



# News In-Print

UNIVERSITY OF SANTO TOMAS  
Miguel de Benavides Library

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## Launching of the "ENSAYO" Book

Marivic G. Usita

The UST Miguel de Benavides Library, on September 7, 2022, took another milestone – the launching of the book entitled: *Ensayo de Una Síntesis de los Trabajos Realizados por las Corporaciones Religiosas Españolas de Filipinas* which is an Essay of a synthesis of the works accomplished by the Spanish Religious in the Philippines. The activity was held at the Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati, O.P. Building in España, Manila.

This precious book which is in two (2) Volumes and a bilingual edition (Spanish-English) was originally written by Fr. Valentin Morales Marín, O.P. (1860-1921). The new printed copy which had been recently launched, was edited by Rev. fr. Angel Aparicio, O.P., UST Prefect of Libraries. Live streaming of the event was made available via the University's official Facebook Page. Present during the momentous occasion were distinguished guests, Dominican Fathers, University administrators, Academic staff, Library staff, and students.

In his inspirational message, the UST Rector, Rev. fr. Richard G. Ang, O.P., mentioned that the UST Library is blessed to have such an impressive collection, possessing priceless materials. He said that this 2-volume work will be added to the Library's treasure trove of scholarly works which will be accessible to scholars and non-Spanish speaking audiences, and that students and academic staff are privileged to take advantage of this rare opportunity to gain insights as we succeed and establish a personal connection with the legacy of the author. In his final



message, Rev. fr. Ang mentioned that "no other than Fr. Angel Aparicio would lead us on our journey to our past as we explore our identity as Filipinos."

Part of the activity was the audio-visual presentation, which is about the story of the Philippines, legacy of our past, and the story of the Church's most successful missionary effort in Asia. As the audience watched the presentation of the works of Fr. Marin – the story of evangelization, commitment, love, and mission has been re-visited. As was highlighted in the introduction, "History is an unending dialogue between the present and the past."

UST former Archivist, Prof. Regalado Trota Jose, delivered the book review. He stated that the Book was written to counteract the negative propaganda about the friars during the transition of Spanish and American rule.

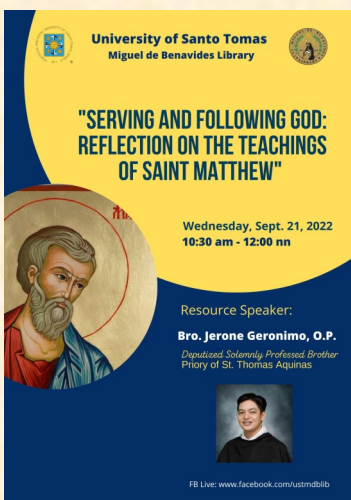
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# Lib Talks



## St. Matthew: the Saint of the Day

Demetria L. Estudillo



On September 21, 2022, the UST Miguel de Benavides Library through the Committee on Human Values, conducted a webinar forum entitled "Serving and Following God: Reflection on the teachings of Saint Matthew" which was live streamed via the Library's FB page [www.facebook.com/ustmdblib](https://www.facebook.com/ustmdblib).

The resource speaker was Bro. Jerone R. Geronimo, O.P., deputized solemnly professed brother, Priory of St. Thomas Aquinas.

The webinar forum was about St. Matthew, whose name means "Gift of the Lord." According to Bro. Jerone, St. Matthew the Apostle was a tax collector who left his work to follow Jesus. He was a Jew who also went by the name of Levi. He was from Galilee and served in Capernaum as a tax collector for Herod Antipas before becoming a disciple of Jesus. It was in the house of St. Matthew that Jesus dined with the "sinners and tax collectors." Under Jesus' influence, he was led to repentance for the evil he had done as a tax collector, a position despised by his fellow Jews. In repentance, Matthew repaid those he cheated four-fold, sold all his possessions and followed Christ to become one of the twelve Apostles. It was also discussed how St. Matthew preached among the Jews for fifteen years following the resurrection and ascension of Jesus. He is the author of the gospel that bears his name, which he wrote to convince the Jews that Jesus Christ was the Messiah promised to Israel. It was also explained that according to tradition, St. Matthew the Apostle brought the gospel to Syria, Media, Persia, and Parthia, and finished his preaching in Ethiopia where he died a martyr's death. Since his gospel was written in Greek, Matthew's readers were obviously Greek-speaking. Matthew's purpose to his Jewish readers is to make known that Jesus is their Messiah. He does this primarily by showing how Jesus in his life and ministry fulfilled the Scriptures.

It was indeed a very enlightening webinar forum. The participants were all amazed by Matthew's journey from being a tax collector to becoming one of Jesus' twelve disciples known as St. Matthew who unconditionally responded to the call of Jesus.

## Leading and living beyond the Library: Google certified educator

Lady Catherine R. de Leon

Librarians have always been at the forefront of information technology, from computers to laptops and other gadgets, and now we have an obligation to continue by being aware and learning new technology tools to enhance the learning opportunities of our patrons. A Google Certified Educator is someone who has a level of mastery with Google Edtech tools for the purpose of teaching and learning. Librarians are educators, too. In the Miguel de Benavides Library, we have our e-Learning Specialist and currently the ICT Committee Head, Mr. Lejemp V. Flores as a Google Certified Educator.



Mr. Lejemp V. Flores

Mr. Flores took the online examination last October 25, 2022, and successfully passed on October 27, 2022, thus, proudly earning his Level 1 Google Certified Educator status. This initiative was thru the efforts of the UST Educational Technology Center. Level 1 includes products namely Gmail, Google Calendar, Google Drive, Docs, Sheets, Slides, Forms, Drawing, Google Classroom, Hangouts, Sites, Groups, and Chrome.

According to Mr. Flores, there are several advantages to becoming a Google Certified Educator. Librarians can now elevate Edtech integration especially in conducting online user education services by maximizing the potential of different Google platforms. Being a Google Certified Educator also advances librarian's knowledge which is focused on digital fluency, literacy, and citizenship that can then be transmitted to their patrons. It also builds his credibility as an Edtech Expert or as an e-Learning Specialist. His Motto: "Leading by Learning", entails that becoming a Certified Google Educator proves your skills, and builds expertise and credibility as a leader and as a librarian/educator. The Certified Google Educator badge that one will earn is globally recognized and can be a highlight achievement on resumes, portfolios, or websites.

The process of earning certification is very simple. First, create an account on Google for Education site; second, select the exam button; and third, pay for the examination fee. Upon complying, the examination credentials will be sent to your Gmail account. Takers are given 180 minutes or 3 hours to complete the course. Different Google applications will be used in answering the questions which are both content and hands-on type.

The exam cost is Php500 which is valid for 3 years. Certified individuals will be able to recertify by retaking the examination. In the case of the Miguel de Benavides Library, the Library will shoulder the payment for the initial examination of all its librarians. But for retakers, the examination fee will be shouldered by the librarian.

The next batch of examinees is the ICT committee members. Good Luck! As long as we are all willing to devote our time and effort to something, we will surely become an expert in anything we do. May the force be with you!



## PAARL 4th Marina G. Dayrit Lecture Series

*Kaori B. Fuchigami*

On October 7, 2022, the Philippine Association of Academic and Research Librarians Inc. (PAARL) 4th Marina G. Dayrit Lecture Series with the theme: “The Next New Normal for Marketing: building a successful marketing brand in the digital library environment” was conducted via Zoom. The resource speaker, Mr. Ivan Ray T. Verzonilla, is the Project Officer of the Philippine Retailers Association (PRA) and is currently a faculty member at the Far Eastern University Manila.

It was discussed in this webinar that the digital world no longer represents merely one component of a larger marketing strategy. It is now foundational. It is a question of how this digital avenue will be used. We are seeing changes in the digital sphere daily — from the changing screen sizes to the changing software updates and user interfaces and even the changing complexity of customer data available to marketers. New trends becoming the norm in digital marketing include: using individualized insights, experimenting with toxicity testing, augmented reality, and geolocation. Focusing on the Three C’s - create, curate, cultivate - and working with the digital marketing team to execute these should be the priority. The more real-time interaction customers expect, the quicker they are going to expect prompt responses from the brands they interact with.

Digital marketers experiencing a shift - it’s not enough to respond in real-time. They now provide content via social media (and other channels) in response to customers' needs. The Three C’s must be applied quickly. Moving forward, it is clear that the advances in digital marketing enable tremendous opportunities for individualized, real-time communication. Marketing is shifting to entertaining, informing, and helping the customer through any and all digital means.

Digital marketing of library, information, and knowledge products and services is a comprehensive term that describes all the processes and interactions that result in the promotion and sales of different information products and services for the library and information firm using digital technologies. Marketing of library services involves activities such as identifying users’ needs, designing suitable services or products to meet their needs, communication, and distribution to inform, motivate, and serve the users.

As librarians, we know that libraries are much more than traditional print books and shushing librarians; we just need to change that stereotype. Library marketing reminds users that their library is still a great choice for meeting their information needs in today’s world.

## Association of Special Libraries of the Philippines (ASLP) National Congress 2022

*Chona M. Facundo*

Special Libraries of the Philippines (ASLP) conducted its first face-to-face National Congress in 2022. This was held on October 26-28, 2022 at the National Library of the Philippines, Kalaw Ave, Ermita, Manila with the theme “Synergizing Rich Traditions, Leading-Edge Innovation: Librarians in the Forefront of Transformational Change in Infrastructure, Collection and Services”. The main objective of the congress is to prepare the librarians and information professionals for imminent transformational changes catalyzed by the Fifth Industrial Revolution, 21st century challenges, and the dominance of the Millennial generation.

The seminar-workshop aimed to:

- to talk over the rich traditions of libraries vis-a-vis the continuous development of technologies in library setting;
- to discuss the competencies and skills needed in response to disruptive innovation particularly in the areas of collection development, service provision, and infrastructures of libraries;



- to suggest novel and forward-looking concepts that ensure continued relevance and reinvention of libraries and information centers;
- to apprise the librarians and information professionals of the posed challenges in the future;

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# The future of libraries after pandemic

Raquel B. Lontoc



(L-R) Javier Galvan and Carlos Valmaseda, Ms. Raquel Lontoc, Ms. Dolly Carungi, Ms. Carme Fennoll Clarabuch, Mr. Xavier Leroux of Alliance Française de Manille, and Mr. John Silva (photo courtesy of ANCX)

The COVID-19 pandemic has ushered in a new era of challenges and opportunities for various sectors, and libraries in the Philippines are no exception. As repositories of knowledge, cultural hubs, and community spaces, libraries have faced unprecedented disruptions during the pandemic. However, this crisis has also prompted a reevaluation of their role and a push for innovation to meet the community's evolving needs.

Instituto Cervantes de Manila held a seminar titled, "The Future of Libraries" last November 19, 2022, in its center in Intramuros. The event was composed of a lecture and a round table discussion. The speaker for the seminar was Ms. Carme Fenoll, Director of the Culture and Community Area of the Library of the Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya. The round table discussion was attended by representatives working in the management of public and private libraries in the country: Ms. Dolly Carungi of the National Library of the Philippines, Ms. Raquel Lontoc from the UST Miguel de Benavides Library, Mr. John Silva of Ortigas Foundation Library, and Mr. Xavier Leroux of Alliance Française de Manille. The panel discussion was moderated by Mr. Javier Galvan and Mr. Carlos Valmaseda, director and chief librarian of Instituto Cervantes de Manila. The event was organized with the objectives of discussing the importance of libraries, their future given the new changes in our society, and how they can cope with these challenges.

Each panelist shared their experiences and challenges when their libraries were forced to close their doors, fundamentally altering how they operated and interacted with their patrons.

The sudden closure of libraries led to an abrupt shift to remote work for librarians. Many had to quickly adapt to digital tools for communication, cataloging, and managing resources. Virtual meetings became the norm, allowing librarians to stay connected with colleagues, plan strategies, and continue providing essential services to the community. With physical spaces closed, librarians had to find innovative ways to engage with their users.

Ms. Carungi shared her observation on the changing roles of libraries, especially during the pandemic, from a physical resource center to an information structure that offers materials that can be accessible on-site and online. "The library is no longer confined within the context of a building." She mentioned about the National Library's Book Cart Project which reaches out to young children who do not have the means and access to reading materials. According to her, libraries have also served as a valuable spaces for the public during the pandemic as they have been used to deliver social services (e.g., Covid vaccination centers and isolation rooms)."

Mr. Silva said that the Ortigas Foundation Library also provided most of its services online during the pandemic. He had observed that their website hits increased from 2,000 before COVID-19 to about 90,000. They have also been working on the digitization of rare books and materials.

Meanwhile, Ms. Lontoc said that the UST Library didn't stop providing its services to its library patrons during the pandemic. It continuously finds ways to reach out to its stakeholders. However, these services came with significant challenges, given the strict implementation of government restrictions since the students were not allowed inside the university premises. Also, librarians must learn to navigate new technologies to serve them.

Ms. Clarabuch, on the other hand, shared 40 ideas that libraries could adopt to provide more innovative services and become more relevant in readers' lives.

The future of libraries in the Philippines post-pandemic is moving through a transformative journey. As society and institutions continue to evolve, so will libraries, adapting to the changing needs of their communities and remaining resilient in the face of challenges. The post-pandemic era presents an opportunity for libraries to redefine their role and make an even more significant impact on the intellectual and cultural landscape of the Philippines.



## Alomo and Lobo attends PLAI Congress 2022

Anna Rita L. Alomo

The Philippine Librarians Association, Inc. (PLAI), in partnership with the National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA) through the National Committee on Library and Information Services (NCLIS) and the National Library of the Philippines (NLP), conducted the Annual National Congress last November 22-25, 2022 at the Iloilo Convention Center, Iloilo City, Philippines with the theme: Working Together: Sustainability, Opportunity, Adaptability, Resiliency (SOAR).



Ms. Lobo (R) as one of the PLAI-NCRLC bearers of the opening procession of the



(L-R) Ms. Alomo and Ms. Lobo

Information Services. Hon. Jerry P. Treñas, City Mayor of Iloilo, gladly welcomed all the guest with the theme: Working together, a message of solidarity and inspiration. Hon. Sara Z. Duterte, Vice President of the Republic of the Philippines, was the keynote speaker for this year's Congress.

Day 3 - Participants attended various plenary and parallel sessions

Day 1 - The event was started out with the opening of the Book Fair for the 88<sup>th</sup> National Book Week wherein selected Ilonggo students participated in the parade wearing amazing book character costumes. What comes after was more exciting when Ms. Melanie A. Ramirez, or fondly called as "Ate Melay," shared her talent in interactive storytelling. Ms. Ramirez is currently the Supervising Administrative Officer of the National Museum of the Philippines. It was later followed by a seminar entitled #Digitalino: E m p o w e r i n g Individuals to F i g h t Misinformation and Disinformation with Mr. Kevin Conrad T. Tansiongco as the guest speaker.

Day 2 - Mr. Rene B. Manlangit, RL, President of PLAI, spearheaded the opening ceremony. The inspirational messages were delivered by Mr. Ceasar Gilbert Q. Adriano, Director, National Library of the Philippines (NLP), and Hon. Salvacion M. Arlante, RL, Head of the NCCA- National Committee on Libraries and

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## MIBF 2022

Lourdes Fatima C. Ramos

After two years of purchasing books online, the Manila International Book Fair (MIBF) once again opened its doors to the public for an onsite selection of materials. Last September 15-18, 2022, the largest and longest-running book fair in the Philippines welcomed its customers at the SMX Convention Center in Pasay City.

Numerous exhibitors participated in the event to promote and sell their products. They vary from suppliers of books, non-print materials, arts and crafts, and even office supplies. Teachers, librarians, students, and several bookworms were present to select and purchase books. The book fair conducted special events such as seminars, poetry reading, storytelling, book launching, book signing, etc., to educate and at the same time, let the participants enjoy themselves. Several UST academic staff from different colleges/faculty/institutes took the time to attend this event to select books to be added to the Library collection. UST Librarians also participated in the event on Saturday/Sunday.

Bringing back the MIBF onsite had indeed made more opportunities to connect with books, book lovers, and the like.



SHS Academic Staff at the MIBF

## 32nd LIS Month at USTMdBLib

Raquel B. Lontoc

In line with Library and Information Services (LIS) Month celebrated yearly during November, the UST Library, mainly the General Reference & Information Section, organized various activities which aim to raise awareness on the observance of LIS Month while promoting the resources and services of the Library and to encourage the Thomasian community to maximize the use of its resources. The activities prepared were:

### Online Quiz

Online quizzes were conducted in coordination with the Library's partner providers, such as ScienceDirect, Taylor and Francis, and Wiley Online Library. The quizzes used game-based learning strategies to challenge the academic staff and students while familiarizing them with various library databases since they needed to do deep searching using the databases to find the correct answers. The quizzes ran from November 1-30, 2022. The hosting publisher provided corresponding prizes. Winners were announced on the library social media pages.

### Libra-reels

A contest was opened to all bonafide Thomasians to create a short reel promoting the Library. The content may include any of the following but is not limited to positive or funny experiences/memories in the UST Library, print collection or subscribed electronic resources, services available, etc. Five winners were selected and given cash prizes. The Library reel outputs were posted on the library social media pages.

### Virtual Office Q&A Challenge

Thomasian undergraduate students took the challenge of visiting the Library Virtual Office for a quick question-and-answer activity. Questions asked by the librarian were related to the Library resources and services. Those who answered at least two of three questions correctly won a Grammarly premium account.

### Library Fast Facts

A series of facts in the form of questions about the Library, its resources, and services were posted three times a week on the library Facebook page for November. Each entry was presented

with three choices, and students engaged by selecting the emoji corresponding to the answer which they thought was correct. This activity aimed to test how well the Thomasians knew the Library. Additionally, to promote the Library's distinctive attributes, which are not commonly known to many or which they can use to utilize the Library's resources.

### Library and Information Science (LIS) Pioneers

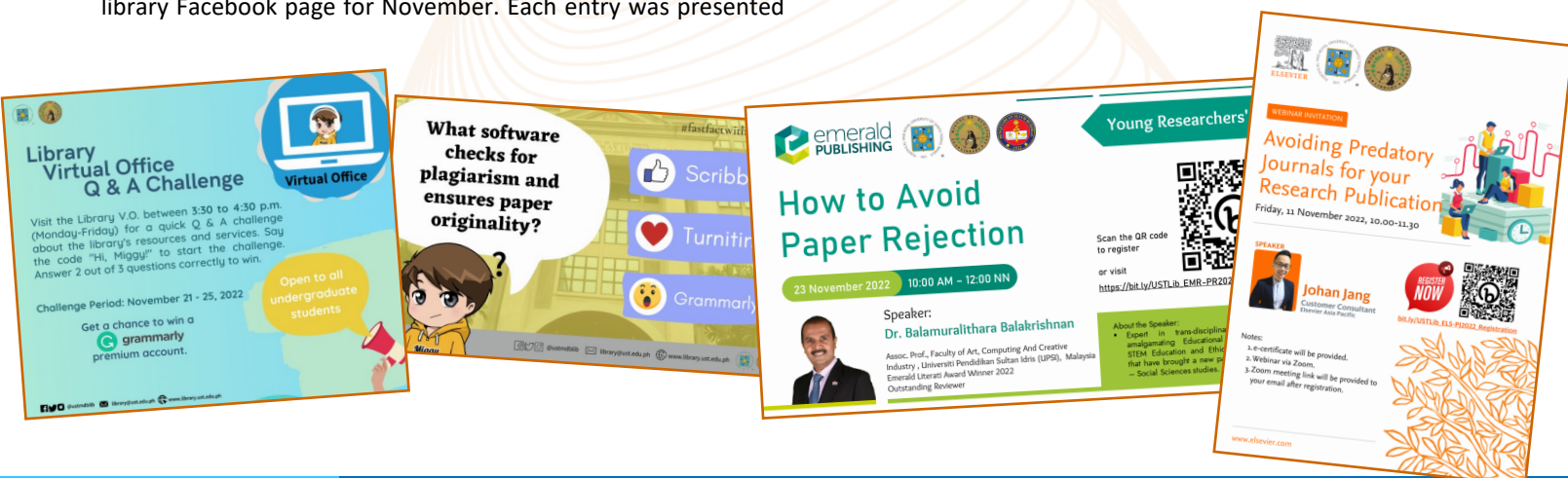
Notable LIS pioneers who helped develop library science throughout the world were featured once a week on the library social media pages.

### Free Grammarly Premium

Grammarly Premium accounts which were generally offered only to the administrators, academic staff, graduate and graduating students, were offered to undergraduates. Accounts were given away to the first 400 hundred undergraduate student registrants. The account validity is until the end of the first term.

Moreover, the Library, through its Linkages and Research Committee, organized research webinars with the objectives of promoting the scholarly resources of the UST Library; providing the academic staff and student researchers with the knowledge and information about predatory publications and how to identify them; and offering tips and ways on how to avoid manuscript rejections.

The first webinar, in partnership with Elsevier entitled, Avoiding Predatory Journals for your Research Publication, was held last November 11, 2022 (Friday). It was conducted by Mr. Johan Jang, Customer Consultant of Elsevier Southeast Asia. This was followed by the webinar in cooperation with Emerald Publishing entitled How to Avoid Paper Rejections. This was held last November 23, 2022 (Wednesday) and was conducted by Dr. Balamuralithara Balakrishnan, Faculty of Art, Computing, and Creative Industry, Universiti Pendidikan Sultan Idris (UPSI). Both webinars were facilitated via the zoom platform and were attended by the Thomasian academic staff and students.





## LIS Month Library Learning Sessions – 1 & 2

Chiara Maye M. Navarrete

As part of the Library and Information Services (LIS) Month library activities, the Professional Training and Development Committee, in coordination with the UST Library, organized two learning sessions for the Thomasian community on November 16 and 29, 2022. The learning session no. 1 was entitled "Search Tips and Techniques for Research in Library Databases" and was presented by Ms. Mercy C. Bano. The learning session no. 2 was entitled "Evaluating Credible Resources for Your Research" and was presented by Ms. Kaori B. Fuchigami. Both learning sessions had an open forum. Some librarians, teachers, and students were able to ask questions that were relevant to the topics.

The first learning session was about tips and techniques that can be used in searching the library databases. Ms. Bano discussed that databases are developed, structured, and maintained to meet specific information needs. She also presented the number of e-resources that the library is currently subscribed to. Moreover, basic tools such as Boolean operators, control vocabulary, thesaurus, field searching, proximity searching, truncation and wildcards, limiters, and pearl growing were discussed effectively. All of the tips and techniques presented were useful in academic research. Thus, the contents of the learning session can help the students become effective researchers.

A research guide for assessing information sources was the topic of the second educational session. Ms. Fuchigami spoke about a variety of subjects, including how to analyze websites, social media, digital sources, and information sources. Ms. Fuchigami started off by discussing the distinctions between scholarly and popular sources, as well as between primary and secondary sources.

Also covered under the heading of "digital sources" were subjects like Wikipedia, clickbait, blogs, podcasts, online news articles, and online databases. Also briefly covered were social networking sites including Facebook, YouTube, Twitter, LinkedIn, Tumblr, and Instagram. In conclusion, the dependability and credibility of any source—print, human, or electronic—used to support your study topic must be determined. Additionally, Ms. Fuchigami stated that trustworthy information must originate from trustworthy sources. The lecturers were wise and illuminating. Both educational events were topical and pertinent for scholarly investigation.

## UST JHS Library during LIS month

Chiara Maye M. Navarrete

The UST Junior High School Library celebrated "Library and Information Services Month" (LIS Month) on November 15-30, 2022. The JHS librarians prepared a lot of engaging and exciting activities and games, such as a virtual Library tour contest, mandala art coloring activity, cut-a-string game, and pick a question and win a prize game.

The Virtual Library tour contest was opened to students in grades 9 and 10. Each group was composed of 2 to 3 members who made a short video presentation that highlighted the Library's services, collection, and facilities. As a rule, the video must have labels and must have music with no copyright issues. The chosen video was used for the marketing and promotional purposes of the Library. They also had the mandala art coloring activity which was open to all grade levels. This art activity was done during the students' leisure time. By having fun while learning, the JHS Library also helped the students retain information better because the process is enjoyable and memorable. The JHS Library also had a simple yet exciting game known as the cut-a-string game. This activity was joined by both students and teachers, and they just needed to return or borrow a book, and they could already cut a string from which they could win either a chocolate bar, chips, or UST merchandise. And lastly, a pick a question and win a prize game was also organized. The students just needed to pick a question, answer it, and win a prize. The questions prepared were about the Library's services, collection, and facilities.

It was indeed an overwhelming experience. Everyone who participated were all pleased and had fun with the educational games and activities.



JHS students participate in the LIS Month activities of the Library.

# UST Senior High School Library joins the 32nd Library and Information Science Month and 88th National Book Week Celebration

Rose Anne Camille C. Dionisio

During November, the UST Miguel de Benavides Library commemorates the Library and Information Science Month (LIS) and National Book Week (NBW) celebrations. For this year's observance, the UST Senior High School (SHS) Library organized several engagements for the SHS community to enjoy.

One of this year's activities included the Library Story Pyramid contest wherein students presented the book's main ideas using a limited number of words per line. The arrangement of the words forms a pyramid shape since the composition starts with one word at the top and adds a word into each line underneath it. Below are the top 3 builders of the Library Story Pyramid:



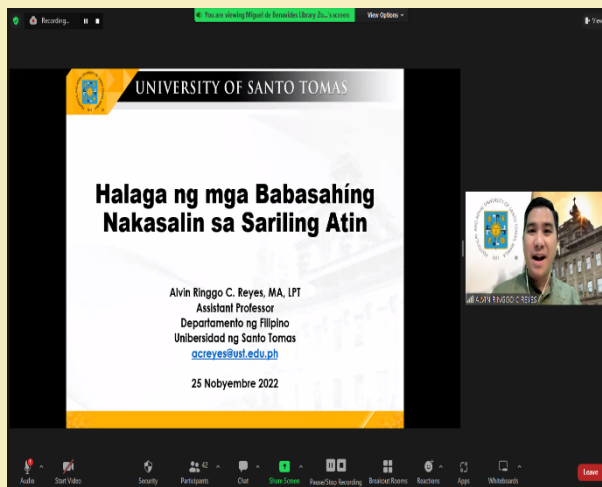
Next was Eyes on the Prize: Library Spin Wheel. Participants need to correctly answer the questions from the "vault" to have a chance to "spin the wheel" wherein each panel contains various surprises. Vault questions were from books, authors, reading, technology, and the library. This activity ran from November 24-29, 2022 at the SHS Library Reference Counter.



Some SHS students enjoying the 5-day Library Spin Wheel game

For the last activity, the SHS Library, together with the Education High School and Junior High School Libraries, conducted a webinar entitled "*Kathang Duyaw 2022: Webinar on Reading, Writing, and Storytelling*" with guest speaker, Asst. Prof. Alvin Ringgo C. Reyes, LPT, MA, College Secretary of the UST College of Education. It was held last November 25, 2022 via Zoom and open to the UST High School community. This year, the topic was "*Halaga ng mga Babasahin na Nakasalin sa Sariling Atin*," which was anchored on the theme "*Basa. Bayan. Bukas.*" of the National Book Week Celebration.

It was apparent that the 32nd LIS Month and 88th NBW celebrations in the SHS Library received an affirmative response from the target participants since they were asking to make the engaging and interactive activities available every day.



Asst. Prof. Reyes as he delivers his talk



## Kathang Duyaw 2022

Elein H. Geronimo

In celebration of the 88th National Book Week and the 2nd Library and Information Services Month, the University of Santo Tomas Education High School (UST EHS), Junior High School (UST JHS), and the Senior High School (UST SHS) Libraries conducted a webinar for the UST High School students entitled *Kathang Duyaw 2022 “Halaga ng mga Babasahin na Nakasalin sa Sariling Atin.”* This was held on November 25, 2022, the aim of which was “to promote love for reading and to appreciate the various resources of the Library.”

The guest speaker was Asst. Prof. Alvin Ringgo C. Reyes, LPT, MA, academic staff at the UST College of Education. It started at 9:00 am and lasted up to 11:00 am.

Asst. Prof. Reyes mentioned the importance of reading translated into our own language. Added to that, he also stated to the participants the importance of translated works.

1. Knowledge will be strengthened.

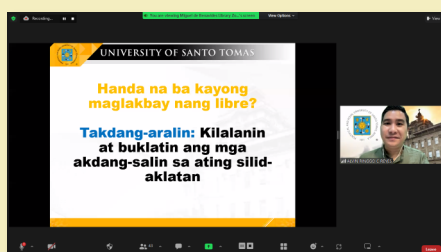
*More exposed to ways of expressing a thought in one language into another language.*

2. Vocabulary will be prolonged. That every word has meaning that we can learned.

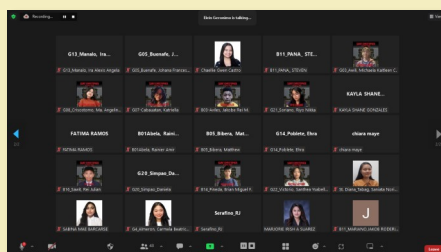
*It expands linguistic knowledge.*

3. Intercultural appreciation.

*We understand the lifestyle, history, issues and problems, and other contexts of the people of origin.*



In translating words in our own language, it has parts. We must first know the source text followed by target text, target language, source culture, target culture, author and target audience.



After the talk, representatives from the High School Reading/Book Clubs gave

their thoughts and comments about the webinar. Mr. Isaiah Mateo Desacola from Junior High School Readers Club, followed by Ms. Divine De Los Reyes from SHS Alinaga Reading Club.

It was another successful webinar hosted by the three UST High School Libraries for this year's 'National Book Week' celebration.

## Holistic health and wellness amidst a global health crisis

Marissa A. Chua

"Just because no one else can heal or do your inner work for you doesn't mean you can, should, or need to do it alone." This statement from writer and therapist Lisa Olivera holds water because mental health is becoming of paramount importance to every individual regardless of their demographic characteristics; the road to healing and recovery can indeed become a communal rather than an individual matter.

Given the rapidly evolving landscape for librarians in the Information Age, the Library has become the new mental health hub – a place of respite at every educational institution's heart. Librarians are no longer limited to being information providers and educators as they are propelled to pivot quickly by having the appropriate skill set, acquiring the needed resources, and launching impactful initiatives to ensure the overall well-being of their patrons. They work hand-in-hand and communicate with every level of the organization to be catalysts for positive mental health.

In the Philippines, the third most common comorbidity is related to mental health, with an estimated minimum of 3.6 million Filipinos experiencing mental health issues due to the pandemic, as reported by the National Statistics Office (NSO) and Department of Health (DOH), respectively. With these numbers, we can recognize how libraries have a significant influence in promoting a safe space for everybody in countless ways.

First and foremost, in an educational setting, the Library is a place that welcomes students and personnel and caters to their Information needs – for research, leisure reading, and whatnot. With its warm and welcoming atmosphere, they are provided with a comfortable place that they can use to achieve their personal and academic goals. Through areas that foster group learning, such as conference halls and discussion rooms, patrons are allowed to maximize collaborative and innovative facilities to connect and socialize with peers and feel a sense of acceptance and belongingness. Additionally, having extensive quality resources also play a huge factor. Through these, they can find comfort in knowing they have access to scholarly pieces of information on a wide range of topics in

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## Book launching of “Sapantahang Wika” by national artist Virgilio Almario

Lady Catherine R. de Leon

Last October 5, 2022, at 3:00 pm, the UST Publishing House, in partnership with the UST Museum, launched *Sapantahang Wika* by none other than our very own National Artist for Literature, Mr. Virgilio S. Almario which was held at the UST Main Building lobby.



Also known as Rio Alma, he delivered his message in Filipino language and according to him, “poets must see the potential of our national language” by saying, *“Kailangan ng makata na maging ganap na mag-agap, ang taal na kakayahan at kapasidad, at ang maibibiya-yang kabuluhan o potensyal ng wika.”*

Rio Alma bagged the prestigious Carlos Palanca Memorial Awards numerous times in his writing career. He was also proclaimed as the National Artist for Literature for the “strength of his work—in poetry, criticism, translation, and children’s books—and the impact of this work on contemporary Filipino literature and the Philippine literary scene, through the various roles he has been fulfilling with vigor”. He also served as the Chairman of “Komisyon ng Wikang Filipino” from 2017 to 2020.

There were faculty members of the Philosophy department who honored Rio Alma’s talent in writing, as well as his current book. UST Department of Philosophy Chair Asst. Prof. Marella Ada M. Bolaños, Ph.D. emphasized the purpose of the Filipino language as a strong weapon in the delivery of instruction and in education which attempts to smother the history and the native language of the indigenous people.

Assoc. Prof. Jovito V. Cariño, Ph.D., former UST Department of Philosophy Chair, reminded us that even philosophers expressed their works through their own languages, like Aristotle and St. Thomas Aquinas. So, it is important for Filipino poets and writers to use their own language in writing. According to Prof. Cariño, the emergence of new breed of writers who have written works in different languages signals a new chapter for language. He also mentioned that language and its effectiveness rely on people using it – how, when, and where they use it.

Prof. Marvin Einstein S. Mejaro, M.A., faculty member of the UST Department of Philosophy and Chair of the Humanities and Social Sciences Strand of the UST Senior High School, stated the importance of honoring Rio Alma’s past works to reclaim the Filipino language’s rightful place.

Lastly, Assoc. Prof. Louie Jon A. Sanchez of the University of the Philippines – Department of Broadcast and Communication showed his appreciation to Rio Alma who continued to be productive by publishing multiple books despite the pandemic. Rio Alma never gets tired of writing, for he believes that he writes anything from his heart not just from his mind.

The event was graced by students, faculty members, philosophers, and prolific poets and writers. To name some were Dr. John Jack G. Wigley, Dr. Cristina Pantoja-Hidalgo, and the 2022 National Artist for Film and Broadcast Arts, Mr. Ricky A. Lee. There were other writers and philosophers too who attended the event.

Ms. Maria Cecilia D. Lobo, Chief Librarian, and yours truly, Head Librarian, Filipiniana section, also attended the occasion and felt honored to have a copy of the book with an autograph specially signed by a National Artist for the UST Library to keep.

The book cover’s artwork is from the painting of National Artist Carlos “Botong” Francisco – which is one of the UST Museum’s treasured collections.

## Italian researcher donates self-published books

Ginalyn M. Santiago

Last September 19, 2022, Commander Giulio Cargnello, an Italian researcher of Antonio Vivencio del Rosario Heritage Library, visited the University of Santo Tomas (UST) Miguel de Benavides Library. He donated his recently published book *“La Diplomazia della Santa Sede e i governi nelle Fillipine e a Guam”* together with his other book titled *“La Spagna e L’Unione Sovietica: le diplomazie e la politica estera.”*

Published in Italy, the first book is about the diplomatic relations between/ among



the United States, Spain, and the Holy See during the period of the Spanish-American War in the Philippines and Guam; while the second one is about the diplomacy and foreign policy of Spain and the Soviet Union from the second republic to the dictatorship of Francisco Franco (1931-1975).



Fr. Angel Aparicio, OP, Prefect of Libraries with Mr. Cargnello, Ms. Maria Cecilia D. Lobo and Ms. Ginalyn Santiago

The researcher, who spent more than two years in Manila, is a Naval officer who has been in charge of the historical office of the Italian Coast Guard for twenty years. He obtained a Ph.D. in history and three Master’s degree in history, geography, and Church history. The said book has been introduced by H.E. Andreas Ferrarese, former first counselor at the Italian Embassy in Manila, now Ambassador in Pakistan.



## Catechetical books donation from Prof. C. Batan

Rosemary B. Balbin

The UST Miguel de Benavides Library was fortunate to receive eight (8) sets of catechetical books printed by the Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines (CBCP) - Episcopal Commission on Catechesis and Catholic Education (ECCCE), and the University of Saint Tomas Research Center for Social Sciences and Education (UST-RCSSE). The generous donation was personally handed over by Assoc. Prof. Clarence M. Batan, Ph.D. on October 25, 2022. This was warmly welcomed by Ms. Maria Cecilia D. Lobo, chief librarian, Ms. Michelle M. San Gabriel, head librarian, Ecclesiastical Faculties Library, and Ms. Rosemary B. Balbin, Gifts and Exchanges librarian.

This is indeed another great contribution and valuable addition to the UST Miguel de Benavides Library's rich collection!



One set of catechetical books



In photo (L-R:) Ms. Balbin, Ms. Lobo, Assoc. Prof. Batan, and Ms. San Gabriel

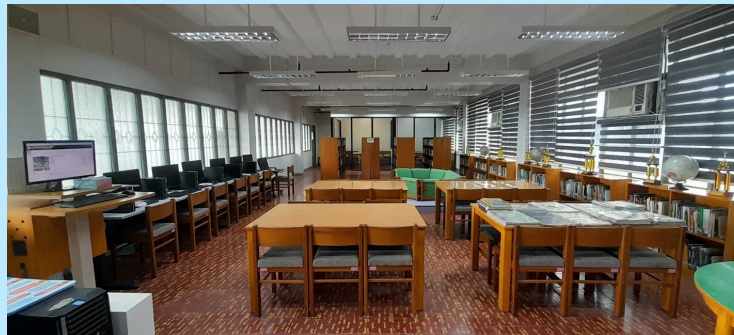
## The new UST EHS Library

Marjorie Irish A. Suarez

Before the pandemic hit the schools in the metro, the University of Santo Tomas Education High School (UST-EHS) Library was one of the places that the EHS students were always looking forward to visiting whenever they were in school. Students would go down from the 4th floor to the ground floor where the old Library was located just to stay in the library together with their friends despite the distance from their classrooms.

After the restricted lockdowns in the first half of 2020, with the initiative of the new regent of the Education High School, Rev. fr. Maximo P. Gatela O.P., the EHS Library was transferred to the 4th floor of the same building last February 2021, this time closer to the students' classrooms.

For many years, the previous EHS Library had a big activity area which consisted of several couches and playhouses intended for the elementary students. But now, since the University does not offer elementary education anymore, these furniture were donated to several Dominican schools which are in need of playhouses. As of the moment, only one big couch is left in the new EHS Library.



The EHS Library's new look



Discussion room

cont'd on page 15



## Launching of the Ensayo... from page 1

The 2-volume bilingual Book describes the contributions of the Spanish Religious Corporations in the country during the Spanish period from 1521 to 1898. Divided into two parts, Volume I discusses the pre-Spanish Civilization and the Spanish colonization and evangelization of the archipelago. Volume II carries extensive information on works and undertakings made by the four Religious Missionary Congregations in the Philippines, namely, the Augustinians, Franciscans, Recollects, and the Dominicans. The editor intends not just to textualize what was written but to expose the understandable truth and history from the writings of its original author, Fr. Valentin Morales Marin, O.P.

Afterward, presentation of the first copy was offered by the Acting Archivist and Asst. Prefect of Libraries, Rev. fr. Gaspar R. Sigaya, O.P., and Chief Librarian, Ms. Maria Cecilia D. Lobo, to selected recipients. Those who were lucky to be given a copy of the Book were the following:

- Rev. fr. Ang, O.P.
- Rev. fr. Wenifredo Padilla III from the Priory of St. Thomas Aquinas
- Ms. Abeegale Cabarte, representative from UnionBank of the Philippines
- His Excellency Javier Mariano Garcia, consul general, Consulate of Spain
- Señor Javier Galvan, director of Instituto Cervantes
- Ms. Maria G. Goolsby, former UnionBank executive director for Corporate Philanthropy and Social Responsibility, as her personal copy
- Assoc. Prof. Melanie Turingan, PhD., UST Department of History
- Rev. fr. Emilio Edgardo Quilatan, asst. professor from the Augustinian Recollects
- Rev. fr. Louie Coronel, O.P., UST secretary general
- Ms. Melody M. Madrid, chief librarian of The National Library
- Ms. Angeline Lasalita, National Museum Archivist
- Ms. Diana Galang from the National Historical Commission of the Philippines
- Mr. Lorenz Salazar from the National Commission for Culture and the Arts, Cultural Heritage section.

Mrs. Goolsby delivered the closing remarks on behalf of the former Vice-Chairman of UnionBank, Dr. Justo A. Ortiz.

Fr. Aparicio, O.P., in his message, expressed his profound gratitude for the arduous work and dedication of the people engaged in making this historic Book possible. He also thanked the organizers and participants for their involvement and to all the guests for supporting the activity. The event was concluded with the book signing by Fr. Aparicio for the sold copies.

The completion of this new edition of the Ensayo of Fr. Marin's work is the culminating activity of the Lumina Pandit II Project, a shared endeavor of proud partners – the University of Santo Tomas Miguel de Benavides Library, the Archives of the University of Santo Tomas, and the UnionBank of the Philippines.

This publication is offered as the University of Santo Tomas' contribution in celebrating the "500 Years of Christianity in the Philippines."

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[https://www.ust.edu.ph/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/CB-Copy\\_Academia-September.pdf](https://www.ust.edu.ph/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/CB-Copy_Academia-September.pdf)



Arrival of the Consul General of Spain



Rev. fr. Richard G. Ang, O.P. as he receives the first copy of the book.



Rev. fr. Angel Aparicio, O.P. as he delivers his Acknowledgement Message



Former UST Archivist, Prof. Regalado Trota Jose, as he delivers his Review of the book.



Mrs. Maria Gonzales-Goolsby as she delivers the Closing Remarks





The Library Administrators with Rev. fr. Richard G. Ang, O.P. and Mrs. Maria Gonzales-Goolsby.



Recipients of the First Copy of the Book



UST Community



Distinguished guests — UST Administrators, Dominican priests, Academic staff, Library staff and students

## Association of Special Libraries ... from page 3

- to provide an avenue where policy recommendations in dealing with these inevitable changes may be constructively discussed.

The program started with a video presentation of doxology and the national anthem. This was followed by the welcome remarks delivered by Mr. Cesar Gilbert Q. Adriano, Director IV of the National Library of the Philippines. ASLP president, Mr. Bryan Boy T. Cortez gave the opening remarks. The keynote speech of Professor Joseph M. Yap, University of Perpetual Help System/Eötvös Loránd University highlighted the core theme of the program.

Resource speakers and each topic to be discussed are as follows:

### Day 1

Hon. Lourdes D. David, PRC-Board for Librarians. "Librarians and the Fifth Industrial Revolution: Competencies, Attitudes and Trainings". She discussed the birth of the industrial revolution; augmented reality applications in libraries, artificial intelligence; augmented and virtual reality; application of artificial intelligence in libraries; Library and education; and professional competencies. She gave some recommendations: 1) all the needed competencies shall include IR5 applications to libraries, and 2) CPD providers shall offer training to the librarians. At the end of her presentation is a quote that states, "In the 5th Industrial Revolution, creativity must meet technology." (Oxford Economics)

Ms. William S.A. Frias, De La Salle University, BGC. "Change Management for Philippine Libraries: From Resistance to Acceptance." She talked about change management, agents of change, the development of hybrid libraries, and characteristics of ideal change leaders. She gave a concrete example of a situation with issues and solutions and also identified the models in change management. According to her, "We need to change so our Library can survive the uncertainties."

Ms. Roana Marie L. Flores, De La Salle University, Manila. "Responding to Millennial Disruption: Librarians in the Web 3.0 Milieu." She discussed the prevailing concerns on the application of Web 2.0 in libraries; the key elements of Web 3.0; technologies associated with Web 3.0; repercussions of the transition from Web 2.0 to Web 3.0; Millennials as library users; and steps needed to reinvent libraries for millennials which include 1) make local and published information searchable through Google and other Millennial tools and information sources 2) provide a wider selection of library resources 3) partner with community organizations and business that appeals to Millennials; and 4) design library spaces that can continuously, easily, quickly, and cheaply adapt a new Millennial needs.

### Day 2

Ms. Venus B. Oruga, University of the East, Manila. "Librarians in the Midst of Evolving Information Landscapes: Collection Development in the 21st Century". She focused on traditional areas of concern for

*cont'd on next page*

collection development. In the collection development, librarians must engage with the disciplinary content of collections as well as a range of other areas, new areas of responsibility for collection development. With changes in technology, user needs, funding, and library services, collection development personnel have adapted to new duties; new roles of collection development; challenges for the collection development librarians facing in the 21st century; and the 21st-century skills for collection development librarians and the 21st digital skills for collection development librarians. In conclusion 1) the demand for more electronic content will certainly continue to rise, and collection developers will be required to meet the community expectations and to provide the newest content; 2) there is a need to balance the diverse needs of the customers and define the role of library collections; and to provide more career certainty and a need to continuously learn new skills.

Ms. Chona M. Facundo, University of Santo Tomas. "From Catalogers to Metadata Specialists: Librarians and the Exponential Growth of Information". She talked about the concept of cataloging; metadata types and functions; metadata schema and standards; metadata librarian responsibilities and skills; and metadata in digital collections. Moreover, she mentioned that "The descriptions no longer stand alone. It connects the data with the rest of the WEB allowing others to reuse more easily."

Mr. Edgardo B. Quiros, National Library of the Philippines. "The Expanding Roles of Systems Librarians: Implications in Managing Future Libraries". He discussed the systems of librarians, ICT infrastructure, and future libraries. In one of his presentations, he mentioned the IFLA trend report 2021 1) tough times ahead 2) virtual is here to stay 3) the comeback of physical spaces 4) the rise of soft skills 5) diversity gets taken seriously.

Ms. Audrey G. Anday, National Library of the Philippines. "Embedded Librarians in Learning Management Systems Environment: New Roles, New Challenges". She discussed the embedded librarian; embedded librarian programs; embedded librarianship; traditional vs embedded; and embedding libraries into the learning management system (LMS).

### Day 3

Ms. Lynderlitte M. Maglaque, DOST-Science and Technology Information Institute. "Smart Libraries for Millennials: Librarians as Planners and Builders of Learning Spaces." The outline of her discussion focused on who the millennials are and what do they want from libraries, what are smart libraries; and reinventing library spaces and services for the millennial generation. She also added, "A delayed service is a poor service."

Prof. Dan Anthony D. Dorado, University of the Philippines. "Artificial Intelligence in Libraries: Applications and Possibilities". His lecture started with a question "Where does the library fit into the ever-growing expanse of artificial intelligence?". He elaborated on the development of machines to accomplish tasks and reproduce thought processes that are normally seen in humans. In addition to his talk is the librarians' perception of artificial intelligence.

Prof. Janny S. Surmieda, University of the Philippines. "Staffless Libraries: Intelligent and Self-Sustaining Libraries of the Future." Mr. Surmieda shared his insights about staffless libraries; the characteristics of open libraries; the challenges and benefits of libraries; services in an open library; technological requirements; library controllers; library management system; and video surveillance.

As part of the program, a special session with other special library associations were invited, Ms. Angelic Bautista, Agricultural Librarians Association of the Philippines (ALAP), Mr. Danzielo-Auristelo Lagustan, Medical and Health Librarians Association of the Philippines (MAHLAP), Ms. Jeremy F. Flores, Philippine Group of Law Librarians (PGLL) and Mr. Jonas Sahagun, Network of Academic Law Librarians (NALL).

After each lecture drawn insightful questions and comments from the participants which were answered by the speakers.

The participants were actively involved in all the activities of the seminar and delighted with the prizes given by the sponsors of the ASLP. It was indeed a zestful seminar.

So ended the three-day seminar-workshop with the awarding of certificates to Ms. Ana Maria B. Fresnido and to the presenters of the product presentation. The closing remarks were delivered by Ms. Maria Teresa M. Cabance, vice-president/conference chair of the ASLP. Certificates were distributed to the participants.

I am grateful and honored to the library administrators, Rev. fr. Angel Aparicio, O.P. and Ms. Maria Cecilia D. Lobo, for giving me the opportunity to attend a series of talks, meet new librarians from diverse library institutions and discover new ideas, knowledge and skills.

Libraries have the potential to be platforms for innovation. It must foster a culture of innovation and to look ways for new thinking and experimentation at the edges of the institution. As they say, learning is a never-ending journey. Even experts do not stop learning because new things keep coming.



## Alomo and Lobo ... from page 5

sponsored by library associations that discussed several topics that are relevant to the different types of libraries, specifically on how today's libraries especially during the pandemic translated the changing needs and services into a more functional, inspiring, and adaptable spaces for the future. The pandemic experience has given way to enhance library facilities, ICT skills, and a transition from traditional to blended services. Librarians had to stay proactive and flexible in the library services and in handling their library processes, procedures, and policies in order to meet the emerging needs of the rapidly evolving situation.

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 players in societal developments and change through capacity building and professional agenda. Certainly, it was mentally stimulating because of the new learning techniques, significant initiatives, sustainability, and adaptability measures conducted in different libraries in research analytics shared by the speakers. The interactive session allowed the participants to meet new colleagues in the profession, mingle with peers from around the region, and share best practices in the library. Nurturing the participants' mental health was also one of the important topics tackled. The most-awaited "Mesozoic party" fellowship night of PLAI Congress 2022 was a blast and full of fun as the participants flaunted their Mesozoic attire, as they savored each moment and expressed their inner self.

*"Damo nga salamat"* to the UST Library administrators for giving Ms. Maria Cecilia D. Lobo, chief librarian and Ms. Anna Rita L. Alomo, acquisitions librarian, the chance to experience such a wonderful learning endeavor after the two-year online set-up. This Congress was truly rewarding, with the participants learning the latest library practices amidst the pandemic. Kudos to the organizers who made the event noteworthy to the Filipino librarians, and all the participants!

## The New UST EHS ... from page 11

In the first months of students' come back to the EHS, all sections were divided into cohorts to prevent the spread of virus amongst the students. The library schedule of the students was patterned from their classroom schedules given by the EHS principal, Assoc. Prof. Marielyn C. Quintana, LPT, Ph.D. Although there were still restrictions, it is evident that the EHS students are very much excited and happy to finally have a place to study since online learning has also been exhausting due to limited area for learning.

The new EHS Library is now much more conducive for learning since there are two new discussion rooms available for collaboration, consultation, and other academic related

## Holistic health and wellness ... from page 9

the form of print or online materials. For e-Resources alone, the Library prides itself in having 20 e-Book platforms, 36 e-Databases, and over 500 e-Journals. Hence, they know that they can always find reliable answers to whatever questions they have in mind. It is likewise crucial to have suitable materials in the wellness nonfiction genre to amplify the need to maintain one's mental state and become aware of tips and tricks in managing life's daily stressors and practicing self-care. Finally, organizing engaging programs regularly for relaxation can likewise leave a positive effect on clients. By hosting virtual forums with licensed professionals, Trailer Making, Short Story Making, and Creative Bibliotherapy, librarians are active partners in helping patrons find fun ways to channel their energy towards things that give them joy, meaning, and purpose. These also assist them in building healthy and sustainable habits that will help them recover from the uncertainty, isolation, and anxiety they have felt during the pandemic and adapt to the new normal.

Essentially, looking after one's emotional, psychological, and social state, as much as keeping the body in shape, is no easy feat. It requires time and effort, but as the Library transcends its traditional role and becomes involved in this aspect of its patrons' lives, it can be instrumental in helping them cope with the myriad of stressors they face. By establishing the Library's inclusive environment, which welcomes its doors to everybody who wishes to deepen their knowledge base, it can be a place where they can pause and find refuge. More so, having a rich collection can give students and personnel a guarantee that the Library can provide them with precisely what they need when they need it most. Through these reading materials, they can also develop transferable skills to build their confidence and be self-reliant. Complemented with different interactive programs, taking care of the self, with the support of librarians, should not be a chore.

activities that the students wish to do. Maximum of eight people are allowed to stay in the discussion rooms given that a representative must reserve it ahead of time since this is a first-come, first-serve basis type of reservation. It has a seating capacity of 50 persons which composed of 6 for the computer area, 16 for discussion rooms, 24 for the reading area and the rest of the seats are in the couch.

Overall, the entire EHS community maximizes the more accessible location of the EHS Library for easy conducting of classes, borrowing of books, reading, and other academic related activities they want to do inside the library area.

# OUTREACH

## UST MdBL first term outreach: basic school supplies kit for the Aeta children

*Michelle M. San Gabriel*

As per the recommendation of the UST-Simbahayan Community Development Office, one of the ideal outreach activities the MdBL can organize for the Aeta Children is to share Basic School Supplies, and present a short program like storytelling.

In response, the Extension Services Committee organized an outreach program last November 11, 2022. The beneficiaries of this activity are the one hundred (100) elementary Aeta children from Sitio San Martin and Sitio Burog in Bamban, Tarlac. The basic school supplies kit will help them accomplish their subject module requirements, especially now that they have limited face-to-face classes.

Participants for the said project are the three (3) Committees: the Extension Services, headed by yours truly; the Human Values, led by Ms. Arlene P. Matias; and the ICT, headed by Mr. Lejempf V. Flores. The librarians of the said committees prepared an Interactive Storytelling video (ISV), "Santa Helper." This activity aims to excite curiosity and imagination, teach vocabulary and phrases, and increase the concentration level of the elementary Aeta children.

During the onsite visit, I started the activity with warm-up activities entitled Boom – snap – clap. This activity was such a joy to the kids singing faster and alternating hands that do the boom and snap or changing up the order of the actions.



After that, I presented the Interactive Storytelling video entitled "Santa Helper," translated the story into Kapampangan, and prepared questions to know if they enjoyed and learned from it. Mr. Flores assisted in the video presentation entitled "Santa Helper." While the two members of the Extensions Services, Ms. Bernadette M. Dela Vega, led the prayer in Kapampangan, and Ms. Lucila B. Adriano assisted in the distribution of the kits and snacks to the Aeta children.

With the smiles and active participation of the Aeta children, I am optimistic that they have learned an exciting lesson about the story "Santa Helper" that the greatest thing is not to believe in Santa Claus; it is to be Santa Claus. It's better to give than to receive. Santa's joy comes from making other people happy. He doesn't expect anything in return. But what goes around comes around.

Through this simple activity, the UST Library Staff shows their unique way of serving God- that is, by sharing the love of learning and reading and making the Aeta children feel loved and cared for.

## Low energy consumption

*Manuel Angelo R. Guinto II*

How do we reduce our energy consumption? One way is to shut down our computers when not in use. Computers are the biggest energy users in office buildings like here in the UST Miguel de Benavides Library - choose the right light to reduce energy consumption; unplug idle electronics; turn off the lights that are not being used; use a power strip to reduce plug load.

The UST Library is doing its part to lower its energy consumption by turning the lights off during the noon break. Achieving a low energy consumption is difficult and challenging, especially for establishments, businesses, and institutions that require a high demand for energy/electricity to be used. If we practice using energy/electricity consumption properly and efficiently, we could save money and perhaps contribute to lowering the cause of climate change in our country.

Renewable energy, on the other hand, should be considered here in the Philippines in order to sustain low energy consumption by consumers. It can provide sustainable energy and be more cost-effective.



## University-wide earthquake drill

Marilou G. Palermo

After two years, an earthquake drill in the University of Santo Tomas was held last September 8, 2022, at 2:15 PM. This activity was in line with Memorandum No. 09 issued by the Office of the Vice-Rector for Finance on September 6, 2022, regarding “Activities Before, During, and After the Nationwide Simultaneous Earthquake Drill.”

When the University air sirens started to ring, which signals the start of the drill, people inside the building as well as those in the campus observed the Duck, Cover, and Hold position while the siren was still sounding. The said drill lasted for 15 minutes. The Library Crises Management team had a ready plan and different assignments were given to the Library staff to have proper coordination with the authorities or persons in charge of this activity. Based on the guidelines issued by the University authorities, all the colleges and departments which participated in the drill will report their status and if they were able to hear the siren loudly from their respective location. The person in charge of reporting the area situation used the new Kenwood radios (TK-3000 short antennas) that were tuned on Channel 3 to inform the base station that they are done with the drill.



Students hid under the table during the earthquake drill.

This year's drill had the following objectives:

- to evaluate the capabilities, response, and attitude of stakeholders in an earthquake incident;
- to test the radio network of the University;
- to test the effectiveness of the University alarm system; and
- to discover challenges and problems during a drill.

This activity should be done regularly to prepare people for unforeseen events such as what happened early in the morning of July 27, 2022 when a strong quake was felt by the Library staff, and employees in the adjacent buildings. People knew already what to do – they had evacuated and stayed in an open space for a period of time and waited until they were advised to return to their workplace. This practice drill would greatly help us become prepared at all times in case an earthquake occurs. Let us all be ready for any unexpected calamity that might happen anytime and anywhere.

## Ms. Margarita Cruz recognized as a “Distinguished Thomasian Alumna”

Symon Lagao



The UST Alumni Association, Inc. (USTAAI) in partnership with the Office of Alumni Relations (OAR) recognized Thomasian alumni during the 7th Distinguished Thomasian Alumni Night (DTAN) held last November 26, 2022, at the Dr. Robert C. Sy Grand Ballroom, Buenaventura Garcia Paredes O.P. Building.

Among the honorees was MS. MARGARITA STA. ANA CRUZ, former librarian at the UST Miguel de Benavides Library. Ms. Cruz served as the head librarian of the Filipiniana Section from 1965-2005 and the Spanish Section from 1995-2005. She was also a Filipino teacher at the UST High School from 1965-1999.

Ms. Cruz earned her bachelor's degree in Secondary Education, major in Filipino and minor in Library Science, Class of 1965. She was among the four honorees nominated and selected by the College of Education Alumni Foundation, Inc. (CEAFI) representing alumni of the library and information science program, respectively.

Our heartfelt gratitude to Ms. Cruz for her dedicated service to the library for many years. Congratulations on your well-deserved recognition!



# Loved-up snaps from our newly-weds!

*Devine G. Gabayan, Symon Lagao, Lourdes Fatima C. Ramos, and Marjorie A. Irish Suarez*

It's the most beautiful time of the year for the lovely brides and dashing groom of the UST Miguel de Benavides Library as they celebrate matrimony with their beloved partners.



Mercy and Junrey

Getting married in a church is one of every couple's longings. Mrs. Mercy Bano, the Assistant Head Librarian of the Health Sciences Library, together with her long-time partner, Mr. Junrey Bano, a high school track and field coach at UST, has finally fulfilled this desire. Nine years after tying the knot through a civil wedding, Mercy and Junrey finally decided to have their Church wedding. This was held at the Divine Mercy Parish Church, Brgy. Biluso, Silang, Cavite last October 29, 2022, with the presence of families and friends, especially their three children, Gia, Jun Jun, and Mike. When Mercy was asked how she felt after the memorable occasion she said, "I felt blessed and happy."

Last November 5, 2022, our Junior High School Assistant Head Librarian, Ms. Chiara Maye Navarrete, married her partner, Mr. Vanjo Paulo Santiago, at the Immaculate Conception Cathedral of Cubao. Vanjo is a lessee at the apartment of Chiara's parents. While waiting to board a cargo ship, Vanjo drove Chiara to work briefly. Little did they know that this will be the start of sailing to a lifetime of love and togetherness. After nearly five years, Vanjo proposed to Chiara in front of the Manila Cathedral with gratitude to the Lord for providing the patience and understanding. Despite their many years of long-distance relationship, they finally set sail in the sea of love and brave the tides together!



Chiara and Vanjo





RA and Daryl

Another librarian who walked down the aisle was Ms. Rose Anne Camille Dionisio, the Assistant Head Librarian of the Senior High School Library. She became one with her beloved nine-year long-term boyfriend, Mr. John Daryl Galang, a civil engineer whom she met in 2013 when they were still working at the library of the National University – Manila. After years of being together, RA invited her family, close friends, and workmates to join her lifetime experience of getting married last November 11, 2022, at the St. Andrew Parish Church, Norzagaray, Bulacan, followed by a reception at the Grace Harbor Pavilion Sta. Maria, Bulacan.

Some say it's a reverie to marry your college sweetheart. For Ms. Elein Geronimo, our Junior High School Head Librarian, it's a dream come true. Elein tied the knot with Mr. Dennis Kelvin Caguite last December 23, 2022 at the San Antonio de Padua Parish, Nasugbu, Batangas. Elein and Dennis started off as classmates and friends at the UST College of Education. Dennis proposed to Elein at the façade of the Santisimo Rosario Parish as a homage to the roots of their relationship. For years, Ms. Elein wondered why most of her friends are in a relationship while she isn't, but she prayed for someone who would love her and be loved by her. God worked things out and sent her the first and last man who she will share perpetual bliss with. Indeed, from college sweethearts to happily ever after!



Elein and Dennis



Jonas and Diovi

Mr. Jonas Sahagun, Civil Law Head Librarian, and Mrs. Diovi Sahagun had their church wedding at the Santuario de San Vicente de Paul Parish-Tandang Sora, Quezon City, on the morning of December 22, 2022. To this couple, the date is significant because it was also the day when they tied the knot in a civil wedding ceremony back in 2011. Jonas and Diovi first met in high school and eventually became school-mates at the UST College of Education. After years of relationship, they married and were blessed with two adorable girls, Dannie and Nikki. May they continue to love and cherish each other throughout their lives!

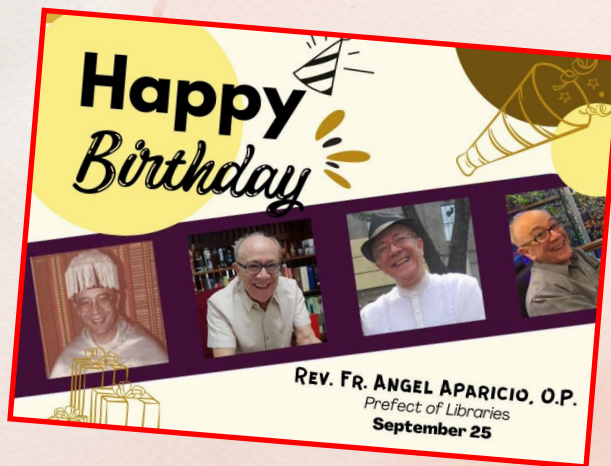
*Our warmest congratulations and best wishes to the newlyweds!  
Continue to be a blessing to one another and we pray for your lasting relationship.*



## Rev. fr. Angel Aparicio, O.P. celebrates his 74th birthday

Marjorie Irish A. Suarez

September 25, 2022, marked the 74th birthday of Rev. fr. Angel A. Aparicio, O.P., Prefect of Libraries and regent of the UST Faculty of Medicine and Surgery. The celebration was held on September 30, 2022, and started with a Mass organized by the Human Values Committee. The date happens to be the memorial of Saint Jerome, priest and doctor of the Church and also the saint of the Bible. Saint Jerome who happens to be the favorite of Fr. Aparicio since he loves anything and everything in relation to the Holy Scriptures being his expertise.



The Mass was celebrated by the birthday celebrant himself and concelebrated by Rev. fr. Gaspar R. Sigaya, O.P., the assistant to the Prefect of Libraries. There was also a birthday thanksgiving for the library staff's September birthday celebrants, namely: Ms. Theresa A. Milabo, Ms. Chona M. Facundo, Mr. Danny Tabudlong, Mr. Manuel Angelo R. Guinto II, Engr. Christian P. Barlan, Ms. Elma L. Nagorite, and Ms. Madelyn R. Perez. It was later followed by a simple get-together and food sharing held at the staff lounge. Certainly another precious milestone for our dear Father Prefect and a memorable celebration for the whole Library staff.



### Meet your new librarian: Marissa A. Chua

Marissa A. Chua

I, Ms. Marissa A. Chua is a graduate of the University of Santo Tomas (UST) with a bachelor's degree in Secondary Education major in Library Science. I earned my master's degree in Library and Information Science from the same Institution. I was admitted to the profession in 2003 and has been a registered Librarian for nearly two decades. I worked at school libraries for most of my career, from being a school librarian at Don Bosco Technical Institute of

Makati to an audiovisual librarian at Assumption College. I was also the Head Librarian at St. Theresa's College, Quezon City, and The Meridian International Learning Experience before returning to my beloved alma mater as a librarian at the UST Miguel de Benavides Library.

My previous stints enabled me to launch impactful library activities that have positively improved the clients' experience. I reinforced their love for reading and promoted the continuous use of resources and facilities through interactive programs that led to a sharp increase in Library visits and books borrowed in my previous schools. I successfully transformed these Libraries and tailored them to the changing information needs of 21st-century learners and educators, as seen in my proposal the "Learning Hub at St. Theresa's College, Quezon City," and initiatives supporting mental wellness. The hub is a space that allows for maximum collaboration and interaction among students and teachers.

Presently, I am a part of the Serials Section of the UST Library. Although just only a few months into the role (I started in August 2022), I find joy and fulfillment in my new job. I may be navigating uncharted waters by working at a vast Institution with extensive resources and intricate technology, I am beyond excited to improve my learning curve by showing willingness and determination to face work challenges with an open mind and indomitable spirit.

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