

News in Print

University of Santo Tomas MIGUEL DE BENAVIDES LIBRARY

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BENCHMARKING in Macau



The UST group with Fr. Salcedo (2nd from left).

he opening of a Senior High School (SHS) in the University of Santo Tomas necessitates careful planning and knowing the best practices of schools which have pioneered in the use of modern technology in the field of education.

The closest that we could get to serve our purpose is the Escola São Paulo in Macau which is run by Dominican Fathers and one of the leading schools in Macau with a project that makes heavy and comprehensive use of proven information technologies.

It was then decided that four (4) people would go on November 16, 2015 to benchmark. They were: Fr. Angel Aparicio, O.P. (Prefect of Libraries), Assoc. Prof. Pilar I. Romero (Principal, UST Senior High School), Ms. Estrella S. Majuelo (Chief Librarian), and Ms. Ma. Cecilia D. Lobo (Acquisitions Librarian).

Upon our visit to the school, our attention was immediately caught by some of the modern features the school offers. It is actually a very good school to benchmark for our future Senior High School. Our group was impressed with the facilities and the manner by which classroom studies are being conducted.

The whole morning was spent at the school hall where discussion on the brief history of the school, the different school activities, and the learning environment had been conducted; these were all shared by the school p r i n c i p a l, Fr. Alejandro Salcedo, OP. Selected students were also present to contribute in the dialogue thru their knowledge and experiences with the school. After which, a team toured our group to the different facilities like the campus, the library, the IT room and in the classrooms. We were impressed with how lessons are carried on. Students are no longer using books or textbooks



Fr. Aparicio being interviewed by a

but each one has a laptop where the teacher's lessons are set up and where everyone can follow and participate (not the usual raising of hand and recitation). In this method, the teacher can right away check who understand and who do not, the lessons being discussed, an entirely different technique from the traditional that is still being practiced in most schools.

cont'd on page 8

WHAT'S INSIDE

▼ 051 Fuculty Members
and University Officials
on K-12 2
♦ 'Digital Forensics
101' 2
♦ National Consultation
on PRECUP in
Libraries 3
♦ Seminar on Research 3
♦ "Beyond Library
Orientation" 4
♦ Benchmarking in
Tokyo, Japan 4
♦ NFRDI Book
Launching 5
♦ Meet the Author —
Qaisra Shahraz 5
♦ EHS "National Book
Week" Celebration
2015 6
♦ Celebrating 'Book
Week' @ the UST
Junior High School 7
♦ Spreading God's Words
to the Aeta Kids 11
♦ Feast of the Immaculate
Conception Celebrated
in an Orphanage 11
♦ A "Merry Christmas
Party" at Cottolengo 12
♦ Nurturing Our
Faith 101 13
♦ Library Christmas
Party 2015 13
♦ As it Happened:
Fashion and Glamour
on the 1st PLAI Magic
Ball Red Carpet 14
♦ Prof. Marieta Baysa
(Library Coordinators
Corner) 15

UST faculty members and University officials on K-12

s mandated by the 2013 Enhanced Basic Education Act (RA 10533), K to 12 will be implemented in the Philippine educational system. The K-12 program covers thirteen (13) years of basic education with the following key stages: Kindergarten to Grade 3; Grades 4 to 6; Grades 7 to 10 (Junior High School); and Grades 11 and 12 (Senior High School).

In preparation for the implementation of the program, the UST Faculty Union invited Prof. Clarita D. Carillo, Ph.D., vice rector for Academic Affairs and Assoc. Prof. Pilar I. Romero, Ph.D., principal of the UST Senior High School for a dialogue to discuss the plans of the University in view of the forthcoming implementation of the K-12 law. It was held last October 21, 2015 at the UST Alfredo M. Velayo-College of Accountancy Multipurpose Hall.

Dr. George Lim, USTFU president, first met with the faculty members regarding the plans and actions being taken by the organization in preparation for the program implementation in the university. He reminded the faculty members to voice out their issues and concerns that would greatly affect their teaching load. He further reminded them to prepare themselves for the uncertainty of what will be the effect of the K-12.

Prof. Carillo on the other hand mentioned the developments, status and actions taken by the university officials on this issue. Inquiries regarding the program include: teaching load; possibility of transferring from college to Senior High School and other related matters. The university officials could not give yet a specific number of enrollees for the coming school year. According to them, the number of enrollees would determine the number of teaching loads that would be given each faculty member.

The K-12 created a feeling of uncertainty and fear because of the changes it brings to the teaching career of the faculty members. As what the USTFU president has said, "be prepared, look for alternatives and prepare a letter of intent to teach in the Senior High School." Prof. Carillo and Assoc. Prof. Romero agreed on the suggestions from the USTFU officials.

It is their hope that issues and other concerns would be properly addressed and that the teaching job of faculty members would not be jeopardized.

Marilou G. Palermo



'Digital Forensics 101'

The Association of Special Libraries of the Philippines (ASLP) in partnership with the Philippine National Police (PNP) Anti-Cybercrime Group and the Department of Budget and Manage-

ment (DBM) organized a forum entitled Digital Forensics 101: Securing Electronic Files in Libraries and Information Centers. This was held on September 28, 2015 at the Multi-Purpose Hall DBM, Malacañang Palace Complex, San Miguel, Manila. DBM Secretary, Florencio B. Abad, delivered the welcome address.



SPO1 Noel B. Cuestas of PNP Anti-Cybercrime Group was one of the speakers. He is a digital forensic examiner who has expertise in gathering, analyzing and presenting data evidence from computers and other d i g i t a l media related to computer-based and non-cybercrimes. His discussion focused on investigating cases concerning identity, theft, electronic fraud and various types of scams. He also tackled other topics



National consultation on PRECUP in libraries

he National Library of the Philippines (NLP) through the National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA) sponsored a twoday National Consultation on Philippine Registry of Cultural Property (PRECUP) in Libraries. It was held last November 4-5, 2015 at the Bayview Park Hotel, Manila. The objectives of the event were: to showcase the cultural functions of NLP in the society; to implement the Republic Act No. 10066, otherwise known as the National Heritage Protection Act of 2009; to develop the PRECUP in Libraries; to survey the state of Filipiniana collections in the country; and to empower the librarians, library managers and staff on their roles as cultural agents through lectures and training on the management and preservation of cultural heritage collections in libraries.

The PRECUP is a cultural initiative of the National Library of the Philippines, funded and supported by the NCCA since 2014. PRECUP as provided for in RA 10066 otherwise known as Philippine Cultural Heritage Act of 2009, is an instrument to protect, preserve, conserve and promote the nation's cultural heritage, its property and histories, and the ethnicity of local communities; to establish and strengthen cultural institutions and; to protect cultural workers and ensure their professional development and wellbeing.

In 2014, a National Committee on PRECUP was created to draft its guidelines. The University of Santo Tomas represented by its Chief Librarian, Ms. Estrella S. Majuelo, has been assigned as one of its members together with: University of the Philippines represented by Mr. Rodolfo Y. Tarlit, retired faculty, as chairperson; Ateneo de Manila University represented by its Director of Libraries, Mr. Vernon R. Totanes, as vice-chairperson; and Members: De La Salle University with its Director of Libraries, Ms. Ana Maria B. Fresnido, Filipinas Heritage Library Director, Ms. Suzanne Yupangco, and the Secretariat composed of NLP staff, namely, Ms. Susan J. Fetalco, chief, Filipiniana division, Ms. Anne Rosette G. Crelencia, Ms. Maricel M. Diaz and Ms. Asteria Baloso.

cont'd on page 9

Seminar on Research

In accordance with the provision of Republic Act 7722, otherwise known as "Higher Education Act of 1994," the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) endorsed a free one-day workshop organized by the iGroup Asia-Pacific/LibTech Source Philippines, Incorporated. It happened last November 10, 2015 at the Bahia Function Room, InterContinental Hotel, Makati City. It was entitled "Research Best Practices" with researchers, faculty members and fellow librarians as the participants. The event aimed to increase the visibility and accessibility of published paper; to increase the chance of getting publications cited; to disseminate the publications by using "Research Tools" effectively; and to increase the chance of research collaboration.

The conference started with an opening remarks delivered by Mr. Felix Gaston Jr., managing director of LibTech Source Philippines. It was followed by the talk of Ms. Jennifer Yong, a Solution consultant of iGroup Asia Pacific. Ms. Yong has in-depth knowledge of information solutions for publishing industry and has established professional connection within the ecosystem through her hands-on experiences working with librarians and researchers. As a consultant, she is actively promoting the best practices of research in using the right contents, analytics and tools to enhance the research performance at personal and institutional levels. She discussed Research 1-2-3: From author, to getting published and to get cited. She also revealed that the traditional way of making research impact is to publish one's work on the Institute for Scientific Information (ISI) journals.

Mr. Liang Hoe, the second speaker, is the Professional Development consultant for iGroup Asia Pacific. He has ten (10) years of experience in publishing-education industry from textbook adoption to development program implementation across K-12 to higher education. He shared about emerging technologies and increasing competency skills through blended learning.

The third speaker was Ms. Iris Hsu, consultant of iGroup Asia Pacific Ltd. With 15 years of experience in sales and marketing for academic electronic resources, Ms. Hsu has extensive knowledge on research contents, digital libraries, open access, and trends in online publishing industry. At present, her focus is to materialize the concept of best research practice and share the idea by speaking in research conferences and related

"Beyond library orientation ... "



The Ateneo de Manila University (AdMU) Grade School Katigbak Educational & Media Center (KEMC) sponsored a half-day seminarworkshop entitled "Beyond Library Orientation: The Media and Information Literacy Program" held last November 14, 2015. The event was attended by school librarians and other information professionals.

The objectives of the seminar were the following: (1) to provide a clear picture of the librarians' key role as educators and information specialists in the school's academic program; (2) to promote the value of Media and Information Literacy as an integral part of the school's curriculum; and (3) to come up with, and carry -out a well-defined Media and Information Literacy Program.

Earlier in the program, one of the librarians of the AdMU Grade School, Mrs. Maria Victoria E. dela Cruz, willingly shared the results of her research on the Media and Information Literacy Program (MAIL Program) in which one of the objectives is to develop a set of modules on Grade 5 media instruction program. Mrs. Dela Cruz answered questions from the participants who wanted to clarify things and get ideas on how information literacy works, how to start doing it and how it will be applied in their own library. The speaker highlighted the big difference between library orientation and information literacy. She emphasized that librarians should not just stop after giving library orientation and tutorials but rather they need to push through in giving information literacy so that students

cont'd on page 9

Benchmarking in Tokyo, Japan

Benchmarking has become a trend not only for libraries but for other institutions as well in order to identify best practices in terms of technological advancement, infrastructure development, new trends and efficient services for libraries.

The Philippine Association of Academic and Research Librarians (PAARL) organized a four-day library tour in Japan dubbed as "PAARL's Japan Endless Discovery Tour" from October 21-24, 2015. The objectives of this activity were: to identify best practices in Japan libraries; learn new trends and concepts of library services; address issues and challenges; and to establish linkages with Japanese librarians. Ms. Estrella S. Majuelo, chief librarian and Ms. Ma. Cecilia D. Lobo, acquisitions librarians from the University of Santo Tomas Miguel de Benavides Library, participated in the said library tour.

Part of the itinerary were visits to libraries and museums in Tokyo including the National Diet Library (NDL). Founded in 1948, it is the sole national library in Japan which acquires, preserves and provides Japanese publications which are the nation's cultural and intellectual assets. The acquisition of library materials is mostly based on the Legal Deposit System, while publications published before the Legal Deposit System came into force, rare and old materials, manuscripts and foreign publications are collected through purchase, donation, etc. The Main Building of the National Diet Library has a centralized stack system with a total stack capacity of 4.5 million volumes. Major collections include: modern Japanese political history documents; shin-seifu koryo hassaku (eight articles of the new government plan) by Sakamoto Ryoma; materials



Ms. Majuelo and Ms. Lobo in front of the Izumi Library.

NFRDI book launching

ast October 22, 2015, yours truly attended a book launching at the National Fisheries Research and Development Institute in Quezon City in line with the celebration of the Fisheries Week with the theme, "Pinatatag na Batas ng Pangisdaan, Hakbang sa Pagkamit ng mas Masaganang K a r a g a t a n." This government agency teamed up with Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit headed by Mr. Berthold Schrim. With enough funding and support from this company, the authors, namely Moonyeen Nida Alava and Mudjkeewis Santos came up with the books entitled Pating Ka Ba? an Identification Guide to Sharks, Batoids, and Chimaeras of the Philippines, and the Philippine Aquatic Wildlife Rescue and Response Manual Series. As an attendee, the UST

Miguel de Benavides L i b r a r y luckily received complimentary copies of these books which will be added to its rich Filipiniana collection.

The event was well-attended by different representatives from the government and private sectors. As the head of the Filipiniana section, I was asked by the Library administrators to attend. From this, I came to know that Pating Ka Ba?... is the first book that is published locally to be used as a primary reference guide by the local marine protectors throughout the country. Yours truly was also able to meet and greet the authors of the books. It was indeed a great experience to witness this book launching.

Lady Catherine R. de Leon

Meet the author - Qaisra Shahraz



(L-R) Ms. Subaldo, Ms. Arriola, Ms. Shahraz, and Ms. Santiago

terrorist," as emphasized by the British-Pakistani prize-winning and critically acclaimed novelist and scriptwriter Ms. Qaisra Shahraz in her lecture. She was the invited speaker at the lecture program entitled "Using Literature as a Tool to Build Bridges, Raise Awareness about Gender Issues and Promote Intercultural Dialogue," which was sponsored by the Faculty of Arts and Letters, Department of Literature, together with the UST Center for Creative Writing and Literary Studies, the Research Center for Culture, Education and Social Issues, the UST Literary Society and the UST Graduate School. Ms. Shahraz was born in Pakistan, but was raised and lived in Manchester (UK). She obtained two masters

degrees in English and in European literature and scriptwriting.

After Ms. Shahraz lecture last October 21, 2015 held at the Graduate School, she together with Ms. Joyce Arriola, chair of the UST Literature Department, visited the UST Miguel de Benavides Library particularly the university Archives and the Heritage Library. She donated to the Library two of her bestselling novels entitled Typhoon and Revolt.

Typhoon is a sequel to her book titled "The Holy Woman." The story happened in Chiragpur, a Pakistani village, wherein the life of the people had been changed and traumatized by a courtroom story some twenty years ago. The book is about an exciting family saga of deception, bitterness and jealousy; a heart-breaking story of three young Muslim women.

The other book entitled Revolt is a family drama, love story, mixed marriage rich with contemporary issues, humor, tragedy and conflict. The story describes the trouble of a large family in the rural village of Gulistan in Pakistan. The story is focused mainly on the lives of three rich sisters through which problems on tradition, culture, sexism and discrimination have been given emphasis. The author even uses some foreign language and at the back of each book, a glossary is provided to help in the translations.

Both stories are fictional, loaded in modern settings and characters and there is a very clear picture of

EHS "National Book Week" celebration 2015

November has long been hailed as the National Book Month in the Philippines. The Education High School (EHS) Book Lovers Club, in coordination with the UST EHS/ Grade School Library held this momentous event last November 24-27, 2015 thru a week-long activities with the theme, "The Filipino Reader in the Era of ASEAN Integration."

The celebration started with a 4-day Book Fair held on November 24, 2015 at the CTHM Fence area, Albertus Magnus Building, with National Book Store and Anvil as the participating exhibitors for the event. Rev. Fr. Jesus Miranda Jr., O.P. and Asst. Prof. Loreto Sauz, regent and principal, respectively, of EHS, led the ribbon cutting ceremony and awarding of the "Top Ten EHS Book Borrowers" and assisted my Ms. Angelica Frances Cruz-Ciar, head librarian of the EHS/Grade School Library.

Visual Room. EHSians' book club officers and members had an exclusive opportunity to meet, greet and learn from the authors. Ms. Esguerra shared some tips on how to write a good story. In addition, the authors introduced the new book "Kids These Days" and encouraged the students on how they can contribute in the upcoming volume. Certificates and tokens of appreciation were handed to the authors after the forum.



The awardees for the Top 10 Book Borrowers 2015 were the following: Chelsy Monique A. Manalang and Nichole G. Perreras, Grade 7 – Responsibility; Althea Coleen C. Salazar, Grade 8 – Simplicity; Jullesa Royeras, Grade 8 – Simplicity; Angela Pauline M. Mariano, Grade 9 – Dignity; Jullianna Luisa A. Sonio, Grade 9 – Justice; Ma. Jomelle Alexa C. Tanudra and Jhezelle Nicole R. Ignacio, Grade 10 – Patriotism; and Jaimee Precious Nina Sapungan and Julian Mae M. Solis, Grade 10 – Respect.

In attendance for the event were the EHSians' book club officers, administrators, faculty members, Grade 7 EHS students, and the awardees. Fun and entertaining activities had been prepared to add enjoyment on the celebration. These include the following:

Engaged reading and writing

"Immerse not only in reading but also in writing."

This was emphasized by the authors Ms. Mina Esguerra and Mr. Rhon Lim during the author visit held last November 25, 2015 held at the EHS Audio

Appreciating the art of movies

Viewing of the film "The Boy in the Striped Pajamas," based on the novel of the same name by John Boyne, was held on November 25 at the Albertus Magnus auditorium. The film is a holocaust drama about the unlikely friendship of two boys: a Nazi commandant's son and a Jewish inmate.

Administrators, faculty members and invited guests were also in attendance for the event. Encouraging the students to have a deeper appreciation of the movie, Assoc. Prof. Andres Julio Santiago together with the English pre-service teachers gave the students a follow-up activity which is a film critique.

Battle of the brains

Selected EHS students battled their brains out for the 'Hunger Mind Games' held last November 25, 2015 at the EHS Library activity area. Representatives from each class were challenged by solving mind-boggling problems which tested their wits and mental abilities.

Celebrating 'Book Week' @ the UST Junior High School

The more that
you read,
the more things
you will know.
The more that
you learn,
the more places
you'll go.

- Dr. Seuss

he UST Junior High School (JHS) Library in coordination with the Junior High School Reader's Club celebrated the 81st National Book Week 2015 simultaneously with the English Week. It was held last December 7, 9-11, 2015 with the theme "Ignite: Enliven the Passion for Reading through Millennial Readers." There were lots of amusing library activities that surely got the interest of students. Librarians purposely incorporated fun activities to promote love for reading through the use of different library resources. Aside from these, other activities were held which included an opening ceremony for the 'Book Week' celebration program and the opening of the three-day book fair. Mr. Ron Lim, a creative writer and an alumnus of UST JHS, was invited to give the inspirational talk. This activity provided students an opportunity to meet an author in person and appreciate his passion for reading and writing. Mr. Lim delightedly shared his humble beginnings, his learning experiences, failures that made him strong and the wisdom he gained from them. His insights gave inspirations as he shared the journey he went through and has become the author that he is today. His UST JHS teachers were so proud of his achievements. His accomplishments surely encourage the young Thomasians to strive more and boost the habit of reading.

The program was followed by the awarding of the "Frequent Book Borrowers" which recognizes students and faculty members who borrowed the most number of books within the year. This is a way of motivating the

community to borrow and read books from the library. The top borrowers were: Ann D'rea Melle V. Camus (Grade 7-St. Angela), Jerald Chris C. Trambulo (Grade 8-St. Bernadine), Richard Albert Nick B. Gonzalez (Grade 9-St. Cecilia), Xenn Maeve V. Feliciano (Grade 10-St. Dorothea), and Mrs. Eden G. Tolentino (faculty member, Science Department). The next award was the "2015 Teen's Choice" for the most borrowed fiction book, most loved author and genre of books in which titles were pre-selected by the librarian based on the library statistics. The book, author and genre which got the most number of votes were declared as teens' choice for 2015.



"Book Swap 2015" was also launched wherein the high school community was encouraged to bring along books from their personal collection which are still in good condition and have them swapped with the same number of books they wished to exchange. Books not swapped were donated to the UST JHS book drive project. This will become an annual activity of the library where students will have the chance to exchange their own books with those titles from the book drive collection project which they have not read yet. A film showing was also prepared for a recent fiction book turned into movie entitled "Paper Towns," by John Green.

The week-long celebration was a fruitful drive to promote reading and maximize the use of all the library resources.

Rosemary B. Balbin

Benchmarking in... from page 1

The afternoon was allotted to the discussion of the IT system of the Escola São Paulo. An IT expert/consultant hired by the school on a regular status was the one who explained about the things related to technology. This was followed by questions and some clarifications from our group. A student did an interview with Fr. Aparicio and Assoc. Prof. Romero. The activity would not be complete without photo shoots with school officials.

As for the library, nothing much could be picked out from this area. The school library is just a small one storey building with few books on the shelves and the set up including the furniture are more for elementary kids. The library is not given much attention at this point in time since the focus is still on a "bookless institution" where classroom learning is now diverted into modern technology. Perhaps, the library will have a share of this in the future. Although this is the present situation, we, from the library group, still believe and are hopeful that with the modern facilities presented right before our very eyes, something functional/constructive could be implemented for the library of the future Senior High.

Our visit was very fruitful which was worth an entire day's effort.

Estrella S. Majuelo

'Digital forensics... from page 2

related to his job. He mentioned that according to the National Statistics Office (NSO), the Philippine cyberspace estimated number of population in 2014 was 101,833,938 million; roughly forty one million (41M) or forty one percent (41%) are internet users in the Philippines (FactBrowser, 2014). In the Message Viable Format (MVF) Global survey, the Philippines is considered to be the Short Message Service (SMS) capital of the world with regard to mobile penetration with 93.2 million mobile subscribers. It ranked 8th place globally in twitter with 5.21 million users and it has 30.66 million Facebook users based on cityranker.com placing third (3rd) in Asia and eighth (8th) globally. He also revealed that the top Filipino behaviors are as follows: 92% goes to social networking sites; 80% search the web; 69% use instant messaging; 67% visit websites and 65% goes to public chat rooms. (Yahoo Nielsen Index Digital Philippines, 2014).

Digital forensics is the "process of uncovering and interpreting electronic data with the goal to preserve any evidence in its most original form while performing a structured investigation by collecting, identifying and validating the digital information for the purpose of reconstructing past events." (https:// www.techopedia.com/definition/27805/digital-forensics) 10/01/2015). It is most often associated with the field of law enforcement and computer crime detection. However, libraries and archives have turned to digital forensics to assist in the preservation of digital content within their collection. Archivists have to ensure that collections records are authentic, unaltered and accessible. It also requires a set of tools in making a person's digital collection. Using Forensic Recovery of Evidence Device (F.R.E.D), archivist is able to do successful digital forensic task. F.R.E.D is a computer workstation with a suite of software and hardware tools that allow an archivist to work with an archival collection with d i g i t a l content to: acquire, verify, extract, reconstruct and report.

The last speaker was SPO1 Jocar V. Samenian, a computer forensic examiner and also a member of the PNP Anti-Cybercrime Group. He discussed the topic on securing electronic files. The learning objectives of his lecture were the following: (1) to discover where the files are located and how hard drive saves data; (2) to identify strategies on how to improve computer security; and (3) to know the tips on how to secure files. His topic specifically explored on how to protect against online threats brought by technological advancements that enhance the ability to communicate, store and exchange data that have made the society extremely vulnerable to perils that can compromise, manipulate data and steal important information. He also discussed the basic things that affect security like software, peopleware and hardware.

The program was concluded by a closing remark from Ms. Edeliza C. Galo, vice president of ASLP, where she showed her appreciation to the resource speakers who shared their time and expertise, and to all the attendees and members of the organizing committee.

The forum was indeed beneficial to all librarians and information professionals who are into digital forensic in the preservation of digital content of their respective institution.

Mercy C. Bano

National consulation... from page 3

The consultation was attended by selected participants from various universities, colleges, public libraries and library organizations all over the country. The UST Library has sent Ms. Majuelo and Ms. Diana Padilla, head librarian, UST Heritage Library, to participate in the event. Since the main focus of the occasion was to examine the draft Guidelines for PRECUP in libraries, the committee decided to send the copy of the guidelines to all the participants (via email) and consolidate their recommendations prior to the affair. Then, a thorough discussion on it will be done during the program proper.

As the event happened in November, which also marks the country's National Book Month celebration, the "Library and Information Services Month Opening Program" was held in the morning of day 1. The national consultation on PRECUP started in the afternoon in which, Ms. Fetalco welcomed the participants. It was followed by a lecture on "Republic Act No. 10066" by Fr. Harold Ll. Rentoria, OSA, commissioner, Sub-commission on Cultural Heritage, NCCA. Lecture two on "Libraries as Cultural Heritage Institutions" was delivered by Dr. Totanes. Afterward, Mr. Tarlit presented the "Guidelines Governing the National Library of the Philippines Registry of Cultural Property in Libraries." Ms. Fides M. Abad, program facilitator, joined on day 2 to assist in the workshop. "System Thinking" activities were conducted to enrich the discussions on the guidelines. The activities provided have made the participants aware of the "big picture" of what PRECUP is and its significance to the country.

During the program, a tribute was given to the late NLP Director, Atty. Antonio M. Santos, who passed away last October 22, 2015. "PRECUP in Libraries" was one of the NLP's projects under Atty. Santos administration.

Presently, the committee is finalizing the guidelines based on the discussions and recommendations of all the participants. Once finished, it will be submitted to NLP and hopefully, PRECUP will be implemented soon.

Diana V. Padilla



Seminar on... from page 3

occasions. She discussed research marketing introducing Kudos and ORCID (Open Researcher and Contributor ID) to the participants. Kudos is a toolkit to help researchers ensure their work is found, read and applied by an audience as broad as possible. It also helps researchers to explain what their work is about and why it is important and add links to other materials that set it in context. While ORCID is an open, non-profit, community-driven effort to create and maintain a registry of unique researcher identifiers and a transparent method of linking research activities and outputs to these identifiers. It is unique in its ability to reach across disciplines, research sectors and national boundaries.

The group forum was facilitated by Mr. Peter Chung who has been working at iGroup Asia-Pacific Ltd. for the last fifteen (15) years as Senior Regional manager handling the following territories: Philippines, Vietnam, Myanmar and the Medical & Corporate Division of Thailand.

The program was concluded by a closing remark from Mr. Chung, where he showed his appreciation to the speakers and to all the attendees. The forum was indeed helpful to researchers, faculty members and librarians in enriching their knowledge and innovating their research skills towards a more future research collaborations.

Mercy C. Bano

"Beyond library... from page 4

will have a chance to learn and know more about the library resources and the services that the library offers.

A workshop followed on how to conduct an Information Literacy class. Participants were divided into two groups. The first group consisted of middle school librarians, facilitated by Ms. Michelle Trifonia V. Soriano. The second group was composed of primary school librarians and facilitated by Ms. Clarissa Dianne S. Mariquina. After the seminar-workshop, a quick tour of the Rizal Library took place.

It was an informative discussion, the participants listened attentively and also actively shared their own thoughts, thus allowing them to learn from one another. There were also trivia questions and giveaways that made the activity more fun and exciting.

Lourdes Fatima C. Ramos

Benchmarking in Tokyo... from page 4

concerning postwar occupation of Japan; parliamentary documents and official publications; map collection; sound recordings; foreign books about Japan; rare books and old materials; science and technology; and Asian materials.

The group also visited Meiji University. It is a private university with campuses in Tokyo and Kawasaki, founded in 1881. It is one of the largest and most prestigious Japanese universities in Tokyo. The University has nine faculties with a total of approximately 33,000 students on three campuses in Ochanomizu in Chiyoda, Tokyo, the Izumi neighborhood of Suginamiku, Tokyo, and the Ikuta neighborhood of Tama-ku, Kawasaki. Its library is very rich in terms of its collection including the following: Koreto Ashida Map collection; African and Turkish collections; Literary collection of the Edo period; Karl Bosl, Kameji Kimura, Shikoen, Kotaro Shida, Roman Schunur collections; modern Japanese Literature; Tatsuo Hayashi, Meidai, and Quebec collections; and the David Salmon collection.

Musashino Art University Museum and Library was also part of the itinerary. Opened as an educational and research facility in 1967, this Museum & Library has become a new symbol of Musashino Art University. The Library wing was completed in 2010 as a center to facilitate new artistic creation at the University. It houses roughly 280,000 books on art and design and around 5,000 titles of scholarly journals and professional periodicals, making it one of the largest art university libraries in Japan. Aside from ubiquitous information access system and special reading room for classes and research, it also houses the Folk Art Gallery which contains artifacts of culture and lifestyles throughout Japan. It has also an area called the Image Library where cinematic films, animation, experimental footage, and footage related to modern art are stored. While the Musashino Art University Museum houses a design collection which spans works from the latter half of the 19th century to the present day and contains about 30,000 posters by designers from Japan and abroad, such as Hiromu Hara, Yusaku Kamekura, and Mitsuo Katsui.

It was indeed an endless discovery tour in Japan. Having witnessed and experienced its stunning beauty and world class library and museum facilities, the participants gained more inspiration and uncovered more ideas and possibilities to improve their respective libraries and apply what they have learned from the benchmarking activity.

Ma. Cecilia D. Lobo

Meet the... from page 5

Pakistan tradition and culture. Some words and phrases used by the author are honest and delightful. According to Ms. Shahraz, her novels are not just about religion, "all she is trying to do is introduce a Muslim woman to the world."

As one reads Ms. Shahraz biography, the commentaries and reviews about her works, one could easily identify that the highlights of her works are mostly focused on "women," particularly Muslim women – to empower them, to enhance their quality of life so that they will have equal access to opportunities that she herself presently enjoys.

Juanita D. Subaldo

EHS 'National... from page 6

Kyana Gabrielle Espineda and Vinz Adrian Chan of Grade 7 – Piety were hailed as champions.

Art exposed

The culminating activity of the celebration blasted off with captivating and engrossing activities. Held last November 25, 2015 at the Albertus Magnus auditorium, the EHSians' Book Club had its first Advocacy Shirt Design Making contest, which aside from showcasing students' artistic talents, aims to make the students get more involved and engaged in reading as each contestant tried to interpret this year's celebration theme. The best design was won by Grade 10 – Patriotism modeled by Amidala Moira Senica and Yniquez Ysmael Romeroso.

Cosplay

Characters from the F i l i p i n o epic stories were re-imagined by the E H S students through the Modernized Epic Cosplay contest which showcased their artistic abilities and skills and their knowledge of these Filipino gems. Gabriel Torrecampo of Grade 10 – Patriotism won this contest with his interpretation of "Biag ni Lam-ang." EHS students, administrators, faculty members and invited guests participated in the event. The winners for each contest and the over-all champion were awarded by Prof. Sauz.

All these activities were carried out successfully with the support of the EHS school administrators as well as the UST Miguel de Benavides Library administrators.

Rommel P. Montaño (Working Scholar, EHS Library)

Spreading God's words to the Aeta kids

ast November 15, 2015, the UST Miguel de **⊿**Benavides Library Committee on Extension Services organized an outreach activity joined in by 7 librarians and 2 support staff. The objectives of this activity were: to promote catechism and to encourage the Aeta kids to appreciate God's teachings. They should be taught lessons on Christian values and morality that would contribute to their moral and spiritual formation.

When the group arrived in the place, they did some cleaning before allowing the children to enter the library. The activity started with a p r a y e r in Kapampangan led by Ms. Annabelle Lauro, a staff from the High School Library. This was followed by a story of God's creations as narrated by Ms. Marilou Palermo, head librarian of the Religion section. The children

were taught to be thankful for the blessings they receive from Him. A visual aid was used to attract the kids's attention, for them to listen attentively to the story teller. After which, Ms. Palermo asked questions related to the story. Those who gave correct answers received a prize. The activity ended with a prayer, followed by the distribution of packed gifts. Obviously, the kids together with their parents were delighted with the things they received.

As the group leaves the place, they saw happiness on the faces of the children. Surely, the community is looking forward to another visit by our group. They know that our visit means blessings not only with material things but most especially with lessons about life that would make them a better person and a true servant of God.

Marilou G. Palermo

Feast of the Immaculate Conception celebrated in an orphanage

"Spread love everywhere you go.

Let no one ever come to you without leaving happier." Mother Teresa

ecember 08 is the Feast Day of the Immaculate Conception, a holy and solemn day celebrated by the Roman Catholics all over the world. It is also an annual special non-working holiday for the Thomasian community to commemorate t h e Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Along with this celebration, as we all reflect and devotedly observe this holy day of obligation, the University of Santo Tomas Librarians Association (USTLA) officers and members apportioned their precious time to make Mama Mary's Day memorable and beneficial as they flocked for a noble cause to the "Missionaries of Charity Home of Joy for the Sick Children" in Tayuman, Tondo Manila in order to share their time, love, and numerous blessings and be with the special kids who need care and attention. Spending their spare time with them on a non-working day is just a small amount of sacrifice that is worth giving. Seeing the children smile is all worth it! As Mother Teresa of Calcutta quoted, "The most terrible poverty is loneliness and the feeling of being unloved." Though these children may spend their lifetime in wheelchairs, restricted in moving and incapable of doing things on their own, I feel that they are so blessed because of the overflowing love that others give

to them. People keep on coming to help. Though the sisters and their staff are all busy, they are still very accommodating to those who drop by with so much compassion and charity. God really provides.

As we bade goodbye, the sisters were very thankful for our visit as well as for the stuff that we brought for the children. With joy and praises, we were so delighted to share in our own little way. Again, Mother Teresa mentioned, "It's not how much we give but how much

love we put i n giving." Before we departed, we took some souvenir pictures. Sister Benedict gave us calendars and prayer leaflets of Mother Teresa.



The librarians joyfully pose with Sr. Benedict.

It was such an extraordinary encounter that enlightened us and instilled in our hearts to care for others especially the less fortunate ones, be more appreciative of what we have in life and reminded us to be grateful for so many things.

Rosemary B. Balbin

A Merry Christmas Party @ Cottolengo

nce again – It is that time of the year to be merry and jolly; to share with our families and loved ones the spirit this season brings; to give a sprinkle of hope, a dash of joy, and a mixture of love and generosity to others! That's why last December 6, 2015, a group of UST librarians and support staff visited anew the children of Cottolengo who have already become part of the UST Miguel de Benavides Library family. With this visit, was a planned Christmas party for the kids.

UST Library staff with the kids of Cottolengo. Fun games

Cottolengo Filipino, Inc. is a nonstock, non-profit, religious, and nongovernment organization whose mission and goal is to give these special children a home to live in and a possibility to be rehabilitated.

Upon arrival, the group was welcomed cheerfully by Darwin, one of the kids in Cottolengo. The group proceeded to the activity hall where the rest of the children were waiting. Delight and excitement radiated obviously on their faces upon seeing their visitors for the day. The group started to mingle and interact with the kids, most of them were already of familiar faces.

In a short while, the program formally opened with a Christmas message delivered by Ms. Estrella Majuelo, UST chief librarian. This was followed by games and prizes, singing, and dancing. Several kids presented their singing and dancing prowess throughout the event. Surprisingly, the kids were updated with the hit songs and dance craze of today which they sang and danced perfectly well. Though less than half of the kids were unable to participate in the activities due to immobility, visibly, they too enjoyed watching the activities.

Subsequently, the library staff, together with the other volunteers, helped distribute the food and assisted in feeding the disabled children. The organizer of the activity tapped the services of Jollibee Foods who is already familiar with the kids since they have been frequenting the institution on several occasions especially during the Christmas season.

The highlight of the program was the appearance of Jollibee mascot which enlivened all the more the spirit of everyone, especially the kids. Jollibee performed several dance numbers, two of which were to the tune of the famous 'Dessert' and 'Watch Me Whip, Watch Me Nae-Nae' songs. This led to an impromptu dance showdown by Jollibee and some of the Cottolengo kids. Everyone had so much fun!

Before the activity ended, a message of gratitude was delivered by Fr. Stefan Bulais, F.D.P, president and

> director of Cottolengo Filipino. Several g r o u p pictures were taken as souvenirs of the event.

> The experience w a s yet again meaningful and significant, especially since it was in celebration and

honor of the birthday of our Lord Jesus Christ. It was only a short visit



smile, the laughter, and the overwhelming happiness shared amongst the kids and the group are surely to cherish.

The UST Library Committee on Extension Services, chaired by Ms. Narcelita Lane Olamit, spearheaded the said activity. A special thanks to Ms. Diana Padilla who coordinated with Jollibee in Montalban.

Raquel B. Lontoc

Nurturing our Faith 101

The one that I am sharing here is just the beginning of a series of articles that aims to explain our beliefs, correct misunderstandings and clarify doubts about our Christian faith. My students in UST Junior High School inspired me to research and deepen my faith about certain topics that we always have questions but does not have enough time to read and understand.

What is the Communion of Saints?

Catholics believe:

The Communion of Saints, as understood by the early Church, is the totality of the faithful, both living and dead. This includes the Church Militant (living), the Church Triumphant (those in Heaven) and the Church Suffering (Souls in Purgatory) worshipping God together. The intercessions of the Saints in Heaven are powerful because of their proximity to God.

Jews prayed for the dead (2 Mc 12:41-46). Jeremiah's s p i r i t p r a y e d to God on behalf of Israel (2 Mc 12:15).

Souls in heaven are alive (Lk 10:38), and the yare concerned with our spiritual welfare (Heb 12:1).

Saints in h e a v e n intercede with God for us (Rv 5:8) a n d He r e s p o n d s to their prayers (Rv8:5)

Though we equate the word "S a i n t s" with exceptionally h o l y people who l o v e d God, in the broader sense, all believers are "S a i n t s" or "Holy Ones."

Catholics believe we are one body in Christ, the living as well as the dead, who are alive in spirit (see Mk 5:39; 2:26-27; Lk 8:52; 20:34-38; Mt 9:24) and in the presence of God. We further believe that the Saints hear our prayers and intercede (not mediate) for us before the throne of God and that He hears them and He responds to their prayers.

Joseph Christian M. Legaspi CLE Coordinator, UST High School

Library Christmas Party 2015

ecember 19, 2015 at 1:00PM – after 275 days of productive s e r v i c e to the Thomasian community, with 12-hour, 6-day weekly schedule, the library was closed for this particular time and day to give way to the annual library Christmas party.

As one entered the library lobby, filled with chairs, aired with Christmas songs with video presentation at loud speakers, lively welcoming from hosts, Ms. Diana Padilla and Mr. Jerahmeel Padasas, one would notice the

informal ambience as also seen in the merry faces of library staff who took this opportunity to set aside work for this 3hour event and to catch up with colleaguesturned-friends.



obviously enjoying the party.

Casual employees as they perform their dance number.

Raffle prizes

The activities prepared by Ms. Padilla and the rest of the members of the Christmas party committee were fun-filled and innovatively surprising but still classic and traditional. Dance presentations from three groups: working scholars, casual employees and support staff, captured the attention of the audience. Games energized the crowd which included pick-a-cash, group spelling bee, name-that-tune and bingo. Bingo catches everyone's attention as they waited for their numbers on the card not to be called. The last but lucky woman left standing was Ms. Nora Matawaran. Raffle draws consummated the Christmas party as varied prizes of cash, grocery items and small appliances were given to more than 30 winners.

Fr. Angel Aparicio, O.P., the Prefect of Libraries, concluded the activity with a simple yet meaningful reminder – "to sensitively and proactively respond to people within our homes and communities who genuinely need our help."

Ma. Victoria C. Acuña

Hs it happened: fashion and glamour on the 1st PLHI magic ball red carpet

managed to unite for the first time for a night of camaraderie, fashionable outfits and partying at the 1st Philippine Librarians' Magic Ball which happened last December 1, 2015 held at the Ballroom Hall of Buenaventura G. Paredes, O.P. Building, University of Santo Tomas. This event was one of the highlights of the 2015 Library and Information Services (LIS) month. Coinciding with this activity is the Librarians' Day, which is usually scheduled towards the end of November every year. It was the time for librarians to gather in a fellowship and give due recognition to the outstanding individuals who have contributed greatly to Philippine Librarianship.

Hon. Corazon M. Nera, director of Sotero H. Laurel Academic Resource Center, Lyceum of the Philippines, was the featured guest speaker for the said event. Subsequently, the distinguished appreciations were given to the following: Atty. Antonio M. Santos (Posthumous Award) as the 2015 Distinguished Contribution to Philippine Librarianship; Mr. Rene B. Manlangit and Ms. Victoria R. Santos for Distinguished Service Award; Mr. Marion Jude M. Gorospe received the Cirilo B. Perez Award; Mr. Michael A. Pinto got the Severino I. Velasco Award; Ms. Elizabeth R. Peralejo accepted the Gabriel A. Bernardo Leadership Award; and Ms. Nora Fe H. Alajar and Ms. Lourdes T. David, both received the Hall of Fame Award.



Everyone enjoyed the night as they feel the glamour and elegance which was quite far from the daily work routine in their respective libraries. This event was spearheaded by Ms. Sharon Esposo-Betan, chairman of the Committee on Librarians' Magic Ball, supported by the different library science alumni associations and organizations. The University of Santo Tomas L i b r a r y Science Alumni Association (USTLSAA) was one of the appointed associations to become part of this successful event as represented

by Ms. Anna Rita L. Alomo, president of USTLSAA.

For the highlight of the event, a cotillion dance was performed by selected librarians who represent their respective associations and organizations.

The evening was filled with songs and dances, gadget giveaways and gourmet food. Mr. Kenneth Rey Parsad, afaculty member from the UST Institute of

Religion, was also invited and added excitement to all as he serenaded the librarians. Indeed, it was a promising night for all the librarians who joined this momentous event.

Kudos to all the organizers and supporters of this once-in-a-lifetime experience in librarianship!

Anna Rita L. Alomo

LIBRARY COORDINATORS CORNER

Library Coordinator is the faculty member responsible for the activities that concern the library and his/her respective College/ Faculty/Institute.

Note: Library coordinators are encouraged to submit article/s for the Library Newsletter

66 C urvivor Phil: Baysa Edition" – this will appear when you google for the name "Marieta Baysa." Several articles have been written about her achievements, like being able to emerge as top 7 in the Professional Regulation Commission (PRC) Teachers' Board Exams out of 10,310 examinees, research articles published locally and internationally and articles written regarding numerous awards she received. "Survivor Phil: Baysa Edition" is an entry from her former student who "survived" or was able to successfully pass her subject. Prof. Baysa is known to be strict and even tagged as a terror teacher by some of her students. But a dedicated professor who sets the bar high for her students is what she really is. She admits to being strict but this is because she aspires for them to learn and work hard for their grades. Her high expectations ensue from her strong belief in giving the best effort in everything she does, which translates into her personal belief "always do your best and God will do the rest."

Her family is based in the US but even if she is a green card holder, she prefers to stay in the Philippines and teach Filipino students. Currently, she teaches Biological Science and Microbiology, Nutrition and Dietetics, Food Technology and the Bachelor of Secondary Education students at the College of Education.

Being a third time library coordinator of the College of Education, Prof. Baysa strives in encouraging students to read more. She does this by recognizing the Top Book Borrowers among the students and faculty



Prof. Marieta Baysa

members of the college in a program which is called "L I b R O L E MODEL of the Month" wherein w i n n e r s are given certificates and



freebies. She also enjoys activities such as book fairs as these offer her a unique experience.

"Mayet" as she is called by her close friends, has already come to a point where she is satisfied with her life, and believes she doesn't need to have everything and is contented that she is able to live comfortably. Her Saturdays is devoted to the children in the Home of Love, an orphanage in Antipolo City which is being managed by the Missionaries of Charity established by Mother Teresa of Calcutta. She borrows books and other learning materials like CDs and instructional aids from the EHS/ Grade School Library which she uses in teaching these children. Not only does she give material things but more importantly she shares to them her knowledge and time. She clears her schedule and make sure that there is no school activity for her during Saturdays as she fully engages herself to community work, a day she deeply values. Her goal is to share her time, her life with these children, guide them and make a difference in their lives.

In a world where most people only aim to "survive" or to exist, she aims to live...

Angelica Frances C. Ciar

ERRATUM

LIBRARY COORDINATORS CORNER

September 2015; p. 11

Asst. Prof. <u>Edward</u> M. Suson should have been Asst. Prof. <u>Edwin</u> M. Suson

Fr. Angel Aparicio, O.P.

Prefect of Libraries

Ms. Estrella S. Majuelo

Chief Librarian

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