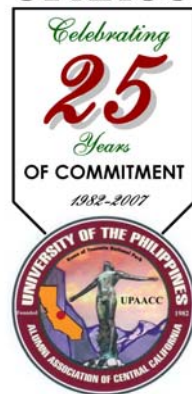


UPAACC



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Summer 2007



UPAACC NEWSLETTER

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

UPAACC Celebrates its 25th Anniversary

The foyer was already abuzz at 6 PM. Guests streamed through the double doors of the hotel ballroom, dressed to the nines and flashing eager smiles, much like those on the faces of teens going to their first prom. Except this was not a prom this was more like a homecoming.

On March 17, 2007, alumni of the University of the Philippines from all over Central California, along with their spouses, friends and supporters celebrated UPAACC's twenty-fifth anniversary and induction of new officers at the Stockton Grand Hotel. The gorgeous volunteers at the registration table did a superb job ensuring that guests were ushered to the right table. When the guests were all seated, emcees Rolando Simeon and Arch Manganaan called on the *Just-For-Fun Band* to lead everyone in singing the Star Spangled Banner and *Lupang Hinirang*. The invocation by Rolando Simeon signaled the start of a fun-filled evening. Norma Espiritu, UPAACC founding first president, gave a heartfelt welcome to everyone.

We settled down to enjoy our scrumptious dinner under the nostalgic music of the *Just-for-Fun Band*. After din-

ner, the audience was wowed by Carolyn Limjoco of Hanford who sang "*O Maliwanag ng Buwan*" and "*Ang Tangi Kong Pag-ibig*", with piano accompaniment by her husband, Dr. Uriel Limjoco. Following these classic Filipino love songs, The *FresNotes* from Fresno charmed the

**BOOM TARAT
TARAT,
BOOM TARAT
TARAT**

crowd with "*Handog*" by Florante. Next, the Fresno group brought the house down with its riotous rendition of "*Boom Tarat Tarat*" with enthusiastic assistance from past presidents who were present. Not to be outdone, the dashing *Stockton Men's Singing Group* serenaded our new president, Helen Reyes.

The guest speaker, the Honorable Philippine Consul Arvic Arevalo, himself a UP alumnus, came all the way from San Francisco to meet his constituents and lay out the Philippine Consulate's plans of improving and expediting services at the Philippine Consulate General.

The new set of officers was inducted by Gloria Nomura, former Vice-Mayor and Coun-

cilwoman of the City of Stockton. Prior to the induction, she gave a talk on the role of the Filipino-Americans in building the communities of Central California. This was followed by an inaugural address by Helen Reyes in which she shared the birth 25 years ago of an organization, conceived with a strong desire to give back to UP, and nourished by union of ideas, selfless dedication and loyalty of many.

Orly Dyoco, the outgoing president, gave recognition and awards to those who helped make his term as president a very successful one. For comedic relief, the *Tres Amigos* from the Modesto/Turlock entertained us with some "colorful jokes". Nenita Dean, the incoming Vice-President, closed the program by reminding us of the challenges, duties and responsibilities facing all UPAACC officers and members.

Truly, it was a night to remember. As a few of us gathered for breakfast at the hotel the next morning, we can not help but talk about the camaraderie and "family" ties fostered not only by working closely together on fund-raising activities and during picnic meetings but also by bonding opportunities and fun moments such as this!

COMING EVENTS - 2007

- **June 30, Saturday:** Summer General Meeting & Picnic - David Park, Modesto
- **September 1 - 3 (Labor Day Weekend):** UPAA of America National Convention - Hilton Hotel, San Francisco
- **October 13, Saturday:** Fall General Meeting & Picnic - Lakeview Picnic Shelter Woodward Park, Fresno

reyaelizondo 06/27/07 rev 1.1



President's Corner

By Helen
Reyes

Greetings fellow alumni!

First of all, I would like to thank and congratulate everybody for making the 25th anniversary and induction ball a success last March 17. It would not have been the joyous and fun occasion that it turned out to be if it were not for the enthusiastic participation and support of the members in all three areas in the spirit of cooperation and camaraderie. The UP alumni are indeed the best, especially when they put their minds and hearts into it. I am honored to be working with all of you.

Now that the new leadership has started, I have been thinking about our

main thrust as an organization for the next two years, aside from fundraising of course. Our Alma Mater is about to celebrate 100 years of academic excellence next year. In order for UP to continue training and molding new graduates who will be the best in their fields of endeavor, it should continue receiving full support from all the different sectors responsible for its existence. As government support becomes more and more inadequate because of the country's current financial state and political climate, the role of funding from other sources becomes more important. The alumni association worldwide is one of those outside sources that the university is counting on.

It is therefore of prime importance that we ensure our organization's survival in order for us to continue helping in our own small way. It is high time for us to be actively recruiting new members, not only to add to our member roster, but with the intention of motivating them to be actively involved now, and be willing leaders in the future.

This, then, is our task for the next two years. The survival and future success of our organization depend on this.

Helen

UP Centennial Celebration - Updates



The Oblation is a symbolic icon representing the UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES

On June 18th, the University will be marking the start of its Centennial Year, culminating in the celebration of the Centennial itself on June 18, 2008.

The Centennial Theme: "UP: Excellence, Service, and Leadership in the Next 100 Years," was decided upon during the 7th Centennial Commission Meeting on April 25, 2007.

With the approval of the UP Centennial Commission, the following UP System projects are now underway:

- Granting of Centennial Awards to outstanding alumni for lifetime achievements in key areas of ex-

pertise such as science, medicine, the arts, government service, law, media, community service, social science and education.

- The UP Centennial Gawad Likhaan has been announced. It is an award for original new, book-length literary works in English and Filipino, open to all Filipino citizens.
- Writing of a UP history book covering the past two and a half decade. The book will be published along with a reprint of former Regent Oscar M. Alfonso's "UP: The First 75 Years" which was published in 1985.
- A centennial musical to be written by multi-awarded screenwriter and director Floy Quintos and to be

directed by UP Diliman Professor Alex Cortes.

- Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas has approved the overprinting of the image of the oblation on new 100 peso bill.

The UP Centennial Commission plans to raise a total of PHP5 billion. A good portion of this amount is earmarked for faculty development: emphasizing the professional chairs, research and creative grants, research dissemination grants and fellowships.

President Roman is inviting alumni from all around the world to support the endeavor.

Summer General Meeting & Picnic - Modesto



June 30, 2007
Saturday, starting at 11 AM

at the

DAVID PARK
Modesto, CA

*Cooking by
acclaimed world
famous barbecue
chefs from Modesto
and Turlock*

*Drinks and main dish
are on the house.
Bring a dessert and/
or salad, and a good
appetite. We will
take care of the rest.*

Meeting Agenda

- Financial report on the 25th Anniversary celebration and induction of new officers.
- UPAAC of America Convention 2007 - San Francisco, Sept. 1 - 3
- Fund-raising activities
- Suggestions for projects to be supported out of Dr. Roman's wish list
- Support for the 2008 UP Centennial Celebration

*Do not miss out on
the fun and
activities; see your
old friends and
make new ones.
We look forward to
your attendance.*

Directions:

- From Highway 99 take Briggsmore/Carpenter exit; proceed **East** on Briggsmore Ave.
- Continue **EAST** (~1.5 miles) and turn left on College Avenue
- Proceed on College Ave (~1.2 miles) and after Leveland Lane, and a few yards after Parkside Court on your left is the shelter entrance
- The shelter is at the end towards the **RIGHT**.

UPAACC



REMINDER:

**FALL GENERAL MEETING,
OCTOBER 13, FRESNO**

**Please RSVP to your Area
Directors before June 23**

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 Winter Meeting - Stockton

Minutes of the UPAACC Winter Meeting at the Galvez residence, Stockton.

Date: January 20, 2007

The president called the meeting to order at 1:10 PM. Attendance: 27 members/guests.

A. Welcome by the President: Dr. Helen Reyes and introduction of each member/guest. The minutes of the general meeting held last Oct. 14, 2006 in Fresno was approved.

B. Treasurer's Report: Presented by Rey Elizondo

Checking	\$11,738.96
CD	<u>15,512.33</u>
Total	\$27,251.29

There is an additional \$100 from Marc Abenoja and another \$150 receivable but deemed to be bad debt due to its age.

C. Outgoing President: Orly Dyoco expressed his appreciation to everyone he worked with during his term. Details of his letter is available in the Winter 2007 issue of UPAACC newsletter. There is a delay in creating the UPAACC ID cards -- he mentioned that the UP logo and the oblation are copyrighted. A request was sent to the university but no response has been received as of today. The project to issue ID cards will proceed using the new UPAACC logo.

D. 2006 & 2007 Financial and Budget Review: Presented by Helen Reyes

The budget for the different projects for 2007 totals \$5,000 (same as in 2006.) The \$1,000 budget for Carillon labels will be maintained even though the project is on hold because of adequate supplies to last until next year according to Johnny Quijano.

The budget for operating expenses was reviewed. Rey Elizondo noted that it costs \$150 (\$75 for printing

and \$75 for postage) to mail to 150 members on the mailing list. All communication is sent by email also. He suggested either e-mail or hardcopy in order to keep our expenses down. The newsletter is also available on the website.

There was some discussion about the education fund of \$250 which is not a regular expense. The fund was allotted for a specific workshop held in the Philippines by one of the organization's members but has not been used lately. This will be kept on the budget and will be awarded as needed. The criteria for this fund states that the workshop be held to benefit students of the University of the Philippines and, therefore, must be held in the Philippines.

All other items under operating expenses such as the discretionary funds and administrative expenses were clarified. The appropriation of these funds remains the same as in past practice. The budget was approved unanimously.

E. Scholarship Program Report:

Awaiting report from August Lansigan regarding scholarship money. The receipt of PhP49,000 for the purchase of 2 computer units for UP Mindanao was confirmed by Ricardo de Ungria, Chancellor of UP Mindanao in an e-mail to August Lansigan.

F. Wish List from UP:

Tuition assistance request from UP President Emerlinda Roman in the form of Centennial Fellows Award for 2 fellows @ US\$2,100 per fellow. A wish list was submitted by UP Pres. Roman to Orly Dyoco just 2 days ago. This will be presented to the board at the next board meeting in May or June (Date TBA).

G. UPAACC 25th Anniversary on March 17, 2007:

Update on the UPAACC anniversary preparation. The committee sign up sheet was passed around. There should be at least one representative

from each area. Ticket distribution to area directors will be made by Jan. 29. Payments should be sent to Gemma Biscocho. Plaque for new lifetime members (if any) will be distributed. Souvenir program format is available from Rey Elizondo. He will e-mail it to Gemma Biscocho.

H. UPAA of America Convention: Sept. 1-3, 2007, San Francisco. It was mentioned that UPAACC is independent of the UPAA but individual participation was encouraged.

I. UP Centennial 2008: More details at the next meeting.

J. Logo contest: A \$100 gift certificate awaits the winner.

K. Jovanni Rey de Pedro concert on March 3, 2007 in the Philippines: UPAACC will donate \$500 in addition to individual donation. Deadline for individual donations is Feb. 1 (submit to Gemma Biscocho).

L. Book Shipment to the Philippines: -- Per Boots Mayol, there are 10 boxes remaining for the last shipment. Johnny Quijano suggested book sorting in February or March at the Mayol residence. There was a suggestion to keep the books or donate it. However, the project calls for UP as the recipient. Therefore the books will be sorted for donation. The rest will be discarded.

We are in receipt of a letter from the Priscilla Macansantos, Ph.D., Chancellor of UP Baguio and a certificate of recognition and appreciation for our support.

Exchange gifts at 3:35 PM. Meeting was adjourned shortly after.

Submitted by:

Helen Reyes, President

Prepared by:

Cecilia Simeon, Secretary

Why Retire in the Philippines?

For many Americans, retirement time is just around the corner. The prospect of trying to live on a pension in old age is a daunting one. For some, moving to retire in another country such as Mexico (for North Americans), or Portugal and Spain (for Northern Europeans) is an option which has been successful. But why not consider retiring in the Philippines?

Over the last decade, the Philippines has become a retirement haven for thousands of foreigners, particularly the Japanese, Korean, and Northern Europeans. Along with Thailand and Malaysia, the Philippines developed communications, infrastructure, and service delivery systems specifically geared to meet the needs of foreign retirees.

The principal appeal for retirement in the Philippines is the lower cost of living. At present, the Philippine peso (PhP) exchange rate is approximately PhP50 to \$1. Housing, food, and labor costs are quite reasonable. A two bedroom condominium in one of the posh "villages" in Makati City costs about \$400 per month, and one can dine out on average at a 3-star restaurant for less than \$10, including tax and tip. If you plan to hire domestic help, a private driver's salary is approximately \$200 per month, while a trained housekeeper will earn approximately \$100 per month. These salaries are lower if you live in the provinces.

Watching a film in a first-run movie theater there costs only 25 cents, with a good light meal (called "merienda") afterwards for about \$20. One can hire an air-conditioned taxicab for eight hours for less than \$25, or take the MRT monorail from end to end for less than \$1. And a pair of locally made blue jeans costs less than \$10. In a country where a provincial governor's salary is PhP28,000 per month, and a presidential cabinet under-secretary earns PhP35,000, your

pension can go a long way. So, if you have an individual retirement income of approximately \$1,500 to \$2,000 per month (PhP75,000 to 100,000), you can live quite well there. Incidentally, peso-denominated time deposit interest rate now is 4.5 % for forty-five days.

As for health care, most U.S. Health Management Organizations pay for medical expenses incurred in the Philippines (check with your HMO). The Makati Medical Center, one of the nation's best already has such accreditation. The quality of medical care at the better Manila hospitals such as the Asian, St. Luke's, Medical City, Cardinal Santos, Philippine Heart Center for Asia, National Kidney Institute and Makati Medical Center meets international standards.

A Japanese company will be building a medical facility in Tagaytay City exclusively for Japanese nationals within the year. There are now close to 10,000 Japanese retirees in the country, and the number is growing annually. The British government recently acquired a large tract of land in Fort Bonifacio to build a large embassy. There are also Japanese and Korean investment groups buying homes and condominiums in Manila, and tracts of provincial land for retirees. This has caused a mini real estate boom in the country. Most of the people you will meet, from hotel workers, taxi drivers, sales or service people, government employees speak English, or have a working understanding of it. The middle class speaks English, without exception.

All the major newspapers, and major broadcast companies use English. An English speaking visitor will never get lost in the Philippines. It is the universal use of that language that has been a strong incentive to foreigners. As well, communications links within the country and

to other countries via the various commercial gateways are up to international standards.

One will never want for adventure and sights to experience in the Philippines. There are always colorful fiestas, pageants, street festivals, and open public events going on. Lush with bountiful natural resources, one can enjoy the numerous beaches, resorts, golf courses, and play just about any sport, except snow skiing. There is an ice skating rink in Manila, though. Scuba diving and fishing are among the sports which draw the most number of foreigners to the rich aquatic offerings.

Shopping is the Filipinos' second most popular activity, the first is eating. Manila is Asia's undiscovered shopping Mecca. I used to enjoy watching the sun set from the bar at the Philippine Cultural Center. There, you can listen to the Symphony, check out a play, or enjoy Grand Opera.

Manila is well known for its exciting night life. Strategically located, the Philippines is an airline hub. Hong Kong, Ho Chi Minh City, Kuala Lumpur and Taipei are just an hour and a half flight away; with Tokyo, Shanghai, Bangkok, and Jakarta approximately five hours. There are regular flights to those destinations from Manila's three international terminals.

Philippine real estate, medical/social service, and employment agencies are now working together under the aegis of the government's Philippine Retirement Authority (PRA) to set up standards and make the retirement industry truly world class.

Excerpts from an article published in the San Francisco Chronicle "In the Loop" by Jose G. Caedo

People and Places



Lt. Col. Helen Reynolds, Retired (**UP BSN**) was recently awarded a Certificate of Appreciation for outstanding service as a US Army

soldier. The certificate reads as follows:

"For outstanding service to the Nation as a United States Army Soldier. You are being recognized for your patriotism and continued support of the Army family. Your legacy is today's Army and the values Soldiers exhibit while fighting the Global War on Terrorism. Their efforts are a direct reflection of your service, and the United States Army and a grateful Nation thank you."

In 2001, Helen retired from the US Army as Lieutenant Colonel. During the last 5 years before her retirement, she served as Joint Commander, Physical Examination Team (PET), Department of Defense, US Army at Monterey and Naval Air Station (NAS) in Lemoore, CA. PET is responsible for rendering complete physical examination to all military servicemen (Army, Air Force, Coast Guard,

National Guard, Navy) who are assigned to war overseas.

Helen received her BS in Nursing from UP (college scholar), and was a exchange student for a year each at the University of Pennsylvania and at University of Kansas. At the California State University-Fresno, she completed her MS degree in Nursing, trained as Nurse Practitioner and received a certificate in Marriage & Family Counseling. She is a member of *Sigma Theta Tau*, Graduate International Society in Nursing. She also holds a MS degree in Military Administration.

Dr. Luís María R. Calingo, (**UP BSIE, 1976**) has been appointed dean of the John Carroll University John M and Mary Jo Boler School of Business. Dr. Calingo was dean of the College of Business Administration and Professor of International Business at California State University, Long Beach (CSULB), California. He is also the immediate past chair of the California State University (CSU) Association of Business Deans, which coordinates the academic leadership initiatives

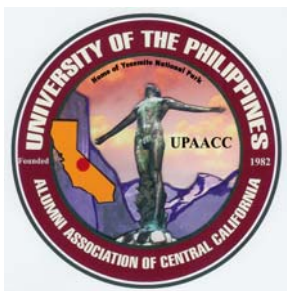
of the 23 business schools in the CSU system.

Dr. Calingo holds a Ph.D. and an MBA from the University of Pittsburgh, an M.U.R.P. and a B.S. from the College of Engineering, University of the Philippines.

On May 12, Modesto/Turlock group packaged the remaining books that were stored at Pete Mayol's garage. Books that were sorted out and not sent were discarded. These are the last of the books that will be sent to the various UP libraries. A total of 10 boxes were sent: 3 to UP Baguio, 1 to UP Los Banos, 3 to UP Mindanao, and 3 to UP Visayas.

Mark Elizondo, son of Rey (**UP BSAE '69**) and Ligaya Elizondo, recently received his MS degree in Engineering Management from Santa Clara University. Mark completed his BS degree from Cal Poly and works at CISCO Systems, Inc. in San Jose as Manufacturing Engineer.

Announcing: The New UPAACC Logo



Oblation is a symbolic icon representing the University of the Philippines. It captures the UP spirit, which has endured for a century: the country's youth sacrificing itself in the service of the country.

For 25 years, UPAACC had been using the UP logo to identify itself as one of the many UP alumni associations in the United States. About a year ago, Orly Dyoco put forth an initiative to create the official UPAACC logo in time for the association's 25th Anniversary. His vision was a logo that will uniquely identify UPAACC by combining the symbol of the UP Spirit and its place in the country.

After sorting through several entries, the general membership of the association chose the official UPAACC logo during the last Winter general meeting in Stockton on January 20, 2007. The winning logo on the left shows the Oblation and the map of California on the foreground. In the background is the world-renown Yosemite National Park, the jewel of the US National Park System. Yosemite National Park is one of the most recognizable symbols of California and the pride of Central Valley.

Starting with this newsletter, this logo will appear in all UPAACC documents and publications, and we hope that you will accept it with pride.

UPAACC NEWSLETTER

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

PLEASE MAIL TO:

OFFICERS 2007/2008

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

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Rolando Simeon

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August Lansigan
Pete Mayol
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+ DECEASED

FELLOW ALUMNI: If your personal and/or professional information has 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

Name _____ UP Degree _____ Year _____

Street Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone Number () _____ e-mail address _____

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

We're on the Web! Visit us at:
www.upaacc.org

MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS NOW!!

**UP Alumni Association of
America Pre-Centennial
Convention and Alumni**

Reunion

Convention Date: September 1, 2, & 3, 2007, Labor Day Weekend.

**Convention Venue:**

Hilton Hotel, San Francisco Financial District,
750 Kearny Street, San Francisco, CA 94108.
Hotel Rate: \$149

double occupancy.

The main guest of honor is **UP President Dr. Emerlinda Ramos Roman**. The Convention starts the celebration of UP's Centennial Year, which begins in 2007 and culminates in a big homecoming to the Diliman Campus in

2008. Proceeds of this convention will go towards a pledge of \$30,000 Professorial Chair.

For more information, visit the following websites:

www.upaasf.org
Convention website:
www.freewebs.com/upaa
Telephone: (605) 857-0126
FAX: (605) 857-0555

**We encourage early registration.
Please inform your area
directors if you are attending so
we can coordinate UPAACC
activities during the convention.**

2007 Calendar of Activities
Please make your plans to attend
according to this schedule

June 23 . . . Board of Directors
Meeting, Modesto

June 30 . . . Summer General
Meeting, David Park, Modesto

September 1-3 . . . UPAA
of America Convention 2007
Hilton Hotel, San Francisco

September 15** . . . Board of
Directors Meeting, Turlock

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

November 17** . . . Board of
Directors Meeting, Merced

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

**UPAACC NEWSLETTER
Summer 2007**

Editor: Rey Elizondo, PRO

Contributors: Helen Reyes Orly Dyoco Maribelle Dyoco
Gemma Biscocho 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
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