

News In-Print

UNIVERSITY OF SANTO TOMAS Miguel de Benavides Library

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History beyond pages: a documentary on the UST collections Ginalvn M. Santiago



The UST Miguel de Benavides Library, Antonio Vivencio del Rosario (AVdR) UST Heritage Library, and the Archivo de la Universidad de Santo Tomas (UST Archives) were featured in the longestrunning documentary TV program in the Philippines, 'I-Witness'. The episode was entitled "Mga Pahina ng Kasaysayan," which discussed the history and story behind the important documents and collections of the University. This was aired last September 21, 2019, Saturday at 11:00 p.m.

Fr. Aparicio being interviewed by Ms. Aguinaldo.

The team of reporters had an interview with Rev. Fr. Angel Aparicio, O.P., Prefect of Libraries, Prof. Regalado Trota Jose, UST archivist, and Ms. Ginalyn Santiago, head book restorer. Afterwards, the group was toured to the AVdR Library Conservation and Restoration Laboratory and had the chance to witness the state-of-the-art restoration process.

Ms. Sandra Aguinaldo, host of the said TV program, requested to view some important documents of the Archives like the fully written Baybayin script, the grades of Dr. Jose Rizal and the letter of Gen. Antonio Luna to his UST professor, Fr. Castro de Elera.

In addition to the Archives documents Ms. Aguinaldo had the chance to see the oldest book of the Library, the La Guerra Judaica printed in 1492 which is about the Jewish war, and the first printed



Ms. Santiago as she explains the restoration process.

edition of Rizal's "El Filibusterismo" with the hero's handwritten signature.

It is the hope of the UST administration that this documentary about the University's invaluable historical collections would enlighten the minds of the viewers on the real value of these original books and documents that speak the history of UST's 400 years of existence as well as the history of the nation.

UST Library's new faces

Lib Talks

Seminar-workshop on "Quality Management System"

Michelle M. San Gabriel



PAARL officers pose for a souvenir photo with the participants.

The Philippine Association of Academic and Research Librarians, Inc. (PAARL) held a seminar-workshop entitled "Quality Assurance and Concept: Gearing Up for Success" led by the Master of ceremonies, Ms. Michelle M. San Gabriel. PAARL board of director and head librarian of the Ecclesiastical Faculties Library of the University of Santo Tomas (UST). This was held at the Manila Prince Hotel in San Marcelino St., Ermita, Manila on August 1-2, 2019. This activity is in line with the Association's mission to provide and educate library administrators, library librarians, managers, information

professionals, and other library practitioners with relevant and timely training for international standardization and accreditation by accrediting bodies and/or by the government.

PAARL President, Mr. Fernan R. Dizon, started the seminar with an opening remarks on how helpful the event will be for library practitioners. In accordance with ISO 9001:2015 (Quality Management System), Mr. Ryan T. Liba, the Internal Quality auditor of ISO 9001:2015, managed the orientation where the participants underwent activities on handling issues and risks that can potentially affect the system of their individual organization, solutions on how to address these issues, apply evidence-based management techniques, and formulate quality objectives to each level of the Quality Management System of their respective organizations. Aside from his present position in ISO, Mr. Liba was also the former Library Coordinator and e-Learning Coordinator of UST.

The seminar-workshop formally ended with Ms. Maria Gia G. Gamolo, PAARL vice president, delivering the closing remarks. Overall, the participants had a fruitful time in the seminar with the PAARL community looking forward for more participants in the future as it carries out other projects and events.

CE-Logic's soft launching of the Philippine Electronic Theses and Dissertations (PETD) *Edward H. Puzon*

CE-Logic, Inc., in coordination with Kite E-Learning Solutions (business units of C&E Publishing, Inc.), conducted a preview release of their Philippine Electronic Theses and Dissertations (PETD) last September 12, 2019. It was held at the SMX Convention Center in Pasay City. CE-Logic, Inc. Chief Operating Officer Mr. John Emyl Eugenio shared in his opening remarks a brief history of how the PETD was conceptualized.

Gracing the event and sharing their knowledge in line with the event's theme **"Bringing Filipino Theses and Dissertations to the World"** were two well versed speakers, Dr. Rina H. Diaron, PhD, director of libraries of Saint Louis University (SLU), and Dr. Raquel Ramos, DBA, dean of the College of Business Administration, Graduate Studies at the Polytechnic University of the Philippines. Dr. Diaron, with her topic "On the Development of Institutional Repositories," imparted the basics of establishing an institutional repository, its benefits as well as the challenges it confronts based on their experience at SLU; while Dr. Ramos highlighted the criterion for a commendable research proposal in her talk "Creating Value: What It Takes to Create a Commendable Research." Ms. Janice Roman, product officer of CE-Logic, Inc., presented the interface and features of the PETD as the hosting platform.

Culmination of the event were the varied suggestions from the participants pertaining to the product. These suggestions and comments were greatly appreciated and shall be taken into consideration as remarked by Ms. Roman.

Formally concluding the affair with her closing remarks was Ms. Mary Anne Eugenio, PDMD – BASIC ED of Kite E-Learning Solutions. Ms. Raquel Lontoc, head librarian of the General Reference & Information section, and Mr. Edward Puzon, acting head librarian of the Graduate School section, represented the UST Miguel de Benavides Library in this event which was attended by a select group composed of librarians, administrators and educators.

Ramos attends seminar on research

Lourdes Fatima C. Ramos



In photos are Dr. Valladolid (left photo) and Ms. Ramos-Eclevia (right photo) as they deliver their respective lectures.

The De La Salle Philippines (DLSP) Commission, and the Philippine Association of School Librarians, Inc. (PASLI) conducted a two-day seminar-workshop with the theme **"Upskilling Librarians' Research Competency for the Fourth Industrial Revolution."** It was held on October 16-17, 2019 at the Duerr Hall, De La Salle College of Saint Benilde. Ms. Lourdes Fatima C. Ramos, head librarian of the Junior High School Library, represented the UST Library.

The said seminar aimed to:

- 1) understand the impact of the Fourth Industrial Revolution (4th IR) in research;
- 2) enhance the competencies of librarians in doing scholarly research that are responsive to the 4th IR library users;
- help improve services, resources and demonstrate library impact on student success through evidence based practice and research productivity; and
- 4) produce research outputs that can be shared in the next DLSP Libraries Research Conference.

Three topics were presented on the first day:

- 1) Developing the Research Study Topic;
- 2) Selecting the Research Method which focuses on the Quantitative Method; and
- 3) Selecting the Research Method which talks about the Qualitative Method.

Dr. Violeta Valladolid, the research coordinator of the DLSU Institutional Testing and Evaluation Office was the invited speaker to discuss the abovementioned topics. During the workshop, the participants were asked to come up with a concept paper either as a group or individually. After which, outputs were shared to the participants.

On day 2, Ms. Marian Ramos-Eclevia, assistant director for Operations of the DLSU Libraries, enlightened the participants on how to prepare a research proposal and facilitated the workshop afterwards.

In this age of the fourth industrial revolution, libraries and librarians should keep up with the changes that are happening in our society by equipping themselves with skills and knowledge through research. Thus, this seminar-workshop has provided the participants with the much-needed information on how to produce research outputs which will be beneficial in improving the current set up of libraries and its services.

5th MARINA G. DAYRIT lecture series

Michelle M. San Gabriel

The Philippine Association of Academic and Research Librarians, Inc. (PAARL) held its 5th Marina G. Dayrit lecture series with the theme **"Emerging Technologies in Libraries."** It was held last November 7, 2019 at the Jose Rizal University. The event welcomed new ideas on library information with regard to open access, open source library system, online research instruction, mobile technologies applications, and virtual information environment. The program also encompassed discourses in technological advancements in the field of creating and recreating information.

Ms. Michelle M. San Gabriel, PAARL Board of Director, was the master of ceremonies



In photo are the PAARL officers together with the 5th MGDLS participants and speakers.

while PAARL Vice President, Ms. Maria G. Gamolo, opened the event with a speech on how helpful the lectures would be for library staff and practitioners. A lecture about technology applications in libraries was executed by PAARL President, Dr. Fernan R. Dizon wherein he discussed the key developments in library technology, technologies used in the library, technology plans, assessments, considerations, and takeaways.

This was followed by the presentation of the initial findings of the PAARL-NUCEAS Project which tackled 'Research in Library Information in the Philippines' and 'Research in English Language Teaching and Learning' from 2010 to 2018. The discussion was handled by PAARL Director and Assistant Director for Operations of the Ateneo de Manila University, Ms. Engracia S. Santos along with Ms. Ria Cristina Argonza of the National University. The goal of this project is to be able to strengthen partnership between PAARL and CEAS which will help PAARL members be equipped with necessary research skills required for high quality research publishable in top caliber journals.

The last part of the lecture was the Research Colloquium where the best research papers based on PAARL's criteria were presented. Two panel of reactors gave their assessments on how to improve the contents of the papers. The first presenter was Ms. Editha A. Alamodin from the National University with her paper titled "Understanding Library Usage and Collection Usage Pattern of Students of the National University-Manila: a Machine Learning Approach." It was followed by Ms. Geraldine G. Mallo-Eustaquio of Manuel S. Enverga University Foundation- Lucena City with her paper "Design and Implementation of EMRC Web-Based Portal." The last presenter was Ms. Ma. Celine M. Larracas of Assumption College-Makati and Mr. Dizon of Asian Institute of Management (AIM) with their paper entitled "OPAC Access and Usage Data Analysis using an Open Source Web Analytics Software."

All research papers submitted were critiqued and assessed by the panel of reactors, Ms. Ma. Rita Recto-Aranda, director, Graduate Studies of the National University-College of Education, and Mr. Ian I. Llenares, research grant awardee from the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) and currently a faculty member of Psychology at the National University-Manila. Ms. Santos delivered the closing remarks, thus, formally ending the session.

2019 knowledge exchange series: reinventing library spaces for 21st century learning

Marilou G. Palermo



Photo shows (L-R), Ms. Tinipunan, Ms. Fresnido, Prof. Claravall, (1st row); Ms. Palermo, standing 7th from the left, and participants from other institutions.

The University of Santo Tomas College of Education in cooperation with the Bachelor of Information Science Program and the Graduate School Master of Library and Information Science Program conducted a one-day conference on "**Reinventing Library Spaces for 21st Century Learning.**" It was held on November 16, 2019 at the Lourdes J. Custodio ICD Room, Albertus Magnus Building, University of Santo Tomas.

The first speaker was Ms. Ana Maria B. Fresnido, cataloger from De La Salle University Library. Ms. Fresnido discussed sustainability practices of libraries in the different regions of the country and those who practice the "green continuum." According to her, De La Salle aims to go paperless, promoting E-resources to give priority to the purchase and subscription of electronic resources considering their advantages over printed materials mainly in terms of accessibility, portability and cost-effectiveness. She also discussed the following topics:

- a) sustainability programming ideas;
- b) green libraries conference, public discussion on the promotion of green libraries, green library building master plans, etc.;
- c) annual environment film festival by viewing documentary films to explore a wide range of environmental sustainability issues;
- d) book promotion with ecological topics, integrating ecological issues on storytelling, creative workshops;
- e) composting organic gardening techniques;
- f) teaching children on practical knowledge of ecological gardening; and
- g) promoting practical issues where each individual can make a difference in terms of using less paper and other ways of environmental friendly programs.

Furthermore, she presented the developing sustainable operational and maintenance programs/plans for libraries, library recycling program, waste management system, energy management and water management programs. The green library program focuses on the total life cycle of the library. She presented the Henry Sy, Sr. Hall that features an indoor garden eco-friendly learning space, double-flush toilets, roof partially covered with plants to improve the buildings insulation, solar panels located on the roof, etc. She further presented other green libraries in other countries, and the level of "greenness" of the different types of Philippine libraries.

She concluded her talk by saying that the Philippine libraries are obviously taking small but crucial steps towards greening their libraries. Her recommendations were: a) to have a greater opportunity to explore further sustainability; b) developing sustainable maintenance programs and plans to achieve specific and aggressive sustainability goals; and c) to establish sustainable services to reduce the library's footprint and provide for ecologically friendly customer solutions.

An important quote from Ms. Fresnido is "Green is a trend, sustainability is a Mindset."

The second guest speaker was Ms. Donna Lyn G. Labangon, assigned as "American Corner" Librarian at De La Salle University Library. Her topic was how to start makerspace in libraries by creating ideal and innovative media space. According to her, a makerspace is a place outside home free or inexpensive highly inclusive, intellectually stimulating and socially inviting. She also said that libraries are focused on serving the communities, designing services for impact, to embrace digital innovation and to be updated with technological advancement. She discussed the different stages in establishing a makerspace in the libraries that would guide the librarians to make the project successful.

The two panel of reactors were Symon Lagao, librarian, UST Junior High School and Juan Carlo M. Preza, UST Graduate School MALIS student. Their comments, ideas and recommendations regarding the topics were highly appreciated.

The activity was attended by undergraduate and graduate students of Library and Information Science, librarians and faculty members. It was indeed a very informative discussion where the participants learned the idea of "green libraries."

Alomo attends eBooks forum in Singapore

Anna Rita L. Alomo



In photo are the invited speakers during the 'open forum' session.



The group's souvenir photo taken at Lee Wee Nam Library, Nanyang Technological University.



(L-R) Veronica Jose, chief librarian of Mapua University, Michael Mojica, library director of the College of St. Benilde-De La Salle University, Arifah Fafa, a delegate from Indonesia, and Ms. Alomo as they pose for a souvenir photo.

Last September 11-13, 2019, a total of 200 participants from the different universities and institutions in the Southeast Asia, mostly librarians, researchers, and IT personnel, participated in the international eBooks forum entitled "Transforming Research through Analytics and Insights." It was held at the Rendezvous Hotel in Singapore. The UST Miguel de Benavides Library was represented by Anna Rita L. Alomo, acquisitions librarian.

The forum was mentally stimulating because of the new learning techniques in research analytics shared by the speakers. The interactive session gave the participants the opportunity to meet new colleagues in the profession, mingle with peers from around the region, and share best practices in the acquisition of library resources. In addition, the group had a chance to visit the Nanyang Technological University Library which is a modern, orderly, spacious Library with vast collections and with regimented staff and patrons. The Library has a provision for extra space for its future collections.

A million "terima kasih" (thank you) to the sponsoring Universities and to the UST library administrators for giving Ms. Alomo the chance to experience this learning endeavor. This activity was truly rewarding with the participants learning the latest trends and technologies in libraries.

UST Library conducts 2nd talk of the lecture series

Chiara Maye M. Navarrete

In connection with the LIS Month, the UST Library Professional Training and Development Committee organized the second 'Lecture Series' AY 2019-2020 with the theme **'Library Leadership through Competencies, Ethics, and Quality Standards'.** It was held on November 26, 2019. The talk was on 'Leadership Roles of Library Associations: PLAI's Perspective' and was held at the UST Library Conference Hall.

Ms. Emma M. Rey, the current Philippine Librarians Association, Inc. (PLAI) president, was the resource speaker. She discussed the following topics: (a) why librarians join professional organizations; (b) what members should expect from PLAI and its leadership; (c) contribution of members to professional organizations; and (d) PLAI Updates.



The participants together with Ms. Rey (1st row, 4th from left) pose for a souvenir photo.

Ms. Rey pointed out the reasons why librarians join professional organizations, such as:

- exchange professional knowledge;
- learn about new developments and methods;
- improve the welfare of members;
- participate in research, develop standards, and gather statistics;
- solve mutual problems;
- foster cooperation among librarians;
- improve the image and status of the library profession;
- extend / maintain professional contacts; and
- the feeling of being part of the profession.

According to Section 30 of Republic Act No. 9246 under the 'Integrated and Accredited National Organization of Librarians' – "All registered librarians shall be integrated under a single organization recognized and accredited by the Board and approved by the Commission. Moreover, a librarian duly registered and licensed by the Board and the Commission shall automatically become a member of the integrated and accredited professional organization and shall receive the benefits and privileges appurtenant thereto upon payment of the required fees and dues."

Expectations from PLAI and its leadership were also addressed like education and professional development, networking, leadership that provides opportunities. As an Organization, members are expected to contribute as well by giving their time and effort, showcasing their talents and skills, sharing new ideas, providing financial resources, and also through networking and linkages.

Also discussed are some updates of the Association, such as management and administration, professional activity, membership, promotion and advocacy, research and publication, and local/international relations.

Ms. Rey finished her lecture by a quote from Ms. Emerita A. Rodriguez, Davao City librarian – "The Association has been responsible for many reforms and legislations concerning library services and librarianship... the library profession today is gaining more grounds and recognition because of the faithful and unselfish service rendered by the members of the Philippine Library Association."

Bano participates as poster presenter in the PLAI 2019 National Congress Mercy C. Bano



Interconnected. It was held from November 19-22, 2019 at the Tagaytay International Convention Center, Tagaytay City. This is part of the November month-long celebration for the Library and Information Services Month pursuant to the Presidential Proclamation No. 837, s. 1991 that will make the public aware of the invaluable services provided by libraries and information centers.

The Philippine Librarians Association, Inc. (PLAI), in partnership with the National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA) through the National Committee on Libraries and Information Services (NCLIS), conducted its annual national congress with the theme: **Inclusive, Innovative, and**

The keynote speaker, Ms. Emily Drabinski is an associate professor and critical pedagogy librarian at the Graduate Center, CUNY, New York. In her speech, Ms. Drabinski mentioned that "critical librarianship is an approach to library practice that interrogates the systems and structure of the field."

The 4-day Congress highlighted the present issues and identified the roles of libraries and information centers, projects, programs and services in libraries and information centers, archives and other cultural heritage. It highlighted the librarian's and the library association's role as key player for societal improvements and change through capacity building and professional agenda.

Ms. Bano as she poses with the poster she presented at the PLAI Congress.

The plenary was devoted to the interests of Filipino librarians and participants from library societies in parallel and poster sessions.

Topics and activities in the plenary sessions were:

- "Philippine Librarians Census 2018," by Prof. Kathleen Lourdes B. Obille, dean of the School of Library and Information Studies, University of the Philippines, Diliman. The study established a baseline data of the LIS profession in the country.
- Product presentation of Mr. Calvin Chee, head of Sales, ISI Emerging Markets Group on the EMIS University and CEIC Data for Teaching & Learning and Research in the Academic.
- Mr. Mark Ritchie, director of Libraries, Press Reader, shared "Transforming the Library: Lesson from 20 years of Innovation."
- Lecture on "Freedom of Information (FOI) Libraries: Future Plans and Prospects." as tackled by Atty. Kristian Ablan, assistant secretary, Presidential Communication Operations Office. She emphasized that "FOI ensures that information requested from government agencies shall be answered within two (2) weeks only... [But, remember], the right to access information is not absolute."
- Ms. Elizabeth R. Peralejo, chair, Technical Committee for LIS from the Commission on Higher Education (CHED), talked on "What the buzz in the LIS Field: Learnings and Insights from IFLA." She echoed the important points from the recent IFLA Congress highlighting the statement, "Libraries transform the society."
- The "Culion Museum and Archives: Documenting Culion Journey From Isolation to Integration," by Dr. Arturo C. Cunanan, Jr., chief, Culion Sanitarium and General Hospital. Mr. Cunanan shared the value of the old hospital building and other heritage structures and cultural treasures in Culion. He narrated their meaningful journey in building the collections from Culion, an island and its people segregated and isolated by government policy. This Culion Museum and Archives is a witness to their significant journey from isolation to integration.

- "Putting Kazakhstan on the Library Map: Inclusive, Innovative, and Interconnected in the Land of the Great Steppe," by Joseph M. Yap, expert manager, Nazarbayev University Library. Mr. Yap discussed the Republic of Kazakhstan's rich culture and history that have been preserved in its libraries, archives, and museums. He also provided the developments and innovations of the government's goal in developing smart people to build smart libraries and smart cities.
- "The Politics of Remembering through Films," by Nick Deocampo, chair, Philippine National Committee for the Memory
 of the World (MOW). Mr. Deocampo discussed the importance of preservation of this collection and the access to
 documentary films for the growing awareness for Filipinos; protecting and promoting this recorded knowledge which
 existed for future generations.
- "G! Understanding and Responding to Gen Y & Z in our Libraries," by Vernon D. Totanes, director, Rizal Library, Ateneo de Manila University. Based on the study conducted by Kleinschmidt, (2019), Mr. Totanes revealed that 80 percent of Gen Z says finding themselves creatively is important. Over 25 percent posts original video on a weekly basis, while 65 percent enjoys creating and sharing contents on social media. He emphasized how library users make use of technology through social media in their day-to-day basis. On the other hand, librarians have to understand and know how to respond to this kind of clientele.

The Congress also featured a half-day international session with the following topics and speakers:

- "Critical Librarianship in Global Perspective," by Assoc. Prof. Drabinski. Her talk examined how critical librarianship would look different if it has taken American imperial and colonial legacies and contemporary practices.
- "Building the Trusted Digital Repository at the National Level: The Role of Library and Information Professionals," by Dr. Namtip Wipawin, associate professor, Sukhothai Thammthirat Open University (STOU) Nonthaburi, Thailand. Dr Wipawin lectured on the role of library and information professionals in preserving resources through digital repository. A concept of trusted digital repositories has been a cutting edge to commend high-level preservation services for all types of repositories.
- "Unpacking a Global Librarianship Course Experience: Designing Creativity, Interactivity and Community," by Dr. Danilo Baylen, professor, Instructional Technology and School Library Media, Department of Educational Technology and Foundations, College of Education, University of West Georgia, United States. Dr. Baylen's presentation described an academic experience for a student cohort from ASEAN countries completing a library science graduate degree in theological librarianship at the University of the Philippines. The presentation also demonstrated the strategies used to manage student's diversity in communication and literacy skills.
- "Philippine Librarianship Towards Building Inclusive, Innovative and Interconnected Communities," by Hon. Yolanda C. Granda, chair, Professional Regulatory Board for Librarians (Philippines). She discussed the policies and standards of the library profession; how library professionals can adapt to the transition of the new proposed laws and norms in uplifting the professional standards in the field of librarianship.

• "Best Practices: An Exciting Showcase of Inclusive, Innovative and Interconnected Libraries in Asia and the USA," by Buenaventura B. Basco, Library faculty in the University from Central Florida, and John Hickok, Library faculty

and International outreach librarian from the California State University, Fullerton. Both presenters showcased inspiring, real-life examples of such libraries across the world. New technology, trends and user needs are all driving libraries to adapt; they both shared a wealth of best practices that appealed to librarians from all types of libraries.

There were seven hundred fifty-eight (758) participants in the PLAI Congress including four foreign speakers and two librarians from Malaysia. Mercy Bano from the UST Health Sciences Library, felt lucky and grateful because she was a poster presenter on her study about institutional repository. Kudos to the organizers who made the event memorable to Filipino librarians, to the other participants, and to foreign delegates as well!



Participants of the PLAI National Congress 2019 pose for a souvenir photo.

Paper presentation at 2019 APCORE conferences

Mercy C. Bano

Junior Librarian Mercy C. Bano of the Miguel de Benavides Library, presented a research paper titled "The Willingness of Faculty Members and Students of the Polytechnic University of the Philippines Towards Institutional Repository (IR): Basis for Development." It was held during the 2019 Asia-Pacific Consortium of Researchers and Educators Convention and International Conference with the theme: "Innovation in the Changing Landscape of Research Environment" at Hotel Jen in Shangri-Ia, Pasay City from September 18-20, 2019.

The paper, aimed to "highlight Polytechnic University of the Philippines (PUP) faculty and students' research output. Secondly, it was intended to preserve and make the valuable intellectual assets accessible and the institutional memorial as well. Lastly, was to increase visibility in the world." It provides an opportunity for an institution to share its intellectual wealth with the worldwide community of scholars.

Using the descriptive survey method with the adaptive research survey questionnaire, study found that majority of the respondents strongly agrees on the development of IR in PUP. With this, the respondents support the IR development as it plays a vital role in removing access barriers, accelerate research, and enrich education and share learning. It also affirms that respondents are willing to deposit their intellectual outputs such as Scientific, Institutional/Managing, and Learning objects in the development of IR in PUP.

Thus, the Conference being multidisciplinary in nature, recognized 400 out of 1,000 accepted paper presenters in the event. It was a primary means to acquire new information and innovative ideas in many academic fields and disciplines addressing the different challenges through sound solutions to the various problems in the Asia-Pacific Region.



Conference paper presenters receiving their Plaque of Appreciation.



Ms. Bano as she receives her Plaque of Appreciation.

Padilla presents UST Library Lumina Pandit II - Digitization Project

Diana V. Padilla



Ms. Padilla as she delivers her lecture on the UST Library Digitization Project.

Diana V. Padilla, assistant chief librarian of the UST Miguel de Benavides Library, presented the Lumina Pandit II (Spreading the Light) – Digitization Project of the UST Library at the Conference on **Digitization and Digital Preservation Initiatives and Best Practices** organized by the University of the Philippines Library in partnership with the Embassy of Spain in the Philippines. It was held on November 14-15, 2019 at the David M. Consunji Theater, Institute of Civil Engineering, UP Diliman.

Her talk mainly focused on the background, challenges and experiences of the UST Library as it implements its

Digitization Project, in which the rare, historical, and fragile books and documents of the University which have been gathered through its long history are being digitized. It is a brilliant endeavor of UST and its benefactor, the UnionBank of the Philippines. The project aims to convert its heritage collections to digital format and make them available to a wider public through the world wide web. A digital repository is created not only for preservation but to provide its users with a trusted digital library that helps support information discovery. The UST Digital Library is accessible at *digilib.ust.edu.ph*.

The two-day conference aimed at bringing together librarians, IT personnel, researchers, and educators to discuss issues and challenges, and learn from their experiences. The participants were welcomed by Ms. Maria Pilar Cuadra Gascon, first secretary – Cultural Affairs, Embassy of Spain in the Philippines. The attendees from UST were Ms. Padilla, Mr. Lejempf de Vera Flores, head, Library Information & Communication Technology Committee; Prof. Regalado Trota Jose, UST archivist; and Ms. Jane F. Tumambing, archives staff. A total of nine lectures and a panel discussion were delivered by resource persons from notable universities and institutions in the Philippines and Spain.

Aside from Ms. Padilla, the other speakers were: Dr. Richard P. Burgos, director, Science and Technology Information Institute, Department of Science and Technology and chair, Steering Committee, Philippine eLibrary Project; Dr. Vernon R. Totanes, director,

Rizal Library, Ateneo de Manila University; Ms. Mar Pérez Morillo, director of the Processes and Digital Services Division, National Library of Spain; Ms. Concepción Vilariño Periáñez, sub-directorate general for Library Coordination, Ministry of Culture and Sports, Madrid, Spain; Mr. Felvir D. Ordinario, area manager, Family Search International; Prof. Nicolas A. Deocampo, UP Film Institute; Mr. Edgardo B. Quiros, assistant director, National Library of the Philippines; and Mr. Chito N. Angeles, university librarian, University of the Philippines Diliman. The panel discussion speakers were archivists, Prof. Jose, UST; Ms. Carina C. Samaniego, AdMU; and Ms. Cristina B. Villanueva, UP Baguio.



Ms. Padilla as she receives the Certificate of Appreciation given by *Mr.* Angeles.

UST Library celebrates LIS Month and the National Book Week

Rosemary B. Balbin

The UST Miguel de Benavides Library - Collection Development Committee, headed by Lourdes Fatima Ramos, spearheaded various activities to celebrate the Library and Information Science month and the National Book Week in November 2019.

1. **TOP BOOK BORROWERS**. The UST Library continues to strengthen its efforts to encourage its various stakeholders to access the Library resources. Hence, it recognizes the different academic units based on their library usage as well as giving recognition to faculty members and students who have borrowed the most number of books from the Library. The awarding transpired on November 19, 2019, 9:30-10:00 am, during the opening program in celebration of the 85th National Book Week.

Top Book Borrower for AY 2018-2019

- Faculty category Asst. Prof. Oscar R. Diamante, PhD (Faculty of Arts and Letters)
- Graduate School Student Fr. Yitong Guo (Student/Ecclesiastical Faculties)
- Undergraduate Student Mr. Eliseu DA. Alves (Faculty of Arts and Letters)

Top E-Resource Users per Department for AY 2018-2019

- UST Graduate School (1st)
- Faculty of Engineering (2nd)
- College of Commerce and Business Administration (3rd)



Recipients receiving their respective awards from Ms. Lobo and Ms. Padilla.

- 2. **2019** AUDIOVISUAL FAIR. This was held on November 19-20 at the Library Reading area, Ground Floor. The participating exhibitors were: 1) Info-Ed Marketing Corp., 2) Golden Books Services Inc., 3) F&J De Jesus, Inc., and 4) Gentle Star Trading Corp. The fair showcased the audiovisual materials and manipulatives which were personally selected by the faculty members and students to be added to the Library collection. Rebates for this fair have been allocated for the Library's outreach activities.
- 3. **BOOK SALE**. The Thomasian book enthusiasts always look forward to this particular Library offer. Visitors rushed to take advantage of this most-awaited tremendous price-drop of the Library's pre-loved books and get hold of as many books as they can while supply lasts. It was held at the Library Reading Area, Ground Floor on November 21-22, 2019 from 8:00-5:00 pm. This activity took place with assistance from the Committee on Extension Services.

Congratulations to all the winners!!! We hope that Library patrons continue to maximize their use of the Library resources and its services, support its activities and programs, and make the Miguel de Benavides Library as the avenue in their pursuit for knowledge, learning and at the same time, their gateway to explore new ideas.

UST Senior High School organizes activities for LIS Month

Rose Anne Camille C. Dionisio



In photo are the Library Administrators with the SHS contests winners: L-R: Ms. Chu, Mr. Valerio, Ms. Lorenzo, and Ms. Montenegro

Per Proclamation No. 837, Series of 1991, the month of November commemorates the Library and Information Science (LIS) celebration which aims to promote awareness of the different library services and its significance to the community.

To celebrate the LIS Month this 2019, the University of Santo Tomas-Senior High School (UST-SHS) Library conducted a series of activities for the SHS community for the whole month of November.

One of the activities spearheaded by the Library was the "Book Spine Poetry" contest wherein the SHS students were encouraged to compose a poem using a book spine. They were asked to arrange the book title found on the spine and pile them to create statements. The criteria used in this contest are as follows:

- Coherence of form and structure which includes continuity and harmony of words (30 points)
- Creativity (25 points)
- Originality (25 points)
- Clarity of imagery and language (20 points)

Francis Joshua Valerio of 12-STEM-8 got the top spot for this contest followed by Katherine Kim Lorenzo of 12-STEM-8 who landed second. This contest ran from October 12 – November 30, 2019.

The second activity was a library-themed creative writing called "The Books that Shaped Me." The aim of this contest was for the participants to reflect on the power of books in their lives. The criteria used in this contest are as follows:

- Organization of ideas (30 points)
- Significance and originality of thought (25 points)
- Writing flows (25 points)
- Grammar and spelling (20 points)

Winners in this category were Alias Jireh Montenegro of 12-STEM-19, who received the highest, followed by Audrey Bernice Chu of 12-HUMSS-3. Mikaela Mariz Pascual of 11-STEM-18 landed third place. Just like the first activity, the "Book Spine Poetry" contest ran from October 12-November 30, 2019.

The final activity was hosting a "book tasting" that ran from November 19-30, 2019, the goals were to expose the learners to different book genres; to help them look for books that they may have taken for granted in the past; and to get them engaged and become excited about reading. A restaurant-like table setting and books that served as "dishes" were placed on the center table of the SHS Library to entice students to have a sample of each book (or dish).



SHS students enjoying the "book tasting" activity organized by SHS Library.

It was perceived that the LIS celebration in the SHS Library has a favorable outcome since students were requesting to make the above-mentioned activities be extended.

cont'd on next page

"Book Spine Poetry" contest





Entry of K. K. Lorenzo (2nd Placer)

Entry of F. J. Valerio (1st Placer)

Entries for "The Books that Shaped Me" contest

Mikaela Mariz Pascual (3rd Placer)

How do you feel if it is the right book that opens another chapter in your life? Surely, you don't take it out on a date; but most likely, you will read it. Many look for the right one but some books just fall into your lap while walking in a bookstore. I have come across my favorite "date," **Death Notice** by *Zhou Haohui*, a fiction book. I have found "the one" while I was hurrying to go to the airport with my family to reach our flight back to the Philippines from Singapore. There was still time left so I browsed through a local bookstore stationed in the airport. In my haste, I knocked over a few crime genre books. As I picked them up, the last book caught my eyes and realized it was by a Chinese author and I felt it is unique because I have read books only by westerners. I held the book in my hands for a few minutes and thought this would be the perfect last-minute souvenir from Singapore. Without giving a second thought, I bought it since we were in a rush.

Being a fast reader, I finished it during the day and it gave me such an experience since it was my first crime book. It gave me chills like never before, and even though I felt decided, sure, and secure about some parts, it still baffled me that they were able to surprise me in ways that I did not expect. **Death Notice** made me more aware of my surroundings and it influenced me to become more speculative on a positive note. When I finished the book, the world looks more magnified down to the smallest details. Being hyperaware became a habit and it has saved me lot of times. Another one is, seeing people trying to be more intelligent but making others suffer have opened my eyes to becoming better and to use my intelligence to improve the life of people around me. This book also encouraged me to read more books by other authors like *Agatha Christie* and *Arthur Conan Doyle* since I found their crime and mystery books similar to **Death Notice**. In addition, my family has become interested in crime and mystery readings ever since I shared my experience with the book, bringing us closer for we now have a familiar subject to talk about.

Since this book has made a great impact in my life, I cherish it dearly because it has become part of my journey. And as the book has grown in age, it reflects also my growth as a person. I have read it for the second time, and although I have moved on to other books to broaden my knowledge and vocabulary, this book remains special to me because it all started from there and it branched out to something extraordinary for me and for others as well. I may not have found yet the guy I've been waiting for all these years, but I have found the perfect book just for me.

Audrey Bernice Chu (2nd Placer)

"Wow!"

I still remember the first time I went inside a library. That day, I held my breath and said just one word that took me aback, intimidated by what I was put into. Thousands of books piled coordinately, arranged neatly, and shelved alphabetically had pushed me to wonder around holding each one of them. But then I realized that every single book must be read from the beginning to the end. But I said to myself that I would never get to read all of them. So I walked out of the library, determined not to put a single book into my life.

It was Christmas Eve when my aunt took me to National Bookstore. There was a big banner that said SALE and below it was an overcrowded stock of books with overcrowded people searching and reading the back part of the book. As I was walking out of the store, thinking that I would just wait for my aunt outside, my aunt handed me a book and asked me to read it; it was **Horrid Henry** by *Francesca Simon*. I shook my head saying no but she already bought that book and said: "One day, you will thank me for buying you this book and other books that will come your way." As I started reading the book, I noticed I was already laughing, and crying, imagining Henry being horrid had somewhat made a connection within me, that sometimes feeling what he feels and I was also in his own story seeing his family, his friends, and his home. That day had made my five-year determination blown by the wind.

When I got my library card during my 6th grade, the excitement ran through me that when the bell rang, I immediately went to the library and borrowed my first book- *Geronimo Stilton*. His fear and courage through his journey made me want to read every *Geronimo Stilton* that I could possibly find in the library. I also went to buy his hardbound stories during book fairs. To my surprise, I've managed to fill in my whole library card with signatures and even got a second card.

The Junior High School Library had this unusual feeling that half of it was Chinese books and the other half was English with one of the shelves filled with Filipino books. Surely, it was designed for high school students, but that didn't stop me from borrowing books. I have managed to go to the young adults' section where it took me yet to another chapter of my life. It started with the author *Kiera Cass* with her **Selection series** - that from the beginning of America's story in which her point of view had an impact as to the change she wanted and did not want for her life; *Lauren Kate's* **Fallen series** where you have to fight for what you think is right and deserving of someone you love; and *Stephenie Meyer's* **Twilight series** that made me believe that love is the most powerful feeling that can change a person forever.

Here I am now, a senior high school student, still moved by the young adult's stories: the different journeys of the seven demigods in *Rick Riordan's* **The Heroes of Olympus** that made me be brave enough to manage, conquer, and accomplish every single challenge that come my way. Every day, I got to finish reading a book and to my surprise and to the surprise of the librarians, my teachers, and my classmates – I have already borrowed ten young adult books and managed to read them all during the semestral break.

Every time I tap my ID inside the SHS Library, it feels like I'm just at home comfortably reading a book, filling my imagination like "the sky is the limit." The first impression of a book has already subdued in me replacing it with so much memories that made me feel the different emotions in every page of a book. Every book has its own story to tell. This has been part of my story to my ongoing journey in the book of life. These books have shaped me to be the person I am now, a book loving girl with so much dreams ahead of her.

Alias Jireh C. Montenegro (1st Placer)

"Do I truly live?" That was the question I asked myself after I read *Mitch Albom's* **Tuesdays with Morrie**. I have read a lot of books and I would say "they are all great!" But, the one that has the most impact in my life is this **Tuesdays with Morrie**. It said something like "once you learn how to die, you learn how to live" which I find a bit ironic. Why do we need to feel like dying in order to truly live? Then I realized that, it is indeed true! Right now, people are just moving in a fast pace world without direction, life, or goal. We just want to survive each day and that's it! We are just like dead people moving only because everyone tells us to do so.

The only time people treasure every second and try to make moments last is when we they are in the brink of dying, they know that they only have a few times left. They would come to that point that they would realize they have not done much in this world! That is the impression that they would leave in this world when they die? So we start asking ourselves questions like "will we die as someone who tried to change the world?" or "will we be remembered as someone who just died? Will we even be remembered at all?" So then, we have to try to make every moment counts and create memories that people will remember about us when we are no longer around. However, death does not always make itself known; it can happen unexpectedly without any warning. If that happens, how can we make up for the time we spent just living without directions in life; had we created an impression? To live every day like there's no tomorrow, that's what most people will say. However, that mindset is tiresome because you'll rush yourself to do the things you want to do before tomorrow comes or before your time comes to an end. So after you accomplish one goal, the feeling of success will only last for a short time. It feels like doing things off your bucket list but not living the moment at all. I think that the real answer to the question is to live life cautiously. Do not let the system swallow your life; it is okay not to walk at the same pace as others do. Walk at your own pace but with a direction and goal; feel every moment and treasure it.

After I read **Tuesdays with Morrie**, I realized that I live such a dull life having lived without making any difference. So then, I made it my goal to always smile at people I meet in the streets even though I don't know them because I wanted to make a change maybe not in my life, but in the life of others. I thought that maybe, a simple smile from me will inspire others to keep going or to do good to other people. I do this because I want to be remembered as someone who brightens up the world with a simple smile. Nowadays, that is what is lacking in our world - our compassion for others; that is something I want to change before my time comes. I also try to build good relationships with people around me because according to the book "death ends a life, not a relationship." Which is true, because even though you're gone, the love you left with some people will stay and they will always remember you for that. To sum it up - to truly live, accept that you may die ahead of the others, then try to make a change or live differently, and most importantly, live without regrets. If the system does not work for you, then don't live for it and create your own because again, according to the book, "everyone knows that we're going to die, but no one believes it; if we do, we will definitely do things differently." So now, start thinking of the things that you'll do to make a difference in your life!

UST EHS Library celebrates the 85th National Book Week

Marjorie Irish A. Suarez



Book Fair Opening Ceremonies Ribbon Cutting (L-R) Ms. Maria Clarice H. de Guzman, EHS library coordinator; Ms. Diana V. Padilla, assistant chief librarian; Ms. Maria Cecilia D. Lobo, chief librarian and Ms. Marjorie Irish A. Suarez, EHS librarian (Photo Credit from The Rosarian Club).



The National Book Week contest winners (Photo Credit from The Rosarian Club).



Combine, Align, Define the Spine (Book Spine Poetry) participants with the EHSians' Book Lovers' Club and the Judges, Ms. Kristi Ma. Fevie V. Macasaet and Ms. Chiara Maye M. Navarrete (L-R Standing 5th and 6th respectively) (Photo Credit from Zoe Gala).

The University of Santo Tomas – Education High School (UST EHS) Library in coordination with the EHSians' Book Lovers' Club celebrated the 85th National Book Week last November 25-29, 2019 with the theme "Inclusive, Innovative, Interconnected." The following activities were prepared by the EHS Library for the event:

- Class visit to the 5-day book fair booth prepared by the National Book Store
- Awarding of EHS "Top 3 Book Borrowers" namely: (Top 1) Ricky Marcial B. Tadem / Gr. 9 – Dignity (Top 1); Kyros L. Epres / Gr. 7 – Responsibility (Top 2); and Anika Darla J. Dabalos / Gr. 7 – Responsibility (Top 3)
- <u>READesign Book Cover Contest for EHS</u>. This is a contest that created a unique and creative makeover of the front cover of a book from the Library. The winners were: 2nd Runner-Up, Jaella Allison A. Yumul (Gr. 7-Responsibility); 1st Runner-Up, Rionarhaisa P. Espinosa (Gr. 7- Responsibility); and the grand Champion, Gwyneth Cordero (Gr. 10- Respect)
- <u>EHS Reading Photo Contest</u>. A contest that unleashes the creativity of the students using photographs. The winners were: 2nd Runner-Up, Jillian Joenn D. Enriquez (Gr. 10 Patriotism); 1st Runner-up, Nash P. Camurungan (Gr. 7 Responsibility); and the Champion, Jel Sealtiel P. Mercado (Gr. 7 Responsibility)
- <u>Bring me at the Lib-RARE-ry</u> (Smallest Book Contest). A simple yet challenging contest for the EHS students. The winner was Jel Sealtiel P. Mercado (Gr. 7- Responsibility);
- <u>Lib-angan</u> (On-the-spot Library Trivia Challenge), Libra-Riddle Challenge: Rebus Edition and WOW-LIB (WOW moments in the library). These were simple activities for the students to answer during their free time.

In addition, the EHSians' Book Lovers' Club conducted various contests such as:

- 'EHSian Henyo: The Library Edition';
- 'Combine, Align, Define the Spine (Book Spine Poetry)';
- 'Amazing Race and Film Showing'; and
- 'An Inkworld: Bookwentuhan (Author Visit)' which was attended by the Rosarian Club and Book Lovers' Club.

The UST EHS Library allotted plenty of time to prepare and conceptualize all these exciting and collaborative activities for the EHS community. Its main goals were to help increase the interest of students in books and rekindle their love for reading and learning; to inspire non-readers to fall in love with the beauty of reading; and for the library staff to have a harmonious relationship with the EHS students.

UST JHS celebrates the 85th National Book Week

Symon Lagao

The UST Junior High School (JHS) Library together with the JHS Readers' Club, successfully held its 4-day Book Week celebration last November 26-29, 2019. This was in response to the nationwide Book Week celebration and the Library and Information Services month. The celebration, which aimed to promote love for reading, consisted of fun-filled activities, programs, and contests while utilizing the resources of the library.

The opening ceremony was held on November 26, 2019 and was anchored on the theme of the 85th National Book Week celebration "Inclusive. Innovative. Interconnected." It was graced by the JHS Principal, Assoc. Prof. Marishirl Tropicales, Ph.D., Mr. Anthony Castro, school secretary, and Ms. Maria Cecilia Lobo, UST chief librarian. The welcome remarks was delivered by Lourdes Fatima Ramos, head librarian of the JHS Library, followed by JHS Assistant Librarian, Symon Lagao, who enumerated the details of the various activities. The JHS Library also awarded the 'Top Class Book Borrowers' per grade level. This activity aimed to inform the students to maximize the use of the library and to promote love for reading. It was immediately followed by other activities such as: Book Fair, Book Swap Corner, and Eyes on the Prize Library Spin a Wheel.

A book discussion on Jack Cheng's 'See You in the Cosmos' was held on the second day with Elein Geronimo, a UST librarian, as facilitator. Students who have read the book were eagerly joined by the members of the Readers' Club during the discussion. The Libra-RACE, a sprint contest, was also held which tested the capacity of the students to answer questions and riddles related to books as well as to imbibe camaraderie between the teams. In addition, the JHS Library conducted the Wall Art Design contest where JHS students submitted digital and or vector art designs out of which the selected design will be used as the Library's wall art.

This was another memorable and fun celebration to remember by the whole JHS community. Through this, the JHS library fostered the love for reading, inspired creativity, and equipped students for life-long learning.



JHS and Library administrators as they grace the opening ceremony of the activity.



JHS students during the book fair activity.



Ms. Geronimo (center) together with the members of the UST JHS Reading Club.

OUTREACH

Outreach to San Martin de Porres Library in Bamban, Tarlac

Michelle M. San Gabriel

Last September 29, 2019, the Extension Services Committee headed by Michelle San Gabriel once again manifested solicitude to our poverty-stricken brothers and sisters thru a successful outreach activity in Sitio San Martin, Bamban, Tarlac.

In lieu of this month's Department of Health's activity - the Committee promoted rabies virus prevention as it is widely known as the cause of death of many children if not prevented early. The Aeta children took part during the discussion. The group also prepared fun games and activities joined in by two groups of Aeta children.

The winner of the game was the group who first completed the task of forming a picture puzzle of a dog. Additionally, they were given mandala coloring sheets to express the ideas of their creative side. After blissful hours of tasks, members of the group, hand-in-hand cleaned the Library and distributed snacks to the delight of the kids.

Film showing conducted for Aeta children

SAN FRANCISCO

Rose Anne Camille C. Dionisio

The UST Library Information Technology (IT) Committee headed by Lejempf Flores together with his members, namely, Edward Puzon, Rose Anne Camille Dionisio, Jomar Tolentino, and Joel Palangan, and with Anna Rita Alomo and Lady Catherine de Leon of the Collection Development Committee, visited Sitio San Martin in Bamban, Tarlac to conduct a film showing activity for the Aeta children. This took place last October 20, 2019.

Kristi Ma. Fevie Macasaet, one of the IT Committee members, selected the appropriate video material for the said activity. It was the short animated film entitled "Ang Tamad na Anak" which teaches the viewers to be helpful, diligent, and "do tasks with all their heart." Mr. Flores, or Kuya Jemp for the children, made some house rules for the rowdy crowd like "avoid talking with your seatmates and remain seated all throughout the show." After some introduction and guidelines, the film started to roll.

Another activity that the kids enjoyed was "counting numbers" using several dialects – Kapampangan, Tagalog, and English. Afterwards, Ms. Cathy asked them some questions prepared by Fides Arrogancia. She quizzed the audience based on what they watched. Almost everyone readily raised their hands every time a question was flashed on the screen. It was evident that the children watched the film intently since they have answered the questions correctly.

The film showing was a success seeing that the message and values the animated film wanted to convey have been acquired by the kids as manifested in their active participation during the discussion.



The Chief Librarian, Ms. Lobo (6th from left) with the Extension Services Committee together with the San Martin de Porres Library, Bamban, Tarlac caretakers: Ate Loida and Ate Marivic (4th and 5th from left).



Ms. Elein Geronimo as she facilitates the activity by showing a video to the Aeta children about the promotion of rabies virus prevention.



Aeta children as they enjoy the animated film "Ang Tamad na Anak."



Library personnel as they pose for a souvenir photo of their outreach activity last October 20, 2019.

New assignments of the UST Library's Personnel

Marjorie Irish A. Suarez

Being versatile in the different areas of librarianship is needed in the UST Miguel de Benavides Library. Since there are additional personnel in the Library, there have been several changes in the assignments of the staff. The following changes have been implemented:

•	General Reference Section has a new
	Assistant Head Librarian, Chiara Maye M.
	Navarrete and additional support staff,
	Fides C. Arrogancia.
•	Acquisitions Section's new Head is
	Anna Rita L. Alomo.
•	Social Sciences Section has a new
	Assistant Head Librarian, Lejempf V. Flores.
•	Graduate School Section's new acting
	Head Librarian is Edward H. Puzon .
•	Leonila M. Manuel is now the Head of the
	Religion Section.
•	Heritage Section's new Head Librarian is
ere ⁿ musikanakanake fisi musika ki mbul némerini kamuna	Jenneth G. Capule.
•	Humanities Section has a new acting
	Head Librarian, Maynard M. Vitug.
	Ms. Juanita D. Subaldo has been
	transferred to Health Sciences Section
	as its new Head.
•	The Education High School Library has
	Marjorie Irish A. Suarez as its acting
	Head Librarian.
•	The new Assistant Head Librarian of the
	Junior High School Library is Symon
	Lagao.
•	Music and Internet Section's Head
	Librarian is Chona M. Facundo .
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UST Library's new faces

Marjorie Irish A. Suarez

Libraries are always evolving; this evolution includes the change in the needs of library patrons, especially in this generation of technology. The UST Miguel de Benavides Library believes in the abilities of the young professionals with enough experiences to serve the young Thomasians of this new generation. Thus, the UST Library welcomes these four new members to the Library. Changes or re-assignments of personnel to the different sections were also done.



Fides C. Arrogancia finished her bachelor's degree in Communication Arts in June 2017 from the University of the Santo Tomas. She was a product of Grade School and Education High School of the same University. She has been a familiar face at the Miguel de Benavides Library because for four years, she was a San Lorenzo Ruiz Scholar assigned at the Circulation section. After she graduated, she worked as an administrative assistant at the Anargyroi: FMS Foundation, Inc., UST Faculty of Medicine & Surgery Development Office for a year and became a Social Advocacy and Resource Development Officer at the Noordhoff Craniofacial Foundation Philippines, Inc. for a year as well. During her college years, she was active in co-curricular activities that shaped her present skills and of which she applied to the Library during her stint as student assistant; some of which were becoming the creative director of the Minutes: the official newsletter of the Student Council

of Arts and Letters and at the same time a layout artist of the Bored Magazine under Designus Productions. She also had experiences as a director for a short film: "Si Ren" under Ocular Productions and as the production head for a short film "User" under Designus Productions. These work experiences have been added to her qualifications which made her an asset to the UST library. Indeed, Ms. Fides' involvement, especially as a working scholar, molded her work ethics which suits her current position as support staff at the Miguel de Benavides Library. She started her journey in the Library last June 2019 and is presently assigned at the General Reference and Information Section.



Elein H. Geronimo graduated in 2011 with a Bachelor's degree in Library and Information Science from the University of Santo Tomas (UST). She first worked as a Periodical Librarian (Reliever) in 2011 for one month at the Mapua Institute of Technology located in Intramuros, Manila. In 2012, she entered the world of college librarianship at Our Lady of Fatima University as a Serials and Special Collection Librarian / Basic Education Librarian for four years. After which, she tried the challenges of school librarianship at St. Theresa's College in Quezon City as an assistant librarian at the Grade School Department for three years. She believes that strengthening her professional background will lead her to more possibilities. Forthwith, she successfully completed her graduate studies under the program Master of Arts in Library and Information Science in December 2019 at the UST Graduate School. With all her experiences and continuing professional developments, she

has been considered as another asset to the UST Library workforce last January 2019. Currently, she is assigned at the Humanities section as an assistant head librarian.



Symon Lagao was an alumnus of UST with a degree in Bachelor of Library and Information Science in 2015. While still in college, he had lots of work experiences which made him improved his skills immensely. In 2011, he was a student assistant at the UST College of Education that lasted for 5 years. After which, due to his good performance as a student assistant, he was absorbed by the Office of the Dean, UST College of Education as office clerk for five years. In the year 2017, he became a consultant at the Edward Co Tan + Architects (ECT+A) library at Cubao, Quezon City. His hard work has paid off as he was awarded several accomplishments such as *Excellent Work Performance* given by the College of Education from 2014-2016; *Gawad Kabalikat* at the 1st Bilib sa Eduk Awards given last 2016; *Gawad Kabalikat* at the 2nd Bilib sa Eduk awards given in 2017 and *Natatanging Gawad Awardee for Passing the 2016 Librarians Licensure Exam* at the 10th Hiyas ng

UST Awards given last 2017. He also believes in strengthening his professional foundation for a chance of more opportunities in the future. As a result, he pursued his Graduate studies last 2016 at the same University under the program Master of Arts in Library and Information Science. Currently, he has finished his comprehensive examination and has earned a total of 42 units since 2016. Truly, his experiences have made a strong impact on becoming part of the UST library workforce. He is currently assigned as the assistant head librarian at the Junior High School Library.



Chiara Maye M. Navarrete took her Bachelor's degree at the University of Santo Tomas under the program Bachelor of Library and Information Science where she graduated cum laude of her batch. Before joining the UST Library, Chiara Maye had a number of work experiences in other libraries in Metro Manila which made her a real asset to the University. After graduation, she served as a public librarian for three years and later became the assistant librarian/cataloger at the Quezon City Library and Information Center. In 2015, she was the head librarian of the Asian Institute of Computer Studies in Quezon City for a year. The year after, she became a librarian at the University Library in the University of the Philippines in Quezon City which lasted for a year until her transfer to the other UP Library, the College of Arts and Letters Library as a college librarian for two years. Chiara is an achiever; she was a consistent Dean's Lister during her entire college years. In 2012,

she was an LIS (Library and Information Science) wizard representative and received two awards, namely, 'Academic Excellence in NYK-TDG', and 'Academic Excellence' award from the UST College of Education. In 2018, she finished her Graduate Studies under the program of Master of Library and Information Science at the University of the Philippines, Diliman, Quezon City. Indeed, her experiences and achievements are significant to her qualifications as the assistant head librarian at the General Reference and Information Section. She was hired at the start of the Academic Year, August 2019.

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