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National Heritage Month 2023

Symon Lagao



Through Proclamation No. 439 S. 2003, the National Heritage Month (NHM) or *Pambansang Buwan ng Pamana* is celebrated annually during the month of May. It aims to create among the Filipino people a consciousness, respect, and love for the legacies of the nation's cultural history. This year, we are celebrating two decades of championing significant cultural and historical heritage and giving importance to managing change and risk in heritage for sustainability, understanding the science of conservation, intergenerational transmission of intangible culture, and conservation of urban heritage in the 21st-century cities.

The UST Miguel de Benavides Library, through the Antonio Vivencio del Rosario UST Heritage Library, joined the celebration of this year's National Heritage Month with the theme, "**Heritage: Change and Continuity**," and prepared various activities for the Thomasian community. These activities aimed to promote the rare collection of the Heritage Library as materials for research, highlight the preservation, conservation, restoration, and digitization activities of the Heritage Library, and showcase the Library's priceless collections to encourage the Thomasian community to appreciate old but significant collections. The following activities were:

May 2-3

Online Kick-off: General pubmats were posted through the Library's social media pages to inform the Thomasian community of the scheduled activities for the NHM celebration.

May 5, 12, 19, 26

Heritage Pop Quiz Trivia Contest: Questions on selected rare materials of the Antonio Vivencio del Rosario UST Heritage Library were posted on the Library's Facebook page. Members of the academic and support staff, currently enrolled graduate, undergraduate, and high school students were enjoined to participate. The selected materials include:

⇒ **Diario de Manila (1848-1898)** – the longest-running and most popular Spanish daily newspaper in the Philippines, edited by Felipe del Pan and Marcelo Ramirez and accused of inciting the Filipinos to revolt against the government;

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Mercy Bano attends the 35th MAHLAP national congress

Mercy C. Bano



Attendees of the 35th National Congress and Seminar, held by the Medical and Health Librarians Association of the Philippines (MAHLAP).

The Medical and Health Librarians Association of the Philippines (MAHLAP) holds its 35th National Congress and Seminar-Workshop with the theme: “Recalibrate or Rebuild: Managing Libraries for Flexible Learning Modalities.” It was held on March 8-10, 2023, in Whitewoods Convention and Leisure Hotel, Sta. Rosa-Tagaytay Road, Silang Cavite. Ms. Mercy C. Bano, asst. head librarian of the Health Sciences Section, represented the UST Miguel de Benavides Library.

The 3-day Congress aimed to: first, recognize the expanding demands and challenges of managing libraries for flexible learning modalities; second, explore tools and best practices of libraries and librarians in response to expanding learning demands; and lastly, formulate, as needed, library processes and services documentation based on existing international standards and policies.

The keynote speaker, Mr. Richard P. Burgos, is the DOST Science and Technology Information Institute director and an active International Public Relations Association member. Director Burgos is a seasoned communicator with over 35 years of progressive responsibility in large international, multinational, and national organizations for such areas as corporate communications, public relations, marketing, brand management, corporate governance, and general office management, among others. He delivered the keynote address, “**Libraries as Innovators: driving force of flexible learning.**”

Day 1: Session 1: “**Flexing the Library: marketing strategy in the now normal.**” It is a lecture delivered by Ms. Venus Boyer-

Oruga, RL, Director of Libraries at the University of the East. Ms. Boyer-Oruga discussed the following topics:

- concepts of library marketing – according to Canzoneri (2015), library marketing informs and educates users and potential users about resources and services that meet their needs and interests;
- target market – the speaker distinguished the mass and differentiated target markets. The mass target market includes a group of individuals a library is trying to reach through its marketing effort, whereas the differentiated target market is a group of individuals a library tries to get through its specialized marketing effort;
- library marketing segmentation – includes demographic, geographical, psychographical, behavioral, niche, and firmographic. Based on Matthews's framework of Library users (2017), the library users group includes the experts (they know everything in the library), the regulars (these students are in the library daily), the irregular guest (these students only go to the library when they have to), the vacationers (these students typically use the library as a resting stop during the day), and the invisible (these students have no interest in the library). In social media marketing, she added that libraries could develop an online community and involve its users by sharing relevant and engaging materials; and

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UST Library joins the roster of PAARL National Summer Conference paper presenters

Lady Catherine R. de Leon



As the world becomes increasingly digitized, conferences have become important avenues for academics, researchers, and professionals to collaborate and share their work. At a recent summer conference organized by the Philippine Association of Academic / Research Librarians, Inc. (PAARL), I had the pleasure of attending being a paper presenter. It was a three-day conference (26-28 April 2023) held at the La Carmela de Boracay Convention Center, Boracay, Aklan.

The team representing the University of Santo Tomas (UST) comprises two library administrators, Rev. fr. Gaspar R. Sigaya, O.P., assistant to the Prefect of Libraries, and Ms. Maria D. Cecilia Lobo, chief librarian; librarians, Ms. Ginalyn M. Santiago, assistant head librarian for Preservation and head book restorer of the UST Heritage Library, and yours truly, the Filipiniana librarian. Our paper entitled **“Usability Assessment of the UST Miguel de Benavides Digital Library”** emphasized the importance of libraries in every institution, especially in the education sector. It serves as a repository of information in print, non-print and electronic. Since we are in the advanced computer and internet age, library patrons and researchers are more inclined to use electronic resources. They use these resources to fulfill their informational needs and research requirements in their own space and comfortable time. Due to the demand and challenges of the pandemic, most researchers prefer using electronically generated materials. Access to these materials is easy if you have a computer or mobile phone and a stable internet connection.

But how can a library organize its collection of electronic resources? In UST Miguel de Benavides, the emerging need to access some of the resources is made through the Digital Library. This was launched in the Project named Lumina Pandit II from the generous donation of the UnionBank of the Philippines. It has three components – Conservation, Publication, and Digitization. It aims to conserve the rich heritage collection of the Library and the Archives, the publication of its historical collection catalogs, and the digitization of rare and historical resources to preserve these priceless materials. Through the CONTENTdigital management (CONTENTdm) software, the Library could upload its rich historical resources to the world wide web (www) and the current publications of the different institutes, faculties, and colleges of the University.

Digital libraries are known for flexibility of use because more and multiple users can simultaneously access one collection. As the number of users is increasing, some issues relevant to interaction also arise while using digital library interfaces and the utilization of resources. Even during the pandemic, a lot of challenges emerged.

In this paper, the authors evaluated the usability factors and issues of the UST Miguel de Benavides Digital Library and determined what areas need improvement. Relevant usability issues and concerns were also discussed. Digital Library users are the main authority to evaluate and judge usability issues for they are the ones who are using and accessing the digital library collection.

This research aims to conduct a usability assessment of a digital library to identify areas for improvement and enhance the overall user experience. The study will use a ‘mixed-methods approach’, combining quantitative and qualitative data collection methods such as user testing, surveys, and expert reviews. The target audience of the digital library will be identified and usability criteria will be defined to evaluate the ease of navigation, search functionality, user interface, and accessibility of the platform. The assessment will also explore how users interact with the digital library and their preferences and behaviors related to information seeking and retrieval. The research will benchmark the digital library's usability against the industry's best practices and develop recommendations for improving the library's performance. The study aims to contribute to developing effective digital library design principles and best practices that can improve user satisfaction and task completion rates.

Moreover, at the end of this research, results will show recommendations for improving the Digital Library. Hopefully, these suggestions will help make UST MdB Digital Library more useful and effective so patrons can maximize its usage.



Fr. Sigaya, O.P., as he presents their paper.



(L-R) Ms. de Leon, Ms. Lobo, and Fr. Sigaya, O.P.

Book launch of Imprenta de Ramírez y Giraudier

Lady Catherine R. de Leon



Prominent historians, personalities, and officials representing cultural agencies, along with the library administrators grace the book launch of Imprenta de Ramírez y Giraudier.

Author Dr. Lino L. Dizon, Ph.D. signs a copy of the Imprenta.

Vibal Foundation, in partnership with the University of Santo Tomas (UST) Miguel de Benavides Library, launched **Imprenta Ramírez y Giraudier: A Story of Late Nineteenth-Century Philippine Intellectuality**, written by historian Dr. Lino L. Dizon, Ph.D. The event occurred on 29 March 2023, at 3:00 pm on the ground floor of the Central Library building, UST Miguel de Benavides Library in *España*, Manila. The launching was well attended by historians and prominent personalities like:

- Dr. Emmanuel F. Calairo, chair of the National Historical Commission of the Philippines (NHCP)
- Executive Director Hon. Victorino "Ino" Mapa Manalo from National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA)
- National Museum of the Philippines (NMP) Director General Jeremy R. Barns
- The National Library of the Philippines (NLP) Director Cesar Gilbert Q. Adriano
- former NHCP Chair and still Board Member Dr. Rene R. Escalante
- NHCP Board Member Ms. Lisa Guerrero Nakpil
- former NMP Chair Evangelina Lourdes "Luli" Arroyo-Bernas, Philippine ambassador to Austria, as the Guest of Honor
- other officials of the cultural agencies.

Also present were: former CHED Chair Patricia "Tatti" B. Licuanan, Mr. Guillermo Gómez Rivera, Mr. José Mario "Pepe" Alas, NHCP Division Head Mr. Ian Christopher B. Alfonso, NHCP Executive Director Carminda R. Arevalo, Deputy Executive Director Rosario V. Sapitan, NHCP Division Head Architect Reynaldo S. Lita, Inquirer Tarlac Correspondent Ms. Maria Adelaida "Madelle" Calayag, Mr. Jorge Mojarro, Rev. fr. Angel A. Aparicio, O.P., UST Prefect of Libraries and author of Lumina Pandit and Lumina

Pandit: A Continuum, Mr. Gaspar "Gus" A. Vibal of Vibal Publishing and author of *Bullfighting in the Philippines*, and the UST Acting Archivist, Rev. fr. Gaspar R. Sigaya, O.P., also assistant to the Prefect of Libraries.

"The press played a crucial role in the intellectual enlightenment, leading to the Ilustrado movement in the 19th-century Philippines."

During this period, the publishing firm *Imprenta de Ramírez y Giraudier*, founded by Don Manuel Ramírez y Carvajal and Baltasar Giraudier y Ortega, was instrumental in enabling Filipinos to discuss the state of the country and bring about political actions. The firm produced various publications, including influential periodicals like *Ilustración Filipina*, the *Revista de Filipinas*, and *Diario de Manila*, which covered different themes and perspectives over a span of almost 30 years. These works served as the foundation for the modern field of Philippine studies.

This book includes an overview of the history of printing and publishing in the country and the importance of the press in awakening Filipino nationalism during the Spanish occupation. It highlights the foundational influence of the *Imprenta de Ramírez y Giraudier*, the firm's numerous publications, and its key figures that became instrumental in bringing in the new renaissance and revitalizing the pursuit of knowledge in the mid-nineteenth century Philippines.

According to Dr. Dizon, the *Imprenta* had a significant impact on Philippine intellectual history particularly on the rise of journalism as a catalyst for social change. Mentioned in this book is editor José Felipe Del-Pan, one of the notable personalities and writers who worked for the *Imprenta* and whose contributions paved the way for the emergence of the Propaganda Movement and, eventually, the Philippine Revolution of 1896.

UST Civil Law ink partnership for Journal digitization

Symon Lagao



The University of Santo Tomas, through the Miguel de Benavides Library, and the Faculty of Civil Law Dean Atty. Nilo T. Divina, LLB., entered into a partnership to digitize the UST Law Review, the official journal published by the Faculty of Civil Law. The journal is a student-edited publication that includes articles by law professors, members of the judiciary, and students of the Faculty, as well as commentaries, case summaries, legislations, and book reviews.

The signing of the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between Atty. Divina and UST, represented by Rector Rev. fr. Richard G. Ang, O.P., was held at the Divina Law Hall last **March 31, 2023**.

Library administrators also witnessed the MOA signing, Rev. fr. Angel A. Aparicio O.P., Prefect of Libraries, Rev. fr. Gaspar R. Sigaya, O.P., assistant to the Prefect, and Ms. Maria Cecilia D. Lobo, chief librarian, together with Rev. fr. Isidro C. Abaño, regent of the Faculty of Civil Law, UST librarians, Law Review editorial team, and partners and associates of Divina Law.

For the digitization project, the Agreement stipulates that the donation shall cover the expenses of hiring additional staff who will work on the scanning of the journal copies dated 1950 up to the present. For its part, the Library will supervise and monitor the scanning, conversion, and uploading of the digitized copies of the journal to the UST Digital Library.

This significant collaboration will allow more comprehensive access to numerous law information and preserve noteworthy research and scholarly discourses that will help improve legal education in the country.



MOA signing between Rev. fr. Ang and Atty. Divina.



In the photo are: Rev. fr. Richard G. Ang, O.P. (front row, 7th from left), Atty. Divina (front row, 6th from left), and UST Library Prefect, Rev. fr. Angel A. Aparicio, O.P. (front row, 2nd from left), UST officials, library administrators and librarians, Law Review editorial team, and DivinaLaw partners and associates at DivinaLaw Hall.

Mr. Sahagun joins the panel discussion on career progression and specialty board for law librarians

Jonas T. Sahagun

Jonas Sahagun, head librarian of the UST Law Library and at the same time president of the Network of Academic Law Librarians (NALL), Inc., was invited as one of the panel reactors to the Panel Discussion on Career Progression and Specialty Board for Law Librarians during the first day of the Philippine Group of Law Librarians, Inc. (PGLL) Summer Conference. It was held on May 17-19, 2023, at MetroCentre Hotel & Convention Center, Tagbilaran City, Bohol.



Panel members (left to right): NALL President Mr. Jonas Sahagun, PRBFL Member Hon. Lourdes David, JLAP President Mr. Archie Sumalindao, and PGLL President Ms. Jeremy Flores.

The Professional Regulatory Board for Librarians Member Hon. Lourdes T. David gave the presentation. It focused on the role of the Philippine Qualifications Framework (PQF) in career progression; qualification titles in the career progression of law librarians; level alignment matrix for levels 7 and 8 for law librarianship; the role of specialty societies and specialty boards in career progression and specialization of law librarians; and career progression and specialization and ASEAN Qualifications Reference Framework (AQRf).

The different Law Library Association presidents were invited to sit with Ms. David for a dialogue/discussion about the presented career progression and organization of specialty board plans of the Professional Regulation Commission (PRC). Valuable inputs, concerns, and clarifications about the law librarian specialty/subspecialty group were shared.

The discussion concluded that the Career Progression and Specialization Program and Credit Accumulation Transfer System (CPSP-CATS) would enable law librarians to advance in their careers from PQF level 6 to level 7 and up to level 8 via a structured professional training program provided by the specialty society. Graduates of the training program conducted by the specialty society will be assessed by the specialty board and recommended for certification by the BFL and PRC. Once a law librarian is certified to advance to the next PQF level and decides to work in any ASEAN Member State (AMS), their competencies can be assessed using the AQRf model. The CPSP-CATS will also include specializations in other fields of librarianship, such as academic, medical, public, school, and others.

SHS Library celebrates with the UST 7th SHS week

Rose Anne Camille C. Dionisio

After three (3) long years of virtual celebration, the UST Senior High School (SHS) marked its 7th annual SHS Week in-person last April 12-15, 2023. Following Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati's motto, "Verso L'alto" which means "towards the heights" as this year's theme, the UST SHS prepared numerous activities ranging from art initiatives to session talks. Likewise, the SHS Library joined the observance by organizing several interactions for the SHS learners to enjoy.

Being one of the most sought-after SHS Library interactive games, the "Library Spin Wheel" is back with a new batch of questions focusing on the much-loved "Harry Potter series" and the impressively dour and woeful "A Series of Unfortunate Events series." As expected, it was a blockbuster, and the learners appreciated the SHS Library even more because the two (2) book series are readily available for borrowing.

A four-day book fair was also organized by the SHS Library in collaboration with UST SHS Alinaga, a teen reading club. This year's exhibitor was Fully Booked. The success was evidently shown in the unending line of learners at the purchase counter. A percentage of the total sales shall be donated in the form of book rewards to selected partner communities of the University as part of the outreach program of the Library and the Alinaga. As the old adage goes, "*Nag-enjoy ka na, nakatulong ka pa!*"

Aside from the book fair and Library Spin Wheel, the following activities were also conducted in the SHS Library facilities with the initiatives of the SHS various strands/learning areas:

Baliktanaw: The Publicity and Communications photo exhibition, held at the Library Activity area (Music, Arts, and Design Strand and Media and Information Literacy Learning Area)

"*Baliktanaw*," or "to look back or reflect," the exhibit's overall concept invited viewers to (re)visit what is significant in UST SHS's past through a collection of photographs. The exhibit documented nature, emotions, and important events provoking viewers to consider looking back at their journeys and experiences hoping that they obtain a deeper grasp of the human experience and be motivated to develop innovative ways to interact with their surroundings through a photographer's lenses.

Metamorphosis: Transcending Boundaries toward Community Transformation, held at the Library entrance (English Learning Area)

It is important to reinvigorate society's global awareness and civic engagement, especially among the youth, by helping them become catalysts for social change. With this goal in mind, the English Learning Area held a photo-essay writing competition for students to advance their views as they discover their unique talents and creative skills in expressing their voices through photography and writing.

Mga Mukha ng Relihiyon 2: Relihiyon at Tula: Wika, Talinghaga, at Pananampalataya, conducted at the Consultation Rooms 1 & 2 (Humanities and Social Sciences Strand)

This event highlighted how religion is seen in many of our verses or how the latter is indirectly manifested through words, the value of religion.

Danas at Pananaliksik 2 (Linggwistiks), held at Consultation Rooms 1 & 2 (Humanities and Social Sciences Strand)

It was a series of talks regarding the actual research experience, providing insights into processes not often seen in the light of completion.

Paano ba Magmahal? at Consultation Rooms 1 & 2 (UST SHS Administrators and Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics Strand)

Walang iisang mukha ang pag-ibig kaya wala ring iisang pagpapakita nito. Ang totoo, maraming uri ang pag-ibig sapagkat marami ring uri ng tao. Ngunit ang mayroon siguro, lalo na sa totoong nagmamahal, ay ang parehas na intensidad; ang parehas na igting; ang nagmamahal nang lubos; ang umiibig nang lubos ay umiibig sa kaniyang kalubusan. Hindi niya ito kinakabig, walang pinupunan. Ang mayroon ay ang patuloy na paglabas sa sarili. Samantalang kusa, at sapagkat dalisay.

STEM Talks: The Heights of Physics, held at the Consultation Rooms 1 & 2 (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics Strand)



One of the exhibits during the SHS Week Festivities (*Baliktanaw* Photo Exhibition by MAD Strand and MIL Learning Area).



This year's book fair was organized by SHS Library in coordination with UST SHS Alinaga.



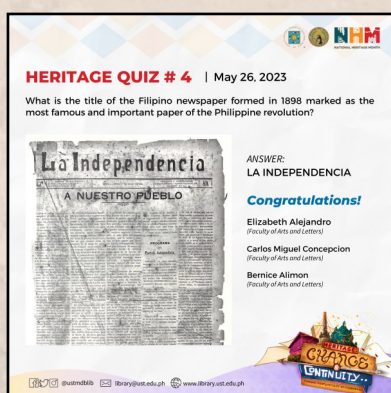
SHS students enjoying the Library Spin Wheel Interactive Game.

A series of light discussions to elevate the conversations in STEM youth.

The week-long celebration was unmistakably triumphant with all the fun-filled festivities and frolics. Clearly, the UST SHS Department was indeed reaching higher heights, the motto of its dear patron.

National Heritage... from page 1

- ⇒ **Ninay (1887)** – the first Filipino novel authored by Pedro Alejandro Paterno, a book which employed *costrumbismo*, a writing style which gives a descriptive and impressionistic detailing of costumbres, or the distinct folkways and practices of a country;
- ⇒ **El Renacimiento (1901-1908)** – a bilingual nationalist journal which was openly critical and aggressive against American rule and their economic exploitation of the country and suffered press censorship and was accused of sedition and libel by the United States colonial government in the Philippines; and
- ⇒ **La Independencia (1898-1900)** – a newspaper formed by a committee led by Juan and Antonio Luna and marked as the most famous and important paper of the Philippine revolution.



Heritage Pop Quiz Trivia answer post featuring La Independencia

May 9, 16, 23, 30

Digitization Highlights: Materials from the Digital Library website were selected and showcased across the social media platforms of the Library. Brief descriptions and sample photos of the selected materials include the following:

- ⇒ **Gaceta Oficial** – the official organ of the Insular government of the commission in the Philippines by the virtue of law No. 453;



Digitization highlights sample photos featuring Gaceta Oficial

- ⇒ **Noli Me Tangere and El Filibusterismo** – national hero, Dr. Jose Rizal's seminal masterpieces printed in 1886 and 1891, respectively;
- ⇒ **Acta de la Proclamación de la Independencia del Pueblo Filipino** – a printed pamphlet that contains the text of the proclamation of the Philippine Independence from the rule of Spain held in Cavite Viejo (Old Cavite) on June 2, 1898; and
- ⇒ **The Jones Philippine Bill** – contains the speeches of the late Pres. Manuel Luis Quezon during his visit to the United States in 1914 while he was a resident commissioner to the U.S. House of Representatives.

Mr. Symon Lagao, the assistant head librarian for Digitization of the UST Heritage Library, selected these materials.

May 10, 17, 24, 31

Conservation Highlights: This activity showcased the Heritage Library's restored collections. A brief description and before and after photos were posted online vis-a-vis the Library's social media accounts. These include the following:

Galenus, Pergamenus. (1549). **De alimentorum facultatibus libri tres - de Attenuante victus ratione**. Lyons: Apud Gulielmum Rovillium.



Conservation Highlight featuring the "De alimentorum" of Galenus Pergamenus

Walls y Merino, Manuel. (1889). **Opusculo sobre la historia de la legislación española: precedido de un prologo del Señor Don Jose Moreno Lacalle**. Manila: Imprenta del Amigo del Pais.

Teixeira, Pedro. (1610). **Relaciones de Pedro Teixeira del origen descendencia y sucession de los Reyes de Persia y de Harmvz**. Amberes: Hieronymo Verdussen.

Torrubia, Joseph. (1736). **Disertacion historico-politica, en que se trata de la extension del Mahometismo en las Islas Pilipinas**. Madrid: Imprenta de Alonfo Balvas.

Ms. Ginalyn M. Santiago, the assistant head librarian for Preservation and head book restorer of the UST Heritage Library, selected these materials.

May 26

National Heritage Month Forum: The UST Heritage Library, in collaboration with the Professional Training and Development Committee, conducted a learning session entitled “New Frontiers in Heritage Science: The Chemistry of Paper Conservation.” It was held at the Library Conference Hall and broadcasted via Facebook Live. The session was anchored on this year’s NHM theme, which highlights Heritage Science.



Assoc. Prof. Reyes as she delivers her talk on paper conservation.

The speaker, Assoc. Prof. Maria Bernardita Maronilla-Reyes, PhD, is a chemist conservator, professor at the UST Graduate School, and consultant at the UST Heritage Library. Assoc. Prof. Reyes delivered the topic “Paper Conservation: a Scientific Approach,” which focused on examining the paper, which included identification of cellulose fibers,

testing for paper acidity, and determining the extent of deterioration, among others. Sample analysis of a paper was also discussed based on the recent research undertaken at the UST Heritage Library on the 500-year-old Nicolas Copernicus work, *De Revolutionibus Orbium Coelestium*. A panel reaction followed which consisted of experts in various fields related to conservation, namely, Ar. Argel Miryl P. Castañeda, a faculty from the National University Manila College of Architecture, Asst. Prof. Ma. Pri-Ann M. Tinipunan-Salumbides, coordinator of the Library and Information Science Program of the UST College of Education, and Dr. Karen S. Santiago, associate director of the UST Office of International Relations and Programs and a faculty member of the Department of Chemistry of the UST College of Science.

The onsite and online learning sessions were attended by administrators, teachers, librarians, support staff, and students from various institutions. It was also graced by the esteemed members of the National Commission for Culture and the Arts - National Committee on Libraries and

Information Services, National Committee on Archives, National Heritage Committee, and the Philippine Librarians Association, Inc.



Participants pose for a group photo during the UST NHM Forum

Symon Lagao and Ginalyn Santiago headed this year’s NHM celebration. On behalf of the Antonio Vivencio del Rosario UST Heritage Library, we extend our gratitude to the Library Administrators Rev. fr. Angel Aparicio, O.P., Prefect of Libraries, Rev. fr. Gaspar R. Sigaya, O.P., assistant to the Prefect, and Ms. Maria Cecilia D. Lobo, chief librarian, for their continued support. We also express our sincere appreciation to the members of the UST Library National Heritage Month Forum Committee, Kaori Fuchigami, Marissa Chua, Chiara Maye Santiago, Madelyn Perez, Lejempf Flores, Kristi Ma. Fevie Macasaet-Recinto, Joel Palangan, Raquel Lontoc, Sabina Viernes, and Elein Caguite. Likewise, we thank the Thomasian community for participating in this year’s activities.

We assure you of the continuous conduct of activities that will promote meaningful contributions to the UST and the nation’s cultural heritage.

- library marketing strategies and library marketing tools – libraries should take time to create effective marketing strategies that cater to the needs and interests of their customer.

As technology is part of the new normal, we should maximize its purpose and learn from it.

Session 2: The **“Flipped Classroom Model for Library”** was delivered by Dr. Christopher Joseph L. Soriano, assistant professor from Ateneo de Manila School of Medicine and Public Health. Using this Model, he shared his journey as an educator during the pandemic. The flipped classroom, also known as reverse instruction, is one of the new learner-centered approaches that intends to prepare students for the 21st century (Lane-Kelso, 2015). He mentioned his different blended learning methods, the steps in integrating flipped classroom model, and its benefits and challenges.

Session 3: **“The Importance of Faculty-Librarian Collaboration in Flexible Learning Modalities.”** Mr. Joemar D. Sajona, director of the Management Information Systems Office at Philippine Normal University, discussed that collaboration allows librarians to know more than they are capable of knowing by themselves. He reiterated the importance of cooperation to achieve organizational success in every endeavor. Librarians play a crucial part in participating in college committees dealing with curricular change, fostering relationships with teaching faculty, discussing curricular innovations, and the librarians’ role with academic administrators for collaborative opportunities. Thus, he concluded that librarians must collaborate with faculty and technical support personnel in teaching both the new technologies and the critical thinking and evaluation skills that faculty and students need when faced with the proliferation of information.

Day 2: Session 1: **“Data Privacy Act: Application to Health Care”** was delivered by Ms. Roren Marie M. Chin, chief of the Public Information and Assistance Division, National Privacy Commission. The RA 10173, known as the Data Privacy Act, is the state's policy to protect the fundamental human right of privacy of communication while ensuring the free flow of information to promote innovation and growth. In the general privacy principle, Ms. Chin articulated that the data subject must be aware of the nature, purpose, and extent of the processing of their data. Also, a privacy notice should tell what happens to your data, like who is collecting the information, what it will be used for, and whether it will be shared with other organizations. In addition, the processing of information shall be compatible with a declared and specified purpose. It should be adequate, relevant, suitable, necessary, and not excessive. She also mentioned the importance of implementing security measures such as organizational, technical, and physical. Thus, she concluded her talk with the statement from Antonio, Patdu

& Marcelo (2013), “the quest for privacy is but one critical component in improving the quality of care available to Filipinos.”

Session 2: **“Context of the Organization (COTO), Clause 4”** was discussed by Dr. Ma. Lindie D. Masalinto, RL Ph.D., chief librarian of UPH - Dr. Jose G. Tamayo Medical University. She tackled the content and component of COTO, its internal and external issues, interested parties and requirements, and the fundamental way to formulate COTO for libraries. As per ISO 9001, the definition of the Context of the Organization in a business environment is a “combination of internal and external factors and conditions that can affect an organization’s approach to its products, services, investments, and interested parties” (ISO 9001: 2015 is an international standard for Quality Management systems [QMS]). It improves the organization’s systems and operation and ensures conformity with customers and applicable statutory and regulatory requirements. Thus, as Deming W. Edwards said, “Quality is everyone’s responsibility.”

Day 3: **“Skills and Knowledge of Librarians (SKL): Best Practices of Socially-Distanced Libraries.”** This was delivered by Ms. Joenabie E. Arevalo, RL, MLIS, from Ateneo de Manila University School of Medicine and Public Health. Ms. Arevalo discussed measures undertaken by libraries in response to pandemic restrictions and the skills, knowledge, and attributes needed to support flexible learning modalities. According to Jing Zhou (2021), the best practices of socially-distanced libraries are switching online, converting print to digital, releasing Covid-19 info, linking with providers, providing resources, delivering traditional services, and offering events. She shared the challenges she encountered, like the insufficient quantity of library staff, limited funding, which led to inadequate equipment to move onto the web, lack of digital infrastructure, the lack of devices for accessing resources, and the lack of digital competencies. Thus, concerning the skills needed by a modern librarian, Fisher (2004) analyzes a set of skills and points out that at the same time as the traditional roles, the librarian will: create organizational information management systems, use the techniques of Information Architect, manage access in digital documents and support every possible learning procedure.

Ms. Margaret Ganaden-Salonga, RL, MAHLAP vice-president/conference chair, formally concluded the affair with her closing remarks. It was a very informative gathering of allied health librarians across the country where the participants were fortunate to learn the information being shared by speakers.

“Fire Prevention and Basic Firefighting” training

Karl Leo G. Dela Rama



In the Philippines, March is observed as “Fire Prevention Month or Burn Prevention Month.” According to the Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP), the highest record of fire incidents nationwide occurs during this month.

In line with “National Fire Prevention Month” and accordance with the BFP’s campaign for fire safety and awareness, the University of Santo Tomas (UST) Laboratory Equipment and Supplies Office (LESO) organized a seminar and training about “Fire Prevention and Basic Firefighting Training.” It was held last March 23, 2023, and attended by the University support staff and representatives from the different administrative offices. The aim of this training is to increase knowledge and consciousness about fire hazards at the workplace as well as at home.

Invited speakers and trainers were Engr. Jared V. Gunting, Environmental Health, Safety, and Crisis Engineer, UST FMO, Asst. Prof. Juliano S. Parena, LPT, Ph.D., from the UST College of Science, and Firefighter SFO4 Francisco R. Montevirgen, from the Tondo Substation, BFP.

During the morning session, the following topics were discussed: Engr. Gunting discussed the University’s fire safety policies, guidelines, and programs. He also shared the existing safety measures that the University provided, wherein the priority is ensuring people inside the campus are safe in case of fire. On the other hand, Asst. Prof. Parena, Jr. explained the concerns regarding the standpipe system, fire extinguishers, and other fire safety equipment inside the buildings and how to use them properly. Lastly, SFO4 Montevirgen emphasized the proper procedures in firefighting.

The afternoon session was the actual demonstration/training using a fire extinguisher and the firetruck’s fire hose nozzle, wherein asst. Prof. Parena discussed/demonstrated how to use the firetruck’s fire hose nozzle properly. Speakers/trainers assisted and joined the participants during the onsite training demonstrations using the fire hose nozzle and fire extinguisher.

This training gave the participants insights and awareness about fire safety, what to do in real-life situations, and reminded them that a fire could happen anytime, anywhere. When not properly controlled and carefully handled, a fire breakout could destroy valuable assets and, worst, loss of life. Fire safety and awareness prepared the participants to take appropriate steps and actions to minimize if not prevent the damages caused by fire.



Demonstration of fire extinguisher use by Prof. Parena



Training participants



Demonstration on the use the firetruck’s fire hose

Image of the Blessed Virgin at the UST MdBL

Ian Gilbert M. Magpantay



Rev. fr. Sigaya as he leads the enthronement activity.

One of the Miguel de Benavides Library's (MdBL) significant events was organized by the Human Values Committee on April 25, 2023. It was the enthronement of the Blessed Virgin Mary which began with a mass celebrated by Rev. fr. Gaspar R. Sigaya, O.P., assistant to the Prefect of Libraries in the presence of the entire UST Library community. During his homily, Fr. Sigaya expressed his admiration for the scriptures of St. Mark the Evangelist, whose feast day coincided with the event. He also emphasized the value of building relationships and fostering a sense of community among all library staff. Following this, members of the Thomasian community were invited to offer prayers and intentions at the statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary, positioned in the Library lobby.

The statue now stands as a focal point for intentions and prayers, firmly binding the Thomasian community through shared spiritual reflection, unity, and a collective pursuit of knowledge.

UST Library Flores de Mayo and Santacruzán 2023

Jenalyn D. Aninao

Flores de Mayo, a beloved tradition meaning Flowers of May in Spanish, involves offering daily flowers to Mary, the mother of Jesus, throughout the month of May. In honor of this special devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Human Values Committee invited all Library staff to participate by offering flowers each morning. Mary's statue has been thoughtfully placed in the ground floor viewing area, where anyone can take a moment to sit, pray, and offer their intentions. Every day at lunch time, the assigned Library staff leads the recitation of the holy rosary, preceded by the reading and offering of all prayer intentions.

This month-long celebration culminates with a *Santacruzán*, named after the discovery of the True Cross by *Reyna Elena*, the mother of Emperor Constantine.

The UST Library's second annual *Santacruzán* coincidentally happened on May 31, 2023. The celebration began with a holy mass followed by the Living Rosary at the lobby, honoring Mary as our Mother and Queen, presided by the Prefect of Libraries, Rev. fr. Angel Aparicio, O.P. concelebrated with the Assistant to the Prefect, Rev. fr. Gaspar Sigaya, O.P. After the Eucharistic celebration, the nine (9) *Reyna Helena* were presented and given a sash, small bouquet of flower, umbrellas and crucifix, followed by the photo opportunity. All the library staff participated in the living rosary as they formed a big circle, each holding a candle while praying. The *Santacruzán* was led by Ms. Jenalyn D. Aninao as *Reyna Fe*; Ms. Rose Anne Camille C. Dionisio as *Reyna Esperanza*; Ms. Madelyn R. Perez as *Reyna Caridad*; Ms. Marissa A. Chua as *Divina Pastora*; Ms. Elein H. Geronimo as *Rosa Mistica*; Ms. Nora M. Matawaran as *Reyna de las Flores*; Ms. Narcelita Lane T. Olamit as *Reyna Emperatriz* and this year's *Reyna Elena* was Ms. Evangeline D. Panizal escorted by Mr. Joel T. Palangan as *Constantino*.



The mini procession started from the ground floor lobby, went outside, turned around the building, and returned to the lobby. All were praying for the rosary, and the finale was the enthronement of the statue of Mary, and installed back to Her original position on the second floor. The *Reynas* offered their flowers to Mary and solemnly ended with the final hymn and blessing.

Some photos during the *Flores de Mayo* and *Santacruzán* activities.



Library staff monthly mass

Anabelle G. Lauro

The Human Values Committee has organized a monthly mass in the Library. It is usually held from 12:00 noon to 1:00 pm at the Conference Hall of the Miguel de Benavides Library. The Library is fortunate to have two mass celebrators in the persons of Rev. fr. Angel A. Aparicio, O.P., Prefect of Libraries, and Rev. fr. Gaspar R. Sigaya, O.P., assistant to the Prefect of Libraries. When the presider concludes the Mass, all the birthday celebrants are requested to come in front, and a prayer of blessing is dedicated to all, especially those who are celebrating their birth months, anniversaries, and other important events in their lives.

The Committee encourages every Library staff member to participate and join in this important monthly activity to nourish the mind, the heart, and the soul.

Prayer before work

Marjorie Irish A. Suarez

The Human Values Committee plays a short prayer through its Public Address (PA system) before starting with the work at the Miguel de Benavides Library. Morning prayer allows us to rekindle our spirit with our Creator as we start the day right and to ask for guidance and protection. It also gives the Library staff an opportunity to have an encounter with the Lord first thing in the morning in order to align the goals of the Library with the tasks and responsibilities of the staff as the Colossians verse 3: chapter 23-24 from the Bible says:

"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving."

Morning rush usually makes us so busy that sometimes we lose ways on how to calm the mind specially in this fast-paced environment, hence, the short prayer helps in creating a small space for peace inside us which most of us longs for.

OUTREACH

Back at Bamban Tarlac!

Elein H. Geronimo

The four Committees of the UST Library, namely, the Collection Development, Linkages and Research, Physical Facilities, and Professional Development, visited the Library's partner community in Sitio San Martin, Bamban, Tarlac, last **March 22, 2023**. They created an interactive video that discusses wellness and health. The video surely inspired the Aeta kids to live a healthier lifestyle by staying more active and eating more nutritious food.

The Extension Services Committee members facilitated the activity with Sir Carl, a UST-SIMBAHAYAN Community Development Office staff member. Ms. Michelle M. San Gabriel began the activity with an opening prayer followed by an energizer, *"Boom Snap Clap,"* to set the mood for the kids. It was followed by storytelling conducted by Ms. Marissa A. Chua, the story of *"Joey and the Gulay Gang,"* to which the children paid more attention. Ms. Chua also introduced the first two food groups: GO and GROW. Next was the discussion about the GLOW food group, as Ms. Elein H. Geronimo presented, accompanied by an interactive video. The kids indeed enjoyed the discussion. Distributing snacks and hygiene kits for the kids and teachers ensued. It was an exceptionally rewarding and heartwarming activity.



University representatives with the Aeta children of Sitio San Martin, Bamban, Tarlac.



Library staff members and university Simbahayan representatives with the community members of Sitio San Martin.

"Somewhere along the way, we must learn that there is nothing greater than to do something for others." - Martin Luther King Jr.

UST Library Welcomes the New Support Staff

Kristi Ma. Fevie Macasaet-Recinto



Ms. Madelyn R. Perez graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration major in Management from the University of Cagayan Valley in March 2022. Joining the library team as a casual employee on October 9, 2014, Ms. Perez initially worked on the digitization project. She was assigned to scan and digitize rare books and journals. Then, in 2017, she was transferred to the Conservation and Restoration area of the UST Heritage Library. She has been assisting in the meticulous restoration process, focusing on tasks such as tissue lining and sizing documents page by page.



In September 2022, Ms. Perez's unwavering commitment and outstanding performance led to her transition into becoming a regular support employee in the Library. As a regular staff, she continues to devote her expertise to the preservation and conservation of the University's rare and special collections. Her attention to details, precision, and care contribute to maintaining the cultural heritage of the University and its commitment to academic excellence. She is also part of the Library's Committee on Extension Services.



Ms. Jenalyn D. Aninao completed her Bachelor of Science in Entrepreneurship at the UST Angelicum College in Quezon City in 2016. Her exceptional academic performance was recognized with two bronze medals for "Best Thesis" and "Best Thesis Presenter" awards. During her time as a student, she displayed remarkable dedication and passion as she was also a student-assistant scholar for three consecutive years at the UST Angelicum College Library and at the External Affairs office, respectively.

Six months later, in 2016, following her undergraduate studies, Ms. Aninao joined the religious formation for five (5) consecutive years in the Congregation of Sisters of the Poor of St. Catherine of Siena. She diligently completed the AWP (Association of Women Formators of the Philippines) modular classes for Postulants in Quezon City and was able to start the Certificate Program for Consecrated Persons at Don Bosco School of Theology-Paranaque City in 2020.

Before joining the Library, Ms. Aninao worked as a private tutor, where she demonstrated her commitment to helping others acquire knowledge and develop their skills. Her experience in private tutoring allowed her to hone her communication skills, adapt to individual learning styles, and foster a supportive learning environment. Also, she completed the TESDA Agro-Entrepreneurship NCII and was awarded as an "Outstanding Trainee" in her batch. Recently, she finished her additional education units by pursuing a Certificate for Professional Education at the University of Rizal System-Morong campus from June to December 2022.

She was initially assigned at the General Reference & Information Section from October 2022 to May 2023. Ms. Aninao is now with the Administrative Office of the Library. She is also a member of the Library's Human Values Committee.



Mr. John Gabriel A. Agunod earned his Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy degree from the University of Santo Tomas in 2019. Following his graduation, Mr. Agunod ventured into the fields of real estate and insurance. He entered the real estate industry, joining Alveo Land Corporation as a Real Estate salesperson on July 31, 2019, then transitioned into the insurance industry, working as a Life Insurance agent at PruLifeUK from March 6, 2020, to August 31, 2022.

In February 2023, Mr. Agunod took on a new role at the UST Library. As a support staff member assigned in the Civil Law Section, he provides valuable assistance to students and faculty. Additionally, he is a member of the Committee on Linkages and Research.

Mr. Ian Gilbert M. Magpantay is one of the Library's newest support staff assigned at the Senior High School (SHS) Library and an active member of the Human Values Committee.

Mr. Magpantay is a fresh graduate with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from the Polytechnic University of the Philippines. Throughout his college years, he consistently demonstrated his dedication and commitment to academic excellence, earning the prestigious distinction of being a president and dean's lister.



Mr. John Paul C. Orbista is a college graduate with a degree in BSBA Marketing Management from the University of Santo Tomas. After completing his studies in July 2019, he joined the Office for Admissions and Scholarships at De La Salle University Taft, Manila, as an office staff.

Since March 2023, John Paul has taken on a new role as a support staff at the Senior High School Library. He, together with Ian, is also responsible for assisting in various tasks related to library operations. Likewise, he is part of the Extension Services Committee.

In March 2023, **Mr. Bryan Jay R. Billones** was hired as a support staff member at the University of Santo Tomas Library. He is assigned to the General Reference & Information Section and is part of the Information and Communications Technology Committee. Bryan completed his bachelor's degree in Fine Arts major in Advertising from the University of Santo Tomas in June 2016. Afterward, he decided to pursue further education and is currently enrolled in the Master in Business Administration program in UST.

Before joining the Library, Bryan worked as a multimedia artist from 2017 to 2018. After his stint as a multimedia artist, he joined the Philippine Ports Authority as a researcher analyst. In 2022, Bryan transitioned to the role of Marketing Analyst in the same Company where he worked for a year before joining the University in his current capacity as a support staff.



Jonathan joins the UST Miguel de Benavides Library

Kristi Ma. Fevie Macasaet-Recinto

The UST Miguel de Benavides Library welcomes Mr. Jonathan P. Futalan, a highly skilled and experienced librarian and media specialist, as the newest addition to their esteemed team. His diverse skills in graphic design, instructional media services, and Library instructions make him a valuable asset to the Library's modern and innovative approach.

Mr. Futalan graduated in March 2010 from the University of Santo Tomas with a Bachelor of Library and Information Science degree. After graduation, he immediately worked for three years at Notre Dame of Greater Manila as its Elementary School librarian. Then, he served the same school as an Instructional Media librarian for nine years until he joined the University last May 2023.

With over 12 years of experience in the field, Jonathan brings a wealth of expertise and a passion for enhancing library services. He has a strong background in different library services. He is also proficient in graphic design, instructional media, videography, photography, live streaming, and video editing.

Apart from his library work, he also extends his career to helping the Light of Jesus Family (The Feast Bay Area Media Ministry) as a layout artist, production assistant, and photographer.



MdBL Hiyas awardees 2023

Elma L. Nagorite

The in-person *Hiyas ng UST Awards 2023* was held last May 10, 2023 at the UST Frassati Auditorium, with the theme "*Mga Kawaning Tomasino: Kasama sa Pagbangon, Katuwang sa Inobasyon, Kasabay sa Pagsulong.*" The event was also streamed live via the official Facebook page of the University. It started with the celebration of the Holy Eucharist, followed by the awarding ceremony proper. The Library's hardworking and dedicated awardees this year are:



Ma. Arleen M. Abad (25 years)



Rafael A. Travilla (35 years)

Congratulations on this accomplishment! Your hard work and dedication for years are greatly valued and appreciated. Your resilience is truly inspiring. The Miguel de Benavides Library is genuinely proud to both of you!

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