

UPV Chancellor meets with Visayas UP Alumni Association Presidents

Gearing up for the centennial celebration of the University of the Philippines, UPV is putting in place preparations that involve a robust sector – its alumni – that can assist the state university in accomplishing its mission.

For the very first time in UP Visayas, an organized meeting of the Chancellor and the presidents of UP alumni chapters in the Visayas, including those coming from sororities and fraternities was held on January 13, 2007 at the Training Room of the GCE Building, Iloilo City campus.

Organized by the UPV Office of Alumni Relations, representatives from alumni chapters responded to the invitation of the Chancellor. They were Dr. Zoilo Andrada, Director, UPV Broad Kom AA; Ms. Clemencia Dilag-Bondoc, President, UP Stella Juris AA; Ms. Desiree Diel, Secretary, UPAA Negros, Dr. Romeo Fortes, Vice President, UP CFOS AA, Ms. Johanna C. Jamero, Executive Vice President, UPV Food Technologist AA, Inc.; Prof. Charmaine Malata, UPV Clovers AA; Prof. Michael Mark Mende, Alumni Coordinator, UPVCC; Mr. Filoteo Palmares III, Vice President, UPV Bluechips AA; Dr. Gerald Quintio, Member of the Board of Directors, UP CFOS AA; Atty. Gloria Ramos, Member, UP College of Law AA Cebu Chapter; Mr. Jose Reyes, President, UP Silak AA, along with Mr. Rafael Blancaflor and Atty. Cyril Regalado; Mr. Winston D. Santos, UPAA Vanguard, Inc. Panay-Negros; Dr. Sonia Seville, President, UPAA Aklan; Mr. Enrique Sindico, President, UPAA

Los Baños (Iloilo Chapter); Dr. Marieta Sumagaysay, Alumni Coordinator, UPV Tacloban College; Ms. Leticia Toncoso, President, UP Hamilia AA; Dr. Romero Villar, President, UPAA Cebu Chapter Foundation, Inc.; Dr. Pedro Zaldivar, Board of Director, UPAA Antique; and Mr. Ramon Zamora Jr., President, UP Hamili AA.

On hand to receive them were UPV officials, Chancellor Glenn Aguilar, VC Ma. Luisa Mabunay, VC May D. Pison, UPV Cebu Dean Enrique Avila, UPV Tacloban Dean Virgildo Sabalo, and SOTECH Dean Luzette Teruel.

Representatives gave a report on their respective Chapter accomplishments and plans. They also signified their support of the initiatives undertaken by the UPVOAR. These projects were elaborated on by UPVOAR Director, Prof. Amy Tanoy as follows:

Libro Para Sa Iskolar Ng Bayan

Launched in 2006, it is aimed at increasing the existing library collection by asking for books with copyright dates from 2000-20005 from generous alumni here and abroad.

Faculty and Alumni Homecoming

The annual homecoming is spearheaded by the UPAA Iloilo in partnership with the UPVOAR and in collaboration with the UPAA regional chapters in Panay.

Proposed ID system

This will be for the alumni in the region. A package of services that the bearer can enjoy has been proposed by UPAA Iloilo for approval by the Chancellor.

UP Alumni Gallery

This would like to showcase

alumni memorabilia like photographs, old UP paraphernalia, manuscripts and other documents, and memoirs of UPV alumni. The gallery is also intended to be a place where the alumni can simply come anytime within the working day, either to read mementos, scan photographs or simply come and visit UPV.

Faculty and Alumni Mentoring through Electronic Media (FAME) Program

The objective is to provide current students with mentoring/consultation services on career choices and options through the electronic media. The mentors will be composed of members of the UP faculty and alumni who are willing to share their unique career experiences. As part of the UP Centennial Project, 100 alumni will be recruited to serve as core mentors.

A hundred dollars for the Iskolar Ng Bayan / Sandaang piso para sa Iskolar Ng Bayan

This hopes to raise funds for student scholarships.

More Proposals

One proposal that was widely accepted as part of the centennial fund campaign is the Commemorative Centennial Car Plate to be sold to interested UP alumni all over the country. UPAA-Iloilo Chapter Vice President Eric Tabaldo, current Assistant Regional Director of the Land Transportation Office – Region VI, has committed facilitation of necessary documents for this project.

There was also a proposal from chapter officers to federate into a UPV Alumni Association – Visayas Chapter. (Anna Razel L. Ramirez; IPO)



UP ALUMNI CHAPTER PRESIDENTS with Chancellor Glenn D. Aguilar and Alumni Director Amy D. Tanoy

No Woman, No Cry

by Ma. Flora Abril of the *Tug-ani* & UPVCC Info Volunteer

The intolerable midday heat felt like a searing burn on my skin as I caught a glimpse of a man's enormous hand hitting a woman's cheek. The woman flinched in pain and her face registered a grimace. She clung tighter to the infant at her hip. I recognized them as the couple who constantly peered from our dormitory gates, begging for food and alms. As a lump borne of loathing threatened to rise in my throat, I was suddenly heavy with the realization that indeed poverty is a powerful motivator for abuse, especially those inflicted upon women.

Equality. Protection. Respect. All these are to be accorded to the female by mandate of law. But while the Filipina has gone a long way from being virtually second class citizens and has taken great strides to prove her worth in a largely patriarchal society, abuse and violence still abound. Despite efforts from both the government and the private sector to spread information and foster proper consciousness, machismo prevails.

Efforts at UPVCC But advocates to the cause are not giving up the fight so easily. At the University of the Philippines in the Visayas Cebu College the campaign for gender equality is kept alive through its Gender and Development Office (GAD), which started as a Women's Desk in 1992 before it was institutionalized and given its present name in 2000.

The establishment of the Sidlak Gender and Resource Center for Central Visayas in September three years later solidified GAD's programs. Affiliations include the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), Regional Subcommittee on Gender and Development Anti-Trafficking and Violence Against Women and Children (RSC-GDATV), and the Cebu City Commission on Women. Legal Alternatives for Women (LAW Inc.) and Lihok Pilipina are major NGO partners. They are also involved in networking with Women's Studies Association of the Philippines, CATCHWISE and the National Commission on the Role of Filipino Women (NCRFW).

Social Science 5 (Understanding Gender), the newest course under the Social Science and Philosophy cluster, is geared towards educating the students about gender differences and barriers. It also instills in them an appreciation of their fundamental rights as mentioned in the Constitution and the international treaties aimed to uphold them. Among the topics included in the aforementioned course are gender issues in selected societies, violence against women and other related issues.

Aside from the inclusion of gender studies in the curriculum, Dr. Bucoy proposes that there's

still a lot that needs to be done. In the context of continuing violence against women and children as defined in Republic Act No. 9262, she outlines support and an even broader awareness of anti-violence, continuing the advocacy to "promote, defend and fulfill" women's rights as human rights, and integrating the rights-based approach in teaching as additional measures. Training is also provided to the college's Social Science Division as part of the system-wide effort to integrate knowledge on women's rights among the members of the academe. "Knowing is the basis of claiming your rights," she adds.

Advocacy in action

"After developing gender awareness, we will inspire the students to work for gender equality," says Dr. Rhodora Bucoy, the chairperson of the Social Science Division and a member of the UPV Cebu GAD Committee.

"No regrets," claims Heno Rey Chin, a Business Management sophomore who has taken SocSci 5. Initially hesitant at the prospect of studying a subject that is still regarded as sensitive, he has since come to gain a deeper understanding of the essence of sexuality and relevant concepts like violence against women and children. Motivated to act on what he has absorbed, Chin is both head and co-founder of YKONEK's UP Cebu Chapter, which sets for itself the mission of clarifying areas such as adolescent reproductive health and women empowerment. He is also in charge of the Gender and Youth Desk Committee of the Student Council.

Both Dr. Bucoy and Heno Chin see the student body as enthusiastic and open to talking about human rights and the existing bias against women, an indication that most UPians are by no means at a loss when it comes to these concerns. Yet the need to expand the ranks among the students so that they will commit to the fight, remains.

Thus from December 4-8, 2006 the Social Science Division in coordination with Amnesty International, the Political Science Society, UNESCO UPV Cebu Chapter and the UPVCC Student Council held a series of activities such as exhibits and fora emphasizing the importance of human rights which highlights the role of women and the abuses made against them. This is in celebration of International Human Rights Day on December 10.

The scene from that fateful day is still vivid in my mind. The sound of a hard slap still rings in my ear. But I have found more than enough solace in the thought that change is slowly and steadily being pursued with a deep sense of resolve, part of which emanates from the college I attend. The drive to make the youth aware endures. Maybe someday, no woman will shed tears because of abuse... No more.

Media characters gather at Broad Comm reunion

Donning attires resembling famous media personalities, the alumni of the Bachelor of Arts in Broadcast Communication program of the Division of Humanities, College of Arts and Sciences, reunite for the second time for fellowship and reconnection with the University. The last reunion of the group was in 1995.

This year, on January 6, in an elaborate reception at the Crystal Ballroom of Punta Villa in Arevalo, Iloilo City, popular names from the local print, TV and broadcast media converged and paid tribute to former professors, particularly those present, Profs. Amy Tanoy and Vicente Tan and Drs. Zoilo Andrada and Maybel Fernandez. In

turn, they were given appreciation by Prof. Tanoy, the current Director of the UPV Office of Alumni Relations, for all their support especially for University activities needing media mileage.

It was surprising to know that Broad Comm alumni, not only thrived in the media industry but also in other professional areas – police force, local government, human resources, academe, etc. – manifesting versatility and holistic training gained from the university.

Although not an overwhelming number, each batch had a representative who recalled memories of the class' years in the University especially in the former training ground, the

antiquated and now defunct DYUP. A video showing its replacement, the state-of-the-art Intra School Broadcasting Laboratory (ISBL), wowed everyone.

Greeting the BC alumni during their homecoming was no less than UPV Chancellor Glenn Aguilar who asked for support in the coming centennial celebration of the University. Also present were Vice Chancellors Ma. Luisa Mabunay and May Pison.

The event was not wanting of performers as batch representatives eagerly grabbed the microphone and sang popular songs of their generation. An election of officers highlighted the affair with the following names appointed for 2007-2010:

Director: Dr. Zoilo Andrada, Floor Director: Mr. Edlin Lumanog, Scriptwriter: Ms. Lucy Montealto, Technical Director: Mr. Erly Garcia, Editor: Prof. Vicente Tan, Production Assistants: Mr. Rhoderick Tecson, Ms. Dorothy Lenore Llariza, Mr. David Arthur M. Quimpo, Atty. Mary Florence T. Leda, Mr. Rexcel Joan Sorza and Mr. Gilbert G. Marin.

The new batch of officers assured that next year will be a grander homecoming for the Broadcast Communication Group. (Anna Razel L. Ramirez, *Broad Comm '93*)



Broad Comm Alumni are their usual jolly selves.