CONFERENCE ON THE
“HISTORY OF MEDICINE IN THE PHILIPPINES”

As Fr. Angel Aparicio O.P., UST Prefect of Libraries, aptly puts it “We have to look into the past with the purpose to discover the proper foundations of our present structures.” With this as springboard, the UST Miguel de Benavides Library in cooperation with the Faculty of Medicine and Surgery organized the “First International Conference on the History of Medicine in the Philippines.” Convenors were Fr. Angel Aparicio, OP and Dr. Raquel G. Reyes of the British Academy Post-doctoral Fellow of the School of Oriental and African Studies in London. It brought together for the first time, an international community of health sciences professionals, scholars, archivists and librarians in order to explore the history of medicine in the Philippines from the 16th to the 20th century. The 2-day conference was held on January 9-10, 2007 at the Conference Hall of the Miguel de Benavides library, a library that houses most, if not the richest collections of books and paper manuscripts on the history of medicine in the country. It was well attended by over seventy (70) participants from within and outside the country.

Rev. Fr. Ernesto M. Arceo O.P, Rector of the University of Santo Tomas, gave the welcome remarks. The keynote address was delivered by Hon. Dr. Francisco T. Duque, Secretary of the Department of Health. The various topics that were discussed are:

1. Writing Medical Histories of Southeast Asia: Comparative Approaches, by Prof. Peter Boomgard of Royal Netherlands Institute for the Study of Southeast Asia and the Caribbean. He said that, although the Philippines and its neighboring countries in Southeast Asia generally lag behind Western Europe in documenting medical history, an emergence of scholarly attention to this field from historians and practitioners have been observed. As would be expected, a country like the Philippines which is rich in culture due to a long and colorful history of colonial experience and international trade would also be abundant in medical influences in terms of disease patterns and medical practice.

2. Philippine Medical History: a Survey of the Field. Dr. Reyes provided the participants a good overview of past and recent initiatives to document medical history in the country dating back from the time of Jose Bantug, author of the 1953 book entitled “A Short History of Medicine in the Philippines during the Spanish Regime 1565-1898” to the more recent scholarly articles by Filipinos, Anglo-Americans and Europeans.


4. The Founding of the Early Hospitals in Manila as discussed by Prof. Juan O. Mesquida, Ph.D., of the University of Asia and the Pacific and Fr. Lucio Gutierrez, O.P., Regent of the UST College of Commerce. They presented historical

Continued on page 4
TRENDS & STRATEGIES IN INDEXING, CATALOGING & ABSTRACTING

T he Philippine Society of Librarians and Information Specialists (PSLIS) sponsored a 3-day seminar entitled “Trends and Strategies in Indexing, Cataloging and Abstracting.” This was held on February 22-24, 2007 at the Cooyesan Plaza Hotel in Baguio City.

The objectives of the seminar-workshop are the following:
♦ to organize library collection and other information materials such as records, files, and documents in print, non-print, electronic format or in any other formats with the application of international standard principles and facilitate access and retrieval;
♦ to familiarize the participants with the use of the latest edition and application of library tools (DDC, LC, CA Cutter, Sears List of Subject Headings, etc.) in indexing, cataloging and abstracting; and,
♦ to inculcate among the participants the standard practice of indexing, cataloging and abstracting.

Ms. Erlinda SB Mimay, a Library Specialist herself and the current President of PSLIS, welcomed the participants.

Also the speaker for the first day, Ms. Mimay pointed out the importance of indexing. She mentioned that “indexing is the process of identifying information in a knowledge record and organizing the pointers to that information into a searchable file; indexing is also an art, but an art that requires orderly and meticulous procedures.” She also mentioned that “good indexing is not a casual clerical job; it is the result of a professional activity carried out by people with proper training and experience.” In the afternoon session, each participant was given the chance to present the style of indexing he practices is his library.

On the second day, the invited resource person was Mrs. Corazon Nera, the chairperson of the Board for Librarians and the concurrent Directress of the Lyceum Library. The topics discussed were cataloging and abstracting.

On the second day, the invited resource person was Mrs. Corazon Nera, the chairperson of the Board for Librarians and the concurrent Directress of the Lyceum Library. The topics discussed were cataloging and abstracting.

WHAT CAN WE LEARN FROM OLD DOCUMENTS?

T he Center for Conservation of Cultural Property and Environment in the Tropics (CCPET) has conducted a lecture/forum entitled “What Exactly Can We Learn from Old Documents? Thoughts on 13th Century Manuscript on Music Theory by Johannes de Grochéio.” This was held on February 1, 2007 at the Martyr’s Hall of the UST Faculty of Ecclesiastical Studies. The attendees included professors, researchers, archivist, and librarians.

Prof. Regalado Trota Jose, a CCPET consultant currently teaching at the UST Graduate School, started the program with an introduction to the recovery of heritage music in colonial contexts. It was followed by a fifty-minute video presentation entitled Bolivian Baroque music from the missions of Chiquitos and Moxos Indians featuring Florilegium and Bolivian soloist (2004). This video presentation was a documentation on the excellent recording of Channel Classics that had begun when a number of musical texts dating back from the early 1700s were discovered in the Church of Conception in the Bolivian jungle. The works were staged and recorded in Bolivia. The music was superb and very much in the Baroque tradition.

After the video presentation, Prof. Jose introduced the speaker, Dr. John N. Crossley, a professor emeritus and a professor of logic in Clayton School of Information Technology in Australia. He started his lecture with a brief introduction of Johannes de Grochéio. “Grochéio was a Parisian musical theorist of the early fourteenth century. A Master of Arts, he is the author of the treatise Ars musiceae (“The art of music” ca. 1300), an attempt to describe the music of his time as it was practiced in and around Paris. He divides music into three categories: Musica simplex (popular music; music of the layperson); Composita (according to metrical rules; music of the educated person); and Ecclesiastical (music of the Church). The rest is devoted to secular music, and he surveyed its new social importance in a systematic and pedagogical fashion. He also attempted to address the sociological functions of specific musical forms and genres, and touted music as a cure for the ailments of society, imbuing it with the power to restrain social vices.”

Dr. Crossley also discussed the importance of old documents. He said that archival documents are not only used for teaching but can also be used as means for transfer of land or property, and also for ecclesiastical purposes. He has also mentioned that it is essential to examine carefully the important elements of an archival document to determine its value and usefulness. Included in these elements are: preliminary material, date written, author, the intended reader of the document, text, intellectual content and context, special notations, language used, and the manner of transcribing and translation.

After the lecture, an open-forum followed. Dr. Crossley answered questions that have provided relevant information to the participants. Interesting questions on transcribing and translating old documents highlighted the open-forum. He enumerated a number of useful tips. He said that in transcribing and translating documents, one...


FORUM ON “SELECTIVE READING”

T he Committee on Outreach and Extension Services sponsored a forum entitled “Selective Reading: the Key to Intellectual, Moral and Spiritual Development.” This was held last March 5, 2007 at the Conference Hall of the Miguel de Benavides Library. It started with the Invocation led by Mrs. Teresa Estoya, followed by the opening remarks of Mrs. Ma. Luz David, Chair of the Committee.

Asst. Prof. Anna Maria Gloria S. Ward, a professor in the College of Science and the Director of the UST Center for Professional Development and Consultancy, was the guest speaker. She started the lecture with some literary lines from the famous author, Emily Dickinson, stressing some points on the importance of reading. She also discussed literary standards and some reading strategies that can make reading more meaningful to students. She ended her lecture by elaborating how the library can promote reading to librarians so as to help and motivate students also to read frequently. The queries of the participants were addressed through an open forum that was conducted after the lecture.

The participants were composed of high school students, librarians, and teachers.

Rev. Fr. Angel Aparicio, O.P., Prefect of Libraries, gave the closing remarks. The Master of Ceremonies for this activity was Ms. Kaori Fuchigami, librarian from General Reference and Information section.

Sabina C. Viernes

“WHEN I BECAME A NOVICE MEDICAL LIBRARIAN”

M edical librarians do not always know how people use the information they find. They do know, however, that they make a difference in people’s lives. It is an exciting career! I have realized that when I became a medical librarian. Every time a researcher comes to the library looking for information about a topic, a new puzzle has to be solved. It is a lot like playing a game and definitely lots of fun. It is not always clear at first what the best search strategy will be. The challenge is to have patience, be creative and flexible. It is important not to get discouraged when a search has not yielded results right away. Searching for medical information is like a scientific process; one tries and retries different approaches. When the right information has been found for the client’s research needs, it feels like you were a doctor who has cured a particular kind of illness.

Most of the researchers in the Health Sciences library are independent library users who want to do research on their own. As librarian, I try to assist and facilitate their search needs. Librarians are exposed to a variety of search topics; they are challenged to explore and try different things. Pressure for most of us comes mostly from what we impose on ourselves. If we know how to balance our time properly, then we can be effective in the performance of our work.

Jenneth D. Gomez

BOOK DISCUSSION ON “HARRY POTTER”

T he first UST High School library book discussion series entitled, Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire was successfully attended by twenty five (25) enthusiastic UST High School students and three (3) High School faculty members. This was held at the Conference Hall of the UST Miguel de Benavides Library.

Seminarian Noel Vincent B. Abalajan, a Harry Potter book fanatic, was the guest speaker. He unveiled what he thinks are in the heart of the lead character and assessed moral implications of the J.K. Rowling’s Harry Potter novels. Mrs. Eden Tolentino, the UST High School principal, gave her congratulatory speech before the audience whom she regarded as fortunate people to be chosen as participants in this activity.

Since this first book discussion was a resounding success, the library

Continued on page 5

INTERNET / CD-ROM STATION

A n additional Internet/CD-ROM station has been installed by the UST Miguel de Benavides Library in coordination with STEPS. It is located at the 2nd floor of the Central Library building, adjunct to the Science & Technology section. This new facility will offer Internet access to maintain its role as a public provider of information endeavoring to develop collection needs, resources and services to meet the cultural, informational and educational needs of the Thomasian community. This will also house the CD-ROM collections of the Library and services as portal to CD-ROM access.

There are sixty (60) computer terminals available in this station for the use of faculty members and students, fifty (50) units of which are provided for web browsing while ten (10) computer units are intended for accessing resources mounted on the CD-ROMs collection. The station contains CD-ROMs coming from four different sections of the Library namely: Filipiniana, Humanities, Science & Technology and Social Sciences.

The work stations are loaded with all of the software necessary for approved access. The Internet units are running under Linux operating system (SUSE version 10.1), while the hardware used are ACER Veriton 6800, Pentium IV D.

This is another library facility that will benefit the students, providing them with more convenient and easy access to resources and other information in any field for a more comprehensive study and learning.

Angelica Frances M. Cruz
8. Some Notes on Cholera and Leprosy in the Philippines was tackled by Prof. Angeles Tan-Alora, M.D., a faculty member from the Faculty of Medicine and Surgery.

The conference would mark yet another milestone for the UST Library. The organizers and participants of this event have done a commendable job. Restoration of the subject in the medical curriculum and the publication of the conference proceedings are being considered.

It is appropriate to end this article with a quote by M.I. Abramowitz which says “Just because the solutions of problems are not visible at any particular time does not mean that those problems will never be alleviated or confined to tolerable dimensions. History has a way of changing the very terms in which problems operate and of leaving them, in the end, unsolved, to be sure, yet strangely deflated of their original meaning and practice.”

Maria Czarina D. Lopez

TRENDS & STRATEGIES … from page 2

Each participant was asked to catalog and abstract an article. Mrs. Nera defined abstract as “an abbreviated, accurate representation of the significant content of the document.” She emphasized that “accuracy, brevity and clarity” are the three characteristics of a good abstract.

During the last day, the participants were toured to the Benguet State University and they had a grand view of the parade in celebration of the Flower Festival in Baguio.

It was indeed another informative and fruitful experience for the librarians who attended the seminar.

Nora M. Matawaran

ST. THOMAS….from page 2

one over the other, thereby resulting to either ideal or practical love. Either way, both are to be rejected. Following the thought of Pope Benedict XVI, Fr. Timoner asserts that true love is precisely the synthesis of the two: this is the point where self-love coincides with love of others. Finally, love is to seek the other to complete us, that is, to wish good of the other. To work therefore, is to wish the good of the other that one may become good. Dr. Alviar’s view on the spirituality of creation in the workplace is to participate in God’s harmonious relation to the world in the workplace.

The forum was attended by Ms. Edith Polinag, and Edgardo Lapid from the Library department.

Edgardo N. Lapid

WHAT WE CAN LEARN…..from page 2

must become familiar with standard words and phrases that belong to particular types of documents. For example, if in one document the writing is hard to read, then the familiarity of set words and phrases will be an aid. He said that it is also necessary to make a note of abbreviations. “A good book or article on the subject can help enormously when it concerns standard sorts of abbreviations. Sometimes going through a dictionary may be necessary. It can be time-consuming, but ‘slow but steady wins the race’ is a useful motto when transcribing or translating documents, as hurried way can lead to errors.”

Overall, Dr. Crossley’s lecture has been very informative and very helpful especially for those who are engaged in archives and research. At the end of the forum, Dr. Crossley was given copies of the three volumes of the UST Miguel de Benavides Library’s Catalogue of Rare Books.

Jenneth D. Gomez
plans to conduct more book discussion sessions for High School students. This is one way to encourage students to spend a more productive time in the library. It is also a way of helping the students to realize that reading is indeed fun and a valuable activity. Sharing reading experiences builds camaraderie and establishes rapport among the participants. It is through discussion of the things that a book imparts that one’s comprehension may be enhanced.

Some of the moral values stressed in the story are: the struggle between good and evil, the tie that binds, the power of choices and acts of heroism, beauty of self-sacrificing love, true friendship, concern for justice, and search for the truth; while the moral threats include: the lure of witchcraft, occultism and new age ideology, the risk of moral subjectivism, and the impact of violence.

The HS faculty members who participated in this event were Mrs. Noemi Visorde, subject coordinator of the English department, Ms. Clarice Villarreal, an English teacher and Atty. Rita Serranilla, assistant principal. Hurrah to all the muggles, mudbloods and purebloods who made this event a magical success.

**Michelle M. San Gabriel**

**AN “AUTHOR VISIT”**

The UST Miguel de Benavides High School Library sponsored a forum entitled *Ang Kasaysayan Nating Kwentong Kasaysayan*. This was held on February 16, 2007 at the Miguel de Benavides Library Conference Hall. Prof. Jose Victor Z. Torres from the Faculty of Arts & Letters was the guest speaker. This forum was participated in by elementary & high school students, faculty members and librarians.

The objectives of this activity were the following:

- to encourage students to maximize the use of the library and its resources;
- to inspire students to read more books and explore their creativity through writing; and
- to establish the connection between library use and literacy.

Prof. Torres gave the students a brief background about Philippine history, significant events, persons and places. His lecture encouraged students' awareness and interests primarily in the history of our country. He also gave the students, through a dialogue, an insight of the connection between reading and writing using these as instruments to academic success thereby recognizing them as means to acquire knowledge.

The speaker challenged the students to open their minds, to read always, and dare to write something different. It is a way of bringing back the culture of reading. Read, explore and take the chance of writing were his pieces of advice to future writers.

An open forum followed. Mrs. Michelle San Gabriel, Head Librarian of the High School Library, formally concluded the forum by way of a closing remarks.

**Michelle M. San Gabriel**
THE LIBRARY’S TREAT TO THE GRADUATING SCHOLARS OF THE LIBRARY

The Miguel de Benavides Library staff has rendered one whole day of fun for the graduating San Lorenzo Ruiz working scholars assigned in the library, acknowledging their years of hard work and congratulating them for a job well done.

On the eighteenth of March, 2007, the library administrators together with the graduating student assistants and their respective heads, and some members of the library staff took time off from work and rode to the countryside of Batangas and Tagaytay to breathe in an unpolluted air the streets of Manila has long neglected to yield.

Upon arriving at Caleruega, everyone got off the bus excitedly. A Thanksgiving Mass was offered before all else. God’s message resounded within the small crowd, in one of the chapels where the Holy Mass was celebrated by Fr. Angel Aparicio, O.P., the Prefect of Libraries. Thoughts on brotherhood, forgiveness and thanksgiving filled the room. As hearts were enlightened, everyone continued exchanging smiles.

Outside the confines of the chapel where God’s word was heard is a place where God’s mighty hands are seen. Clear sky, tall trees, fresh air and flowers of all sorts escorted the library family as we wandered around. The first glance at the scenery had been the hint to rummage in one’s own bag and bring out a digital camera to take snapshots of such rare background. For a moment, the librarians have totally forgotten about books and kept themselves busy squeezing in and flashing their beautiful smiles in front of the camera.

Happy moments were captured nonstop. More than once in the outing, April Espinosa, working scholar from the Humanities section, exclaimed “Enjoy life!” She uttered these words as she tasted one of the sweet rewards of her labor.

Truly, there was so much to enjoy in the trip. The great time with nature was experienced all the more as the whole staff explored Punta Fuego, also located in Batangas. We walked barefoot on the white sand beach, endured the scorching sun and viewed the horizon as the sea breeze kissed our faces. Once again, pictorial sessions did not cease. It wasn’t so hard at all to tell that these people loved souvenirs.

Lunch, which consisted mostly of Filipino dishes, was at Punta Fuego Resort. After the sumptuous meal, some of the working scholars considered picture-taking with Willie Revillame a desert. For some unknown reasons, the WoWoWee host was there, and for the sake of fun, the group posed with him and smiled for the camera phones and digicams.

A tourist jeepney then took us around. We marveled at the sophisticated resthouses that stand on both sides of the streets. One speculated that some of the houses may be owned by politicians; some guessed that other houses must have belonged to some Filipino architects. Either way, the houses are adorable and are considered really to be ‘great works of art’.

Tagaytay was the last stop. Eight working scholars went swimming as four played billiards with Father Aparicio in the Tagaytay Southridge Estates. After an hour, we eventually joined the other librarians who have prepared merienda in a house owned by Fr. Aparicio’s friend.

The bus was back at UST by 8:30 p.m.. It was a long day for the library staff. But then again, it was one happy experience that all of us, particularly we, the working scholars, would look back on.

Members of the library staff manifested their gratitude to the graduating student assistants who have devoted their service during their college years. Likewise, the latter was equally thankful to the former for making them feel that the Miguel de Benavides library is their home in the “royal and pontifical” University of Santo Tomas.

Marivic G. Usita

LIBRARY COORDINATORS MEETING

The Library Coordinators’ meeting was held last January 24, 2007 at the Antonio Vivencio del Rosario Heritage Library, located at the 5th floor of the Miguel de Benavides Library. Aside from the library administrators, some librarians were also present during the meeting.

The items that were discussed are: Library budget for 2006-2007, Library Orientation, Accreditation, Library activities and other matters such as: 1) the 50 additional internet terminals installed adjacent to the Science and Technology section; 2) the recommended websites prepared by the librarians accessible in the library Homepage 3) the new online database (Current Opinion); 4) WI-FI connections in the library; 5) USB port/connector; 6) extended borrowing privileges and 7) the plan to digitize the dissertations of the Ecclesiastical Faculties Library.

Pamela Anne E. Morelos

Marivic G. Usita
The 2007 Recognition Day for the UST Non-Academic employees was held last February 16, 2007 at the Medicine Auditorium with the theme “Ano ka...Hero???”

The Thanksgiving Mass was sponsored by the Samahang Manggagawa ng UST and was officiated by Rev. Fr. Ernesto M. Arceo, O.P., the new Rector of the University. Rev. Fr. Juan V. Ponce, O.P., Vice-Rector, delivered the inspirational message which includes the qualities expected of an employee.

The occasion was a meaningful event for the employees. They were acknowledged for their hard work and dedicated service to the university. A number of rank and file employees were presented the ‘loyalty award’. The recipients for the 25 years of service from the Library department were Edgardo Lapid from the Ecclesiastical Faculties Library and Ma. Theresa Milabo from the General Circulation section while Enrique Gestida from the Technical section was awarded ‘15 years of service’.

It is worth mentioning that three employees from the library vied for the “Most Outstanding Employee” award; they were Evangeline Panizal, Ginalyn Matias and Rafael Travilla.

To all the “heroes” of the Library, congratulations and more power!

Editha A. Polinag

HELLO DOLLY!!!

Rolando Morante and they are blessed with three children: Marvin, Shiela and Jervy.

Before graduating from Commerce major in Business Administration, Dorie was a working student in the library. She enjoyed the work and decided to take up specialization in library science. To date, she has already earned to her credit 18 units of MA in the same field.

Dorie has been in the UST Library for almost 22 years now. She was previously assigned to the Grade School library and the Filipiniana section. Her present assignment is in the Technical section working as a cataloger. She is also one of the circulation managers of the library’s News-in-Print, a task she has been doing well.

To update herself with the latest trends in the field of librarianship, Dorie attends various seminars and workshops.

A simple and hardworking staff, Dorie is helpful and easy to get along with. She is also a loving, caring and a responsible mother and wife. For Dorie, family is her priority when she makes decisions in life.

Marilou G. Palermo
**UST NAE ANNUAL RECOLLECTION**

The theme of this year’s Recollection for the non-academic personnel is “Awareness of Self, Others, Nature and God (SONG).” This was held on March 8 and 9, 2007 at the UST Central Seminary gym. It was spearheaded by the Human Resource Department in cooperation with the Campus Ministry and the Committee on Spiritual Concerns.

The aims of this activity were to establish a personal and intimate relationship with our loving Father and caring Mother and to deepen our commitment to faith and family as the two sources of our joy and happiness.

The facilitators were Mr. & Mrs. Raphael and Carmelita Ocoma, a couple from UGNAYAN at Tulong para sa Malalitang Pamilya (UGAT), a non-governmental organization for family ministry and counseling services. The interactions between the couple and the employees were successful especially the part when the “magic moments with God” transpired.

The 2-day Recollection ended with a Eucharistic celebration officiated by Rev. Fr. Rodel Aligan, O.P. and Rev. Fr. Gerard Francisco Timoner, O.P.

*Lucy M. Bermudez*

---

**LOOK WHO’S CAUGHT READING!**

"Get Caught Reading" is the brainchild of former congresswoman Pat Schroeder, President and Chief Executive of the Association of American Publishers (AAP), the industry association representing book publishers. She saw the opportunity to spread the word about the joys of reading through an industry-supported literary campaign.

According to her, “research indicates that early language experience stimulates a child’s brain to grow. It also shows that reading to children gives them a huge advantage when they start school. Having this program implemented, we hope to encourage people of all ages to enjoy books and magazines, and to share that pleasure with the young children in their lives.”

“Look Who’s Caught Reading” program is just one of the activities of the High School Library to promote love for reading. It is one of the essential skills that should be mastered in order to become successful in any study. This campaign opens up the challenges of reading. Moreover, it aims to encourage the community to read.

The objectives of this activity are:

♦ to raise awareness to the joys of reading;
♦ to instill the value of lifelong learning; and
♦ to increase the number of library users and maximize the use of library resources.

This program includes taking photos of students and teachers who will be caught reading, thus, they are considered frequent borrowers. These photos will be displayed at the library bulletin board and in the official website of the Miguel de Benavides Library. The brief write-up on the value of reading and the library in pursuit of lifelong learning to be written by some library patrons, will also be displayed together with some photos. A new set of library patrons will be chosen after three months.

The Library strongly encourages the High School community to grab this chance of a lifetime. This is a way of spreading the message that reading is indeed one of life’s true joys. Let us, therefore, keep on reading and borrowing books.

*Michelle M. San Gabriel*