all over the world have recognized the all-important link between scientific expertise and economic development, and universities have set up S&T Parks adjacent to their campuses. We all know of Bangalore and Hyderabad of India, of Tsukuba Science City in Japan, of Haidan Science Park in Beijing, of the Singapore Science Park adjacent to the National University of Singapore; not to mention the by-now legendary Silicon Valley in the United States.

This S&T Park which will soon rise on the Diliman campus fits right in with our vision of UP as being at par with the leading research universities around the world. It also meets the extremely important need for financial resources.

### **The New UP Admissions Policy**

The UP Plan also includes the review of the University's admission policies, in order to ensure that it is the most deserving students in the country who receive a UP education; and that our available resources are distributed in the most efficient and effective way, without sacrificing quality.

The Office of the Vice President for Academic Affairs and the Office of Admissions were tasked to review the overall UPCAT processing with the end in view of releasing the results not later than January of each year. The critical and rate-determining steps were identified and the bottle-necks were correspondingly addressed. An on-line application system, which aims to significantly reduce data encoding thus will lead to an earlier release of UPCAT results, was developed and pilot-tested in 2006.

### **The Doctoral Studies Program**

Our aim is to eventually have a faculty composed entirely of PhD holders. Although we are still far from this sce-

nario, a bold step toward this end was taken in 2001 when the Doctoral Studies Program (DSP), and the corresponding Doctoral Studies Fund (DSF) of P100M was established to fund the PhD studies of 100 young faculty members up to a maximum of three years, specializing in priority areas identified by the various units.

### **Tuition Adjustments**

The review of our existing undergraduate tuition policy and structure was also part of the UP Plan. Even then, I acknowledged that it would be a "tough decision", and determined that it would involve studying how financial responsibility could be shared among our different stakeholders.

After a thorough review and study of the comparable cost of medical education and a series of consultations with various stakeholders, the UP Manila College of Medicine adjusted its tuition rates which had been frozen since 1992. The decision to increase was approved by the BOR in April 2006, and initially implemented for Academic Year 2007-2008.

In December 2006, the BOR approved the proposal to adjust tuition fees starting in the school year 2007-2008, along with a restructuring of the Socialized Tuition and Financial Assistance Program (STFAP). From a fee of P300 per unit - a rate dating back around 15 years ago, the base tuition per unit will now be P1,000 in UP Diliman, Manila, and Los Banos. It will be P600 per unit in UP Baguio, Visayas and Mindanao. These adjustments are based on inflation. Miscellaneous fees will also be adjusted.

Under the restructured STFAP, qualified students will still be entitled to discounts or full subsidy, depending on which bracket they would qualify. Students belonging to:

- Bracket E (annual income of P80,000 or less) - will pay no tuition at all, and will receive a stipend of P12,000 per semester.
- Bracket D (annual income of P80,001 to P135,000) will receive a 70% discount or the current rate of P300 per unit.
- Bracket C (annual income of P135,001 to P500,000) will pay P600, receiving a 40% discount.
- Bracket B (annual income of P500,001 to P1M) will pay the base tuition of P1,000 per unit.
- Bracket A (annual income of over P1M) will pay the full tuition rate (the base tuition of P1,000 per unit x 1.5).

The adjusted rates will affect freshmen and transfer students who will enter UP this year and in the next years.

..... continued on page 10

**The UP Centennial Commission**

The UP Centennial Commission is now at the helm of preparations for the UP Centennial Celebrations. The Commission has elected Senator Angara and Dr. Albaracin, chair and vice chair respectively. The Commission's chief function is to help UP with its fund-raising efforts for the UP Centennial. The target for the Centennial Fund is P5 billion. It is hoped that P2.5B of this will be come from the National Government, P1.8B from UP's development projects and other internally-generated projects, and P700M from alumni and friends of UP.

Aside from the Commission's centennial projects, the UP System will pursue other projects. Among these are: (a) the exemption of UP from Salary Standardization Law; (b) the development of UP Cebu College and UP Mindanao; (c) the development of Science and Technology Parks; and, (d) the establishment of the UP presence in Makati City.

**Administrative Efficiency**

In line with administrative efficiency, another one of my administration's targets, we have streamlined some operations. For example:

In April 2006, UP Los Banos closed down its Food Service, which had incurred losses amounting to P20M. The Student Union Building that used to house the UFS has since been leased to food concessionaries to continue to provide food services, and to support the building's rehabilitation.

In August 2006, the UP Printery, a division of the UP Press, was also closed down. Performance review found out that the printing machines (most of them purchased in the 1960s) had outlived their usefulness, and were in fact hampering the UP Press in its efforts to professionalize and modernize.

All employees affected were absorbed by units in the University where their particular skills were found to be best suited.

**Faculty and Administrative Staff Welfare**

Following a round of promotions in 2005, faculty members, research and professional staff (REPS) and administrative personnel received double the usual rice subsidy, and an additional grocery allowance of P1,000. Moreover, UP personnel and their dependents now enjoy a 30% discount on healthcare services such as hospital room and board and laboratory and diagnostic tests at the Philippine General Hospital, and advantage that extends to former UP presidents as well. Honoraria from professors emeriti have also been adjusted upwards.

I will be the first to admit that we have a long way to go before we even come close to the university all of us envision. In the last year, I have been roundly criticized - in some cases, even demonized - by some individuals and groups. Of course, this is par for the course. When I made myself available for the post of UP President, I knew this would come with the territory. Nonetheless, I hope that most of the community continue to grant me good faith, and the determination to do my job in the best way that I know how. ♣

**EMERLINDA ROMAN**

WHAT MORE CAN WE SAY?  
***TOP 20 SCHOOLS IN THE PHILIPPINES***

This statistics is a result of the study conducted by the Professional Regulations Commission (PRC) and the Commission on Higher Education (CHED), based on the average passing in the BOARD EXAMINATIONS of all courses of all universities and colleges in the Philippines. This study is conducted every 10 years.

Eleven schools come from Luzon, two from the Visayas and seven from Mindanao:

1. **University of the Philippines, Diliman**
2. **University of the Philippines, Los Banos**
3. **University of the Philippines, Manila**
4. Silliman University, Dumaguete
5. Ateneo de Davao University
6. Ateneo de Manila University

7. University of Santo Tomas, Manila
8. Mindanao State University - Iligan Institute of Technology
9. Pamantasan ng Lungsod ng Maynila
10. Saint Louis University, Baguio
11. University of San Carlos, Cebu
12. Xavier University, Cagayan de Oro
13. Mindanao State University Main
14. Urios College, Butuan City
15. Polytechnic University of the Philippines, Manila
16. De La Salle University, Manila
17. Mapua Institute of Technology, Manila
18. Adamson University, Manila
19. Central Mindanao University, Bukidnon
20. University of Southern Philippines, Davao

# Thank You Letter from Jovanni-Rey V. de Pedro



Dr. Orlantino and  
Maribelle Dyoco

University of the  
Philippines Alumni  
Association of Central  
California

3006 N. Fresno St.  
Fresno, CA 93703  
USA

Tuesday, August 28,  
2007

will only be available for distribution in late November of this year. However, a copy of the souvenir program is enclosed for your enjoyment in the meantime. (My apologies to those we overlooked).

I am also extremely happy to share with you that after six years, I have officially graduated with honors from the Vienna Conservatory of Music, where I received a "Kunstlerishes Diplom" (Artists' Diploma). For those of you who have been here, it is certainly a city to fall in love with, and I have done exactly that! But life goes on, and although I write to you today on my last night in Vienna, I cannot help but be excited about what the future holds.

Dear Dr. & Mrs. Dyoco and members of the UPAACC,

Greetings once again from Vienna!

First and foremost, I would like to express my heartfelt thanks for your generosity in supporting my concert with the University of Santo Tomas Symphony Orchestra and Aries Caces in Manila last March. It was indeed a very memorable event and a joy to work together with other Filipino artists. The concert was well received by over 500 students, professors, critics, friends, family members and music enthusiasts who were present in the audience. I was also invited to do subsequent recitals at Santa Isabel College, and Colegio del Santo Nino in Cebu City by Madame Ingrid Sala-Santamaria. I do apologize for the delay of the recordings and pictures due to unforeseen circumstances and regret to inform you that the DVD

Tomorrow, I fly to London, England and begin yet another chapter of my life. For the next 13 months, I will be working towards my Master of Music degree at Trinity College of Music. For those of you who missed the trip to Vienna this year, graduation is set in October 2008. Hope to see you there!

Til' then, or whenever our paths cross again, God Bless and thank you once again.

With Kindest Greetings,

Jovanni-Rey V. de Pedro

## **Empress B. Jaramillo - New UPAACC Scholar**

The University of the Philippines Scholarship Committee (UPSC) recently announced that Miss Empress B. Jaramillo, a sophomore BA Communications student from UP Baguio, has been awarded the UPAACC Crisologo Cabacungan Scholarship effective the first semester, 2007-2008. She obtained an average of "1.200" for a load of 15 units last semester. Her family's gross income was derived from the pension of her deceased father. Miss Jaramillo was selected from among 86 applicants to occupy the slot vacated by Ms. Marilag Dela Cruz who graduated with a degree of B.S. Psychology last April.

Miss Jaramillo will be receiving an annual scholarship

of P50,000 (UPAACC upgraded the scholarship from P35,000 to P50,000 annually by adding US\$5,000 to supplement our scholarship fund with the UP Foundation).

In addition to the financial scholarship, this year's scholar will also receive a one-time grant of a laptop computer and software in the amount of \$1,000 that was approved during our Winter meeting (another first!). Johnny Quijano and Maribelle Dyoco will contact our member, Julia Pucay who is now in Baguio, to assist Miss Jaramillo in obtaining the laptop computer.

**Johnny Quijano**

**UPAACC NEWSLETTER**

1335 E. El Paso Ave  
Fresno, CA 93720-2638

**OFFICERS 2007/2008**

Helen Reyes *President*  
Nenita Eballa-Dean *Vice President*  
Cecilia Simeon *Secretary*  
Gemma Bischocho *Treasurer*  
Johnny Quijano *Auditor*  
Rey Elizondo *PRO*

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Area 1: Stockton & Vicinity**

Jose Galvez  
Tessie Miguelino  
Rolando Simeon

**Area 2: Modesto, Turlock & Vicinity**

Mark Abenoja  
Nora Cadiz  
Mauro Casillan

**Area 3: Fresno & Vicinity**

Susan Cayco  
Orly Dyoco  
Lydia Favor  
Arturo Nisperos  
Helen Reynolds

**PAST PRESIDENTS**

Norma Espiritu  
Crisologo Cabacungan+  
Max Parayno, Jr.  
Cora Galvez  
Johnny Quijano  
Rey Elizondo  
August Lansigan  
Pete Mayol  
Orly Dyoco

+ DECEASED

**PLEASE MAIL TO:**

**FELLOW ALUMNI:** *If your personal and/or professional information changed, please complete this portion and mail to the above address. Use this form to inform us of potential new members and to update your address, phone number and e-mail address. You may also send this information by using our website at [www.upaacc.org](http://www.upaacc.org).*

Name \_\_\_\_\_ UP Degree \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

**IN ORDER THAT WE CAN REACH YOU IN A TIMELY MANNER, IT IS IMPORTANT THAT YOU UPDATE THE INFORMATION ABOVE.**



**2007-2008**

**Calendar of Activities\***

*Please make your plans to attend according to this schedule*

**October 13 . . . Fall General Meeting, Lakeview Picnic Shelter, Woodward Park, Fresno**

**December 1 . . . Board of Directors Meeting, Merced**

**January 12 . . . Winter General Meeting, Stockton**

*\*The schedule above is subject to change depending on availability of venue.*

**Now Available!**

**The new UPAACC brochure is now available to assist us in recruiting new members. This brochure provides an overview of UPAACC's projects to help our Alma Mater. It also features the UPAA Outstanding Alumni Chapter Award that we received in 2000. A detachable section of the brochure can be filled out with the potential member's name and information, and can be mailed directly to me.**

**You can get copies of this brochure by contacting Rey Elizondo ([elizondor@comcast.net](mailto:elizondor@comcast.net)) - please 5 copies at a time. If you have identified potential members in your area, I can send the brochure directly to them either by e-mail or regular mail. ♣**



**UPAACC NEWSLETTER  
Fall 2007**

Editor: . . . . . Rey Elizondo, PRO

Contributors: Helen Reyes Orly Dyoco Maribelle Dyoco  
Gemma Bischocho Johnny Quijano Cecilia Simeon

The UPAACC Newsletter is the official publication of the University of the Philippines Alumni Association of Central California. Articles and materials for publication should be submitted to:

Rey Elizondo, Editor, 1335 E. El Paso Ave., Fresno, CA 93720-2638  
Tel (559) 432-4864; e-mail: [elizondor@comcast.net](mailto:elizondor@comcast.net)  
ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.