



News In-Print

UNIVERSITY OF SANTO TOMAS
Miguel de Benavides Library

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Exhibit and launching of the digitized UST Law Review

Sr. Lib. Maria Cecilia D. Lobo, RL, MLIS



Photo of the ribbon cutting (L-R): Sr. Lib. Lobo, Fr. Coronel, Fr. Abaño, Dean Divina, Fr. Siculy, Fr. Aparicio, Fr. Abogado, Atty. Gorospe, Atty. Capili.

The Miguel de Benavides Library (MdbL) of the University of Santo Tomas (UST), in collaboration with the UST Faculty of Civil Law, officially launched and turned over the digitized copies of the UST Law Review (ULR) in a ceremony held on April 23, 2025. This activity is the culmination of a successful digitization project that converted the physical volumes of the journal, first published in 1950, into a digital format. As the official student-edited publication of the Faculty of Civil Law, the UST Law Review has witnessed over seven decades of legal scholarship. All issues of the journal are now freely accessible through the UST Digital Library at <https://digilib.ust.edu.ph>.

The digitization project ensures the long-term preservation of the journal, improves its accessibility, and reaffirms UST's commitment to academic innovation and excellence in legal education and practice. The launch was accompanied by an exhibit that highlighted significant milestones of the journal's 75-year existence (1950-2025) in the long history of the Faculty of Civil Law (1734-2025).

Exhibit Opening

The exhibit was officially inaugurated with a ribbon-cutting ceremony held at the MdbL, graced by Rev. Fr. Pablo Siculy, O.P., Master of the Order Socius for Intellectual Life. University administrators including Rev. Fr. Jannel N. Abogado, O.P., Vice-Rector for Research and Innovation, Rev. Fr. Pablo T. Tiong, O.P., Vice-Rector for Religious Affairs, Rev. Fr. Louie R. Coronel, O.P., Secretary-General, Faculty of Civil Law administrators Rev. Fr. Isidro C. Abaño, O.P.,

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Exhibit and launching... from Page 1

Regent, and Atty. Nilo T. Divina, Dean, together with alumni from various law agencies.

Fr. Abogado, delivered the welcome remarks, emphasizing how the digitization project enhances the University's research visibility and global academic reach. Dean Divina underscored the significance of broadening access to the journal. Hon. Amy Lazaro-Javier, Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the Philippines, offered an inspiring message to the aspiring writers and editors of the journal, encouraging them to uphold the tradition of excellence in legal writing. Jr. Lib. Symon Lagao, RL, LPT, MALIS, Assistant Head Librarian for digitization, presented an overview of the project, outlining the digitization process and goals behind preserving the journal. Rev. Fr. Angel Aparicio, O.P., UST Prefect of Libraries, formally introduced the exhibit and expressed gratitude to all who contributed to the project. Atty. Rene B. Gorospe, long-time adviser of the UST Law Review, extended an invitation to guests to view the exhibit and explore the digitized archive. The ceremony concluded with the official turnover of the digitized UST Law Review copies to the Faculty of Civil Law and to the journal's Editorial Board.

Launch and Exhibit Highlights

The digitization project successfully scanned a total of 65 volumes of the UST Law Review, consisting of 152 issues and 24,232 pages. This achievement not only preserves the collection but makes these readily accessible to the wider communities through the UST Digital Library.

The exhibit included panels narrating the history of the Faculty of Civil Law from its inception in 1734 to the present, alongside issues of the UST Law Review and the contributions of the Civil Law deans to the journal. It also featured several rare law collections of the Antonio Vivencio del Rosario UST Heritage Library such as *Recopilación de Leyes de los Reinos de las Indias* (1841), *Novísima Recopilación de las Leyes de España* (1805-1807), and early UST law publications including *El Martes Escolar* (1910), *Revista Escolar de Derecho* (1920), *Unitas* (1922), and *Santo Tomas Law Journal* (1938).

The exhibit also showcased works associated with the Faculty's patron, St. Raymond of Peñafort, such as *Helyas Regnier's Super Liber Sextus Decretalium* (1508) and *Paulus Castrensis' In Primam et Secundam Digesti Novi Partem Patavinae Praelectiones* (1552-1553).

To broaden public engagement, the Library also posted selected items from the exhibit on its official Facebook page, complete with images and historical descriptions, allowing both onsite and online visitors to explore the exhibit. Visitors were graced with complimentary copies of the UST Law Review.



Various photos from the Law Review Exhibit



Turnover of the digitized copies to the Faculty of Civil Law and the UST Law Review Editorial Board

Acknowledgement

The launch and exhibit of the digitized UST Law Review was made possible through the collaborative efforts of the Miguel de Benavides Library and the Faculty of Civil Law of the University of Santo Tomas. The organizers extend their heartfelt gratitude to all who contributed to the project's success.

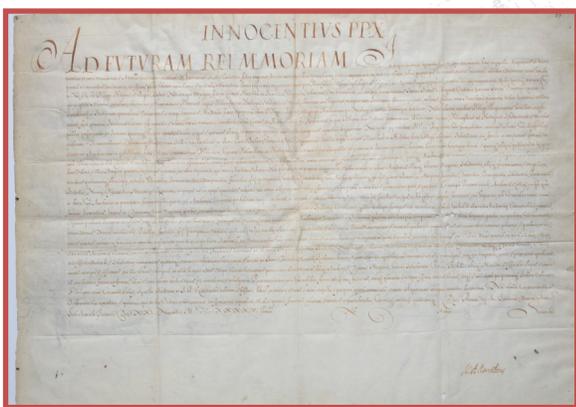
We are grateful to the Office of the Rector, Office of the Secretary - General, Office of Public Affairs, Communications Bureau, UST Museum, *Archivo de la Universidad de Santo Tomás*, Facilities Management Office, Health Service, Junior High School Music Ensemble, and the UST Law Review Editorial Board for their assistance. Special thanks go to Atty. Nilo T. Divina for his generous support which enabled the project to move forward and to the Civil Law Administration for their support. The Library also acknowledges the invaluable contributions of the entire Library working committee and to its consultant, Ar. John Carlo L. Sayco, MACHS, Assistant Director, UST Museum, as well as to DivinaLaw for its continued partnership.

History of the UST Faculty of Civil Law

Jr. Lib Symon Lagao, RL, LPT, MALIS

ROOTS: 1611-1734

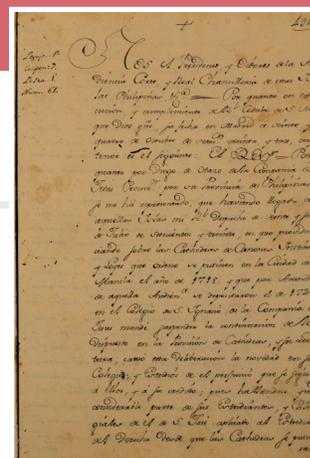
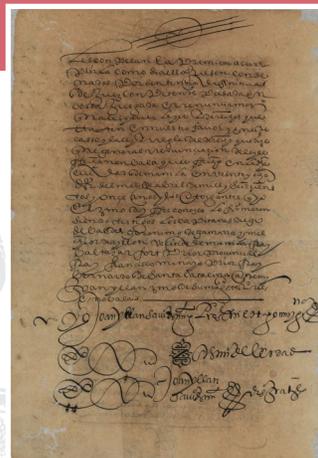
The University of Santo Tomas was founded under Spanish royal patronage in 1611. King Carlos II placed the university under royal protection in 1680, and in recognition of its contributions, King Carlos III granted it the title of "Real" or Royal in 1785. In 1902, Pope Leo XIII expanded UST's privileges by officially recognizing it as a "Pontifical" university and by 1947, Pope Pius XII bestowed upon it the title of "The Catholic University of the Philippines." Gradually, the university expanded its academic programs to include professional fields such as law, medicine, and pharmacy to further serve the intellectual and societal needs of the colony.



Papal Bull "Dudum emanarunt" of Clement XII confirming the erection of the faculties of Canon Law and Civil Law. AUST Beceros 41, fol. 99

The efforts to establish the Faculty of Canon and Civil Law at UST were met with both successes and challenges. In 1645, Pope Innocent X granted the university the authority to confer degrees in philosophy and theology. Placed under royal protection, it sought to establish the Faculties of Canon Law, Civil Law, and Medicine. In 1681, Pope Innocent XI, through the brief *Inscrutabili* and upon the recommendation of the Ambassador of Spain in Rome, granted the university the prerogative to confer degrees in these disciplines. Seeking additional support, the university petitioned King Charles II, who agreed to assist in establishing these faculties. The King issued a royal decree addressed to the President and Judges of the Royal Audiencia of Manila, referring the matter to the Viceroy and Audiencia of Mexico, asking for their opinion and was tasked with evaluating the resources available in the Philippines to sustain the positions of the professors before proceeding.

Despite its efforts, the plans were never fully realized due to several challenges, including financial and administrative difficulties and political struggles. Former Rector and Archbishop of Manila Fr. Felipe Pardo, O.P., faced opposition, leading to a decree in 1683 by the Audiencia against him and his allies, including Dominican friars.



(L) *Escritura de fundación del Colegio de Sto. Tomás* AUST Libros 48
(R) Royal Decree of King Philip V by virtue of which the Royal Audiencia appoints the Chair of Laws AUST Libros 51, fol. 491

The Archbishop was reinstated in 1687 but died in 1689. Before his death, he had created an *obra pia* of 13,000 pesos, a portion of which he offered to fund professorships in Law, Medicine, and Pharmacy at the University of Santo Tomas, while the rest be given for the scholarship of students in Colegio de San Juan de Letrán. While the initial attempts to establish the faculties did not succeed, the seeds for their eventual foundation were sown.

BIRTH: 1734-1834

The Faculty of Civil Law and the Faculty of Canon Law are bound by a shared origin from the moment of their founding in 1734. At the onset of the 18th century, King Philip V issued a royal cedula ordering the creation of professorial chairs in both fields, but financial constraints delayed its implementation. A second decree in 1714 finally led to the establishment of these chairs, leading to discussions on whether a new university should be created. This resulted in the founding of a "lay university" in 1718, which faced opposition from the Dominicans and Jesuits who already operated established colleges. This university struggled and was eventually closed in 1732, with its professorial chairs transferred to the Jesuits' Colegio de San Ignacio. The Dominicans, determined to secure their institution's standing, contested the transfer and appealed to both the Spanish crown and the Pope.

Their efforts culminated in the issuance of the papal bull *Dudum Emanarunt* by Pope Clement XII on September 2, 1734, formally establishing the Faculties of Canon and Civil Law at the University of Santo Tomas. While early records on enrollment and academic activities are few, it is known that Don Joaquin de Castañeda was the first professor of Civil Law. The 1734 statutes outlined a rigorous curriculum, requiring students to complete philosophy, theology, and law courses, with degrees granted based on oral examinations known as Acts or *Pasos*, where students

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History of Civil Law... from Page 3

engaged in academic debates. Graduates of Civil Law took part in the *Paseo de los Doctores*, a grand academic procession in Intramuros until the tradition ended in 1748.

The university faced disruptions during the British occupation of Manila from 1762 to 1764. With the expulsion of the Jesuits in 1768, the University of Santo Tomas was the sole institution to offer degrees in Canon and Civil Law. By the time the university prepared its new statutes in 1785, students of the Faculty of Civil Law were required two years of *pasantia* or apprenticeship in the office of a practicing lawyer of the city.

At the end of the century, concerns grew over the faculty's sustainability due to its low number of graduates and financial constraints of hiring professors. However, despite the financial challenges and ongoing debates about its future, the Faculty of Civil Law endured through the following centuries.

GROWTH: 1834-1934

In the early 19th century, while the university's academic structure remained unchanged, enrollment in the Faculty of Civil Law increased, with 42 students recorded in the first Libro de Matriculas in 1823. At the time, Civil Law was the only faculty funded by the King of Spain, who held patronage rights and appointed its professor (*catedrático*). The faculty was also referred to as Jurisprudence, Roman Law, or *Instituta*.

One significant change in the early 19th century was the introduction of Spanish Law (*Derecho Patrio*) in 1836. The new requirements mandated three years of Philosophy before admission, followed by three years of Roman and Canon Law and one year of Spanish Law. To qualify for the bar, students had to complete five years of Spanish Law and a four-year internship. Passing the bar granted them the title of *abogado*.

The latter half of the 19th century saw drastic changes in the university. By this time, the Faculty of Civil Law had already produced a group of *ilustrados* and admitted students from the educated class. However, from 1868, revolutionary movements in Spain and its colonies stirred sentiments of protest and change. The university was briefly secularized by the 1871 Moret-Serrano Decree, but the Dominicans regained authority in 1872, with classes in the Faculty of Civil Law continuing uninterrupted.

With the establishment of the First Spanish Republic in 1873, the University of Santo Tomas and all other universities in the kingdom were stripped of granting doctoral degrees, making them exclusive to Madrid.

In 1875, the Faculty of Civil Law established the Escuela de

Notarios and a four-year notarial program that could be taken alongside a Civil Law degree, both taught by the same professors. However, the school was short-lived due to low graduate turnout and limited career opportunities, which favored Spaniards and creoles.

As nationalist sentiments brewing in the underground started to catalyze among university students the likes of Felipe Buencamino, Paciano Rizal, and José Burgos, the Philippine Revolution emerged in the last years of the century. During this time, the Faculty of Civil Law had around more than 400 students enrolled. With the intervention of the Americans and the end of the Spanish colonial rule in 1898, the faculty adapted to the changing political environment. It shifted its focus to the study of cases (*casuistic method*) from the traditional study of philosophies



(Top) Professors of the Faculty of Law (Bottom) Group of students from the 5th Year of Civil Law. *El Tricentenario de la Universidad de Santo Tomas de Manila*. Manila: Tipografía de Santo Tomas, 1912

and the principles of law (continental method).

The Bachelor's degree was shortened to four years with required two years of preparatory courses, with an additional year with five subjects for the Licentiate, and another similar year for the Doctorate.

Out of the sixty-three Thomasian deputies to the National Assembly of Malolos who signed the Constitution of the

State on January 21, 1899, thirty-seven were graduates of Law of the University of Santo Tomas, either in Civil or Canon Law. From a cultural point of view, this is not just a milestone in the history of the Philippines but also a moment of harvesting what almost three centuries of education had produced by the University of Santo Tomas.

The first decades of the 20th century established the Faculty of Civil Law as a leading institution, producing legal experts in the country. With the standardization of the bar in 1901, Law alumni Sergio S. Osmeña and Manuel L. Quezon emerged as topnotchers of the first Philippine Bar Exams. In the same year, Benito Legarda became part of the Philippine Commission. Many distinguished graduates rose to prominence in national leadership and political affairs, most notably in the 1934 Constitutional Assembly that drafted the 1935 Philippine Constitution.

With the growing Philippine journalism, law professors and students were instrumental in the publication of several periodicals such as *Libertas* (1899), a daily newspaper published by the university, whose first editor was Jurisprudence faculty Fr. Buenaventura Garcia Paredes, O.P.; *El Martes Escolar* (1910), the first student review in the country; *Revista Escolar de Derecho* (1920), first monthly organ of the Association of Civil Law Students of the University of Santo Tomas; *Unitas* (1922), organ of the various faculties; and the *Santo Tomas Law Journal* (1938), a student organ preceded the *Law Review*.

Another significant milestone for the Faculty of Civil Law in the early 20th century came in 1916 when the American government, through its Department of Public Instruction, officially recognized its authority to confer the degree in Bachelor of Laws. At the same time, students were given the opportunity to establish student associations such as the Law School Debating Society. In 1923, the university updated its curriculum and provided a balanced liberal education. In line with the Supreme Court's new admission requirements, a two-year pre-law course was introduced as a prerequisite for law students. While the Main Building was constructed in the Sulucan (Sampaloc) campus in 1927, classes in Civil Law remained in Intramuros.

Through a century of growth and transformation, the Faculty of Civil Law remained steadfast in its mission, nurturing generations of scholars and leaders who have helped and guided the nation to move forward.

CONSOLIDATION: 1934-present

The establishment of other law schools during the American occupation led the Faculty of Civil Law into a period of consolidation, adapting to the evolving needs and demands of the legal profession. Following the establishment of the Philippine Commonwealth in 1935, the Faculty of Civil Law opened its Department of Foreign Service to train students for diplomatic and international

business careers. It ceased operations during the Pacific War and briefly reopened in 1964. Also in 1935, the faculty opened its doors to female students, previously granted only to the faculties of Pharmacy, Education, and Philosophy and Letters.

The Japanese occupation in 1942 forced the temporary closure of the faculty. However, despite the challenges of the post-war period, it reopened in 1945 with 138 enrollees, holding classes in the Main Building. By 1955, classes were relocated to the Commerce Building. In 1950, the faculty introduced the *UST Law Review*, a student-edited publication under the deanship of Justice Roberto R. Concepcion, providing a platform for legal scholarship and critical discourse. Starting in 1960, admission to the faculty required students to have completed a bachelor's degree in Arts, Philosophy, Education, Psychology, or Commerce. In 1964, it expanded its academic offerings to include a four-year Bachelor of Laws program and a two-year Bachelor of Science in Foreign Service program.

The faculty continued to prove its excellence in legal education by producing some of the nation's most distinguished leaders. Four Philippine Presidents, namely Manuel L. Quezon, Sergio S. Osmeña, Jose P. Laurel, and Diosdado P. Macapagal. Seven Chief Justices, including Cayetano S. Arellano, Victorino M. Mapa, Manuel G. Araullo, Ramon Q. Avanceña, Roberto R. Concepcion, Andres R. Narvasa, and Diosdado M. Peralta. In addition, several other graduates of the Faculty of Civil Law became members of the judiciary, from the Supreme Court, appellate courts, and various trial courts. It has also produced five graduates who placed first in the annual Bar Examinations: Jose M. Hontiveros (1911), Roberto R. Concepcion (1924), Diosdado P. Macapagal (1933), Arlene M. Maneja (2002), and Ephraim P. Bie (2023). While Jose W. Diokno also topped the Bar Exam in 1944, he was unable to complete his degree at UST due to the Second World War.

In the 21st century, the faculty continued to refine its academic standards. In 2016, it implemented the Philippine Law School Admission Test as an admission requirement in compliance with the directive of the Legal Education Board, though this was discontinued the following year. In 2018, aligning with the Board's policies, the faculty transitioned from offering the Bachelor of Laws to the Juris Doctor degree.

Through centuries of change, from colonial rule to independence and beyond, the Faculty of Civil Law remains a story written in time. Its roots trace back to the foundations of Philippine legal education; its birth laid the foundation for scholarship and service; its growth guided by the wisdom of brilliant minds; and its consolidation secured it as a pillar of legal excellence and leadership.

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***Deans of the Faculty of Civil Law**

- Joaquin de Castañeda
- Domingo de Sanz y Aranz
- Jose Rodriguez Varela
- Mariano de Rojas
- Manuel Galano
- Jose Maria Manuel Jugo
- Jose de Arrieta
- Joaquin Pardo de Tavera
- Baldomero de Hazañas
- Cayetano S. Arellano
- Ramon A. Salinas
- Felicisimo R. Feria
- Gabriel La O
- Roberto R. Concepcion
- Gregorio F. Hernandez Jr.
- Ramon T. Oben
- Antonio M. Molina
- Andres R. Narvasa
- Luis R. Feria
- Roberto R. Concepcion
- Jose Y. Feria
- Andres R. Narvasa
- Eduardo P. Caguioa
- Amado L. Dimayuga
- Jaime M. Lantin
- Augusto K. Aligada Jr.
- Alfredo L. Benipayo
- Roberto A. Abad
- Nilo T. Divina

***This list is incomplete and further verification in the UST Archives is necessary.**

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National Heritage Month 2025

Jr. Lib. Symon Lagao, RL, LPT, MALIS

In line with Proclamation No. 439 (2003), May is celebrated annually as “**National Heritage Month**” (NHM) to foster awareness, respect, and appreciation for the nation’s cultural legacy. This year’s theme, “**Preserving Legacies, Building Futures: Empowering Communities through Heritage**,” highlights the importance of heritage in shaping society. Yearly, the Antonio Vivencio del Rosario (AVdR) UST Heritage Library organizes activities during the NHM to show its commitment to preserving and promoting cultural heritage.

The following activities this year includes the following:

May 2-3

Online Launch and Calendar of Activities: Pubmats on the scheduled activities for the National Heritage Month celebration were uploaded through the Library’s official social media pages.

May 6, 13, 20, 27

Conservation Highlights: This virtual exhibit brought to light restored works chosen by the Assistant Head Librarian for Preservation, Sr. Lib. Ginalyn M. Santiago RL, MLIS. Each book was displayed with images and a concise narrative of its history, significance, and restoration. This included the following:

- Juan Damasceno, San. (1692). *Historia magistral de los gloriosos santos anacoretas Barlaan y Josaphat...* : Manila : por Gaspar de los Reyes.
- Tissot, Simon Andre. (1831). *Ang mahusay na paraan nang pag-gamot sa manga may saquit*. Manila : [publisher not identified].
- San Antonio, Juan Francisco de. (1738-1744). *Chronicas de la Apostolica Provincia de San Gregorio*. Manila : Convento de Ntra. Sra. de Loreto.
- *Instrucciones para la contabilidad del Hospital de San Juan de Dios de Manila*. (1890). Manila : Tipo-Litografía de Chofre y Compania.

May 8, 15, 22, 29

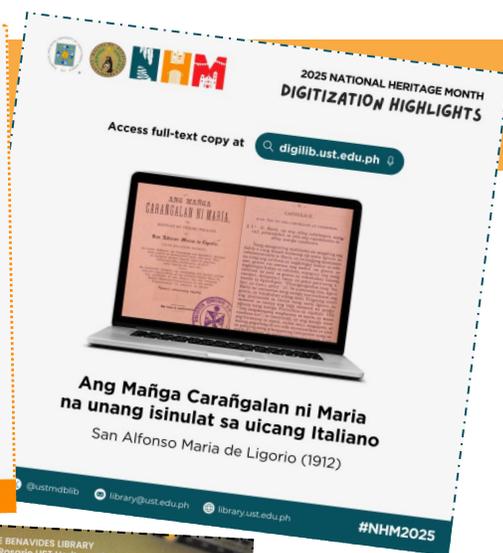
Digitization Highlights: This virtual exhibit featured digitized collections selected by the Assistant Head Librarian for Digitization, Jr. Lib. Symon Lagao, Lagao, RL, LPT, MALIS, and made accessible through the Digital Library website. Each feature was accompanied by a description and the value of its preservation through digitization.

- *Corona Literaria que la Pontificia Universidad de Santo Tomas de Manila dedica y consagra a S.S. Pio X con motivo del quincuagesimo Aniversario de la Definicion Dogmatica de la Inmaculada Concepcion*. (1904). Manila : Tip. Lit. Germania.
- Ligorio, San Alfonso Maria de. (1912). *Ang manga carangalan ni Maria*. Manila : Tip. del Colegio de Santo Tomás.
- *Boletin Eclesiastico del Arzobispado de Manila*. (1876). Manila : Colegio de Santo Tomas.
- Giuvara, Petrus. (1597). *Compendium manualis navarri*. Japan : In Collegio Japonico Societatis Iesu.

May 15

National Heritage Month Forum: This year, the AVdR UST Heritage Library organized a learning session titled “**Libraries as Oases of Encounter: Promoting Cultural Heritage Preservation in the Modern World.**”

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The session reflected on the outcomes of the Libraries in Dialogue event held at the Vatican in November 2024, sharing key insights and recent developments from the international gathering. It discussed Pope Francis' vision of libraries as dynamic institutions that not only preserve the past but also actively contribute to shaping a more informed and connected global society and emphasized the importance of collaboration among cultural heritage libraries and institutions, with the Miguel de Benavides Library recognized as one of the participating organizations. Serving as the resource speaker, Chief Librarian Sr. Lib. Maria Cecilia D. Lobo, RL, MLIS, read perspectives drawn from the dialogue. It was followed by a panel reaction by Inst. Benjohn B. Espares, MA, Assistant Director of the UST Center for Campus Ministry, and Sr. Lib. Michelle M. San Gabriel, RL, MLIS, Head Librarian of the UST Ecclesiastical Faculties Library.

The learning served as a meaningful opportunity to reaffirm the role of libraries as “oases” of encounter that fosters dialogue, understanding, and shared responsibility in preserving cultural heritage.

May 20
Timeless Tuesday: Feel Reel Film Screening

In collaboration with the UST Faculty of Arts and Letters Department of Modern Languages, the Heritage Library organized a film screening of *Diecisiete* (Seventeen), a 2019 Spanish film that follows a 17-year old boy who escapes from a juvenile detention center to reunite with a shelter dog he bonded with, accompanied by his older brother on this heartfelt journey. Beyond showcasing a compelling story, this event sought to promote appreciation for the Spanish language and culture.

The event began with welcome remarks from the Faculty of Arts and Letters Dean, Prof. Melanie D. Turingan, PhD, followed by an opening message from Asst. Prof. Royce Randall G. Lim, Chair of the Department of Modern Languages. Apart from the film showing, the program also featured exciting raffle draws and lively intermission numbers that added to the atmosphere. It concluded with an inspirational message and synthesis delivered by Jr. Lib. Lagao.

As we continuously support the National Heritage Month celebration, may these activities inspire greater appreciation, participation, and action in preserving our shared heritage for generations to come.

From management to engagement: Advancing leadership, innovation, and excellence in library services

Sr. Lib. Chiara Maye N. Santiago, RL, MLIS

Last May 28-30, 2025, some UST librarians, namely, Jr. Lib. Elein G. Caguite, RL, MALIS; Sr. Lib. Kristi Ma. Fevie V. Macasaet-Recinto, RL, MLIS; Jr. Lib. Kaori B. Fuchigami, RL; and Sr. Lib. Chiara Maye N. Santiago, RL, MLIS, had the opportunity to participate in the 2025 summer conference of the Association of Special Libraries in the Philippines that was held at Hotel Monticello, Tagaytay City. The Conference served as an essential platform for discussing the leadership and management skills necessary for the success of information professionals within libraries. The primary objectives of the participants were to encourage collaboration, promote innovation, and facilitate adaptation to evolving environments.

The main focus of the Conference was to enhance library leaders' leadership and management skills to cultivate a dynamic and impactful library that effectively serves its community. The conference included nine sessions focusing on developing self-awareness, relationship-building, and coaching skills. The following speakers were:

1. Hon. Lourdes T. David, Member, Professional Regulatory Board for Librarians
2. Ms. Rochelle D.C. Salonga, RL, MLIS, City Librarian, Valenzuela City Library
3. Mr. Chito N. Angeles, RL, MLIS, Head Librarian, Information Technology Division, University Library, University of the Philippines Diliman
4. Ms. Joenabie E. Arevalo, RL, MLIS, Deputy University Librarian for Readers Services, Rizal Library, Ateneo de Manila University
5. Mr. Kevin Conrad T. Tansiongco, RL, Library Consultant and Faculty, Polytechnic University of the Philippines and Cagayan State University
6. Ms. Ma. Theresa O. Javier, RL, MLIS, Research Librarian and Archivist, Development Academy of the Philippines
7. Ms. Marybel P. Caasi, RL, MAEd LS, University Librarian, University of the Philippines-Manila
8. Mr. Jester Delos Santos, News Anchor, TV5 Network, Inc.
9. Ms. Dianna Lalaine Navea, HR Practitioner and Expert

Ms. David asserted the modern challenges and ethical considerations in Philippine librarianship. She emphasized that the rise of digital information has created new ethical challenges such as ensuring access to reliable information and protecting user privacy. Librarians must be adaptable and innovative in their approach to library services, fully embracing new technologies and responding to the evolving needs of users.

Key points also include upholding intellectual freedom, ensuring user privacy, promoting inclusivity and equitable service, maintaining professional integrity, and respecting intellectual property rights. Ms. David also underscored the need for



UST Librarians Jr. Lib. Fuchigami, Jr. Lib. Caguite, Sr. Lib. Macasaet-Recinto, and Sr. Lib. Santiago, present at summer conference of the Association of Special Libraries.

continuous professional development and ethical leadership.

Ms. Salonga emphasized that library leaders should create their own unique leadership practices. They need to have a clear understanding of their identity as leaders, recognize what strategies are most effective for them, and adopt the best approaches for leading their teams. Library leaders must also set inspiring and motivating goals for their team – establishing bold objectives to guide their direction and actions. Take the time to reflect on their actions and decisions as a leader.

Mr. Angeles said that User Experience (UX) design changes how we think about design. It moves away from focusing mainly on looks and functionality to considering the whole user journey. In library service design, library leaders should focus on understanding what users need and how they behave. This can be done through user-centered design, which means gathering user feedback, looking at how they seek information, and using the result to shape library resources, services, and spaces.

Ms. Arevalo discussed user and community engagement as a process of working collaboratively with and through groups of people. Good communication is a necessary element to have a successful user and community engagement. She also talked about collaboration, partnerships, and empowerment. Her topic also highlighted some issues affecting the well-being of those people in a context of partnership, reciprocity, and facilitated communication, interaction, involvement, and exchange between an organization and a community.

Completed Staff Work (CSW) is a structured approach for analyzing problems and recommending solutions, which

were then presented to supervisors for approval. Mr. Tansiongco highlighted its importance in libraries. The process includes in-depth analysis of an issue, a clear recommendation, and a concise presentation. CSW emphasizes thorough research and consideration of options, enabling library leaders to make informed decisions without needing to review all details.

Ms. Javier emphasized that Agile is a mindset where innovation starts with iteration. Agile promotes flexibility, collaboration, and continuous improvement – principles that align well with the evolving needs of library services, especially in areas like IT, systems development, and user experience design. She introduced project management frameworks such as Scrum, which structures work into focused sprints, and Kanban, which uses visual boards to streamline task flow.

Ms. Caasi delivered an engaging and informative presentation on a marketing plan that she and her team had previously developed during their time at the University of the Philippines Manila. She began by providing background on the purpose and objectives of the marketing plan, emphasizing its relevance to real-world applications and how it was tailored to meet the specific needs of their target audience. Her presentation was not only comprehensive but also practical, as it showcased the step-by-step process they followed – from conducting market research and identifying customer personas to crafting strategies for promotion, pricing, and distribution.

Media literacy was discussed by Mr. Delos Santos, explaining that it involves the ability to responsibly access, analyze, evaluate, create, and interact with various types of media. Fact-checking is essential for evaluating information from news and other sources. The fast-paced nature of social media allows for quick information sharing, but it can also spread disinformation. SIFT (Stop, Investigate, Find better coverage, Trace claims) is a method for assessing the credibility of online information sources. Using SIFT helps individuals critically evaluate content and avoid being misled by inaccurate or biased information. This approach helps individuals assess the credibility of online content before accepting or sharing it.

Ms. Navea, referencing Stephen Covey's "The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People," highlighted how these principles enhance self-leadership and effectiveness among library staff, such as being proactive, beginning with the end in mind, putting first things first, thinking win-win, seeking first to understand, then to be understood, synergizing, and sharpening the saw. By embracing these habits, library staff can cultivate a culture of continuous improvement and collaboration, ultimately leading to enhanced service for patrons. This holistic approach not only fosters individual growth but also strengthens the team's overall performance and effectiveness in achieving their goals.

The 3-day summer conference experience gave us ideas of what we can do to improve our skills as librarians. It ultimately comes down to understanding our determination regarding what we do, why we do it, and how we go about it. It also reminded us that self-leadership is not about becoming perfect; it is about becoming honest, intentional, and whole.

Nurturing networks: MOU talks at BSP Hub

Sr. Lib. Edward H. Puzon, RL, LPT, MALIS



Chief Librarian Lobo and Graduate School Librarian, Sr. Lib Puzon, at the BSP

In a continued effort to strengthen institutional ties, the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) Library hosted key stakeholders and partners at the BSP Hub on May 28, 2025, to explore collaborative opportunities. Senior Librarians Maria Cecilia D. Lobo, MLIS, Chief Librarian of the UST Miguel de Benavides Library (MdbL), and Edward H. Puzon, RL, LPT, MALIS, Chair of the Linkages and Research Committee, were among the invited participants.

The gathering welcomed librarians from various sectors, including academic, public, and special libraries, and was led by BSP Library Manager, Mr. Rothman T. Lim. Guests were treated to an insightful orientation on the BSP Library's rich history, functions, and diverse services, given by UST Library Science alumna and Bank Officer IV, Ms. Leona Rica T. Manalo, RL, MLIS. Following this, Mr. Archie D. Calo, Bank Librarian III, provided a concise overview of the WorldShare Management System and CONTENTdm, the Library Management Systems currently in use.

Mr. Lim then proceeded to talk about the Knowledge Resource Network (KRN), a program designed to enhance public understanding of key economic and financial concepts by facilitating information exchange among its network members. The event's emcee, Ms. Jelene Rae P. Rubio, RL, MLIS, also a Bank librarian III and UST BLIS alumna, skillfully facilitated an interactive session where participants drafted and presented key points for a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

Participants enjoyed a tour of the newly renovated BSP Library, located on the 2nd floor of the BSP Hub Building at Roxas Boulevard Service Road. The staff showcased the functional elegance of the space, set to welcome the public on June 4, 2025. The event concluded with a sumptuous lunch that fostered further networking.

The materials that the BSP donates to the UST MdbL through the KRN are now housed at the Filipiniana Section, 4th floor of the UST Library, where they are maintained and made available to the Thomasian community.

The transformative journey of the UST Library Social Sciences Section

Sr. Lib Arlene P. Matias, RL, MLIS

The Social Sciences Section of the University of Santo Tomas (UST) Library has undergone significant transformation since its establishment. Before 1990, the section's collection was located at the UST Main Building, initially managed by Ms. Cynthia Bucay, then by Ms. Imelda Borcela and later overseen by Ms. Anne Garcia. Other academic disciplines maintained their collections in various colleges, resulting in a fragmented library system. The commerce and accounting books were housed in the Commerce building, with Ms. Theodora Albano serving as the librarian before being succeeded by Ms. Nora Matawaran. Likewise, the Education collection, including resources on tourism and physical education, was located in the Education building, initially handled by Ms. Lydia Bernardo, followed by Ms. Juana Abello, then Ms. Elizabeth Macapinlac (Manuel, Matawaran & Subaldo, personal communication, March 25, 2025). While this decentralized approach allowed each college and faculty to curate specialized resources tailored to their specific needs, it also posed significant challenges in terms of accessibility and resource sharing, limiting collaboration and support for the community.

The dream of an exclusive library building for the University finally materialized in 1985 through the initiative of the then UST Rector, Rev. Fr. Norberto M. Castillo, O.P., when construction for a centralized facility began. This marked a significant step toward modernizing library services and ensuring a more efficient system for students and faculty. On October 29, 1989, the UST Central Library Building was officially

inaugurated (University of Santo Tomas Library, n.d.), signifying the unification of various subject collections under one roof.

By 1991, the Social Sciences Section was fully transferred to the third floor of the new Library building, where it incorporated existing social sciences materials as well as collections related to education, tourism, food technology and nutrition, accountancy, commerce, business, entrepreneurship, human resources, and physical education.

During this period, Rev. Fr. Ermito G. de Sagon, O.P., served as the Prefect of Libraries from 1991 to 1992, overseeing the continued consolidation of resources within the Central Library. He was succeeded by Rev. Fr. Angel Aparicio, O.P., who has served as Prefect of Libraries from 1992 to present, playing a crucial role in the Library's continuous growth and adaptation to emerging academic needs. Ms. Leony Manuel took charge of the Social Sciences Section, ensuring its organization and accessibility to students and researchers. In October 2005, the Central Library was officially renamed the Miguel de Benavides Library (Majuelo, 2006), further solidifying its role as a cornerstone of academic support. In 2017, Ms. Arlene Matias was appointed as head of the section, continuing its development to meet the evolving needs of students and researchers.

The transition to a centralized library was a defining moment in the University's history, reinforcing the role of the Social Sciences Section in fostering academic excellence and inter-disciplinary collaboration.

“Book talk”

Sr. Lib. Lady Catherine R. De Leon, RL, MLIS

The UST Faculty of Arts and Letters, Department of History, hosted a compelling book talk on **“Everyday Life in the Philippines, 1657–1699”** selections from the manuscript of Juan de Paz at the Martyrs’ Hall on May 14, 2025. Editors and authors Marya Svetlana Camacho, Maria Eloisa de Castro, Romeo Galang, Josefti Nito, and Juan Mesquida took center stage to share insights on their groundbreaking work, which draws from a rare 17th-century manuscript housed in the Archivo de la Universidad de Santo Tomás.

This scholarly volume explores the writings of Dominican friar Juan de Paz, whose *‘consultas’* – responses to legal and moral questions – offer a rare window into the everyday concerns of people in colonial Philippine society. From disputes among neighbors to matters of faith, the text reveals the complexities of life across different ethnicities, occupations, and social classes during the Spanish colonial era. Translated into English for the first time, these documents are now

accessible to a wider audience of students and researchers interested in Philippine and Spanish imperial history.

In support of this important publication, the UST Miguel de Benavides Library has acquired a copy of the book, now available at the *Filipiniana* Section. The volume was signed by the authors and editors during the event, making it a valuable addition to the University’s growing collection of historical works. Present at the event were Rev. Fr. Angel Aparicio, O.P., Prefect of Libraries and Sr. Lib. Lady Catherine R. De Leon, RL, MLIS, *Filipiniana* librarian, both of whom expressed their appreciation for the project’s contribution to the preservation and dissemination of Philippine heritage.

The “Book Talk” not only highlighted the value of archival research and translation work but also reaffirmed UST’s commitment to supporting scholarship that deepens our understanding of the nation’s rich and complex past.

UST Miguel de Benavides Library participates in evacuation drills

Sr. Lib. Jonas T. Sahagun, RL, MLIS

The UST Miguel de Benavides Library has maintained its commitment to campus safety through active participation in several evacuation drills over the past several months. These drills (sector quadrant, and campus-wide) underscored the institution’s proactive measures to ensure the safety of students, faculty, and staff.

The Library participated in sector drills (October-November 2024), a focused exercise to review and refine the evacuation procedures specific to individual buildings. This initial drill allowed staff and library users to familiarize themselves with emergency exits and safety protocols.

The quadrant drills (March and April 2025) expanded the scope of these safety efforts by involving a larger portion of the campus. During the quadrant drill, Local Incident Management Teams were responsible for navigating through assigned routes and assembly areas, requiring coordination with adjacent buildings.

The most comprehensive of the drills occurred on April 30, 2025, when the entire campus participated in an evacuation exercise. The event saw every member of the UST community – students, faculty, and staff alike working together to simulate an emergency evacuation.

Throughout these drills, the Library demonstrated that safety is a shared responsibility and fostered a culture of preparedness. By



Participants of the campus-wide evacuation drill from the UST Library as they assemble at the designated evacuation area at the UST field.

continuously evaluating and updating the disaster preparedness plan, the Library contributes to a safer and more responsive environment for everyone on campus.

As the UST community reflects on these drills, the ongoing commitment to safety remains a top priority; and regular, well-structured emergency preparedness exercises are essential in safeguarding lives and ensuring that every person knows what to do when it matters most.

Graduate Research Colloquia connects academic minds

Sr. Lib. Edward H. Puzon, RL, LPT, MALIS



Graduate Research Colloquia participants pose for a group picture at the lobby of the Tony Tan Caktiong Innovation Center (Photo credits from the UST GS- Office for Graduate Research Facebook Page).

As envisioned by Rev. Fr. Richard Ang, O.P., Rector of the University of Santo Tomas (UST), conveyed during his installation, with the goal to elevate UST as the "leading Catholic Institution of learning in the ASEAN region with the fastest-growing reputation in education, research, and service," the UST Graduate School, through the Office for Graduate Research (OGR), hosted the Graduate Research Colloquia (GRC) for the 2nd Term of AY 2024-2025.

It was held at the UST Santa Rosa-Tony Tan Caktiong Innovation Center (UST-TTCIC) in Laguna on March 22, 2025. Prof. Philipina A. Marcelo, PhD, Asst. to the Rector for UST Santa Rosa, welcomed the participants from UST Manila composed of 109 presenters from various disciplines together with their advisers and panelists. As Prof. Marcelo emphasized, this GRC is a historic event for the University with it being the first time that this academic exercise was held. Attendees gathered at the UST-TTCIC named after its donor, Dr. Tony Tan Caktiong, chairman and founder of Jollibee Foods Corporation (JFC). Prof. Michael Anthony C. Vasco, PhD, Dean of the UST Graduate School, gave the opening remarks followed by the guidelines of the GRC as presented by Prof. Grecebio

Jonathan D. Alejandro, rer. nat., Director of the OGR. Ms. Ma. Ailil B. Alvarez and Mr. Paul A. Castillo served as emcees for the opening.

Sr. Lib. Edward H. Puzon, RL, LPT, MALIS, Graduate School Section Head Librarian of the UST Library, who served as a panel member for a Master of Arts major in Library and Information Science (MALIS) candidate, Ms. Mary Abigail B. Correa. This particular session was chaired by Assoc. Prof. Emmanuel D. Batoon, PhD and was participated in by the thesis adviser Assoc. Prof. Teresita Hernandez-Calma, PhD, and panelist Asst. Prof. Sonia M. Gementiza, PhD, who stood in for Prof. Nora J. Claravall, Ed.D.

With the GRC affording intellectual engagement and rigorous critique, highlighting constructive feedback toward the refinement of research ideas, the event served as an opportunity for the promotion of scholarly dialogue, strongly adhering to the intent to which the UST-TTCIC was built for, as previously declared by Dr. Tan Caktiong – to champion innovation, foster connection, empathy, and compassion.

With deep gratitude for a life lived in generous service to God and His people, the University announces the passing of

**† Rev. Fr. Javier Arrázola Elorza, O.P.
(20 November 1934 – 17 April 2025),**

who was born on 20 November 1934 in Legazpia (Guipúzcoa), Spain, and returned to our Creator on 17 April 2025, Holy Thursday, at 3:00 pm. He was 90 years old. Responding to the call of religious life, he entered the novitiate at the Convento de Santo Domingo in Ocaña (Toledo) and made his first profession on 11 July 1954. He pursued philosophical studies at the Convento de Santo Tomás in Ávila (1954–1957) and theological studies at the Albertinum in Nijmegen, the Netherlands (1957–1960), where he was ordained to the priesthood on 22 July 1960.

Throughout his religious life, Fr. Arrázola carried out his ministry with tireless dedication, especially in the areas of pastoral work, education, and formation across various mission territories. In the Philippines (1963–1985, 1990–1995), he served as Vice Rector (1970–1972) and eventually the 7th Rector (1979–1985) of the UST Central Seminary. He also served as Prior of the Priory of St. Thomas Aquinas (1972–1978), while concurrently serving as Prefect of the UST Miguel de Benavides Library (1973–1978). From 1990 to 1995, he became Superior of Nuestra Señora del Rosario House in Binondo, and in 1994, was appointed as the 5th parish priest of Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary – Binondo Chinese Parish (1994–1995).

In Spain (1985–1990), Fr. Arrázola took on the important role of Master of Students. From 1995 until his passing in 2025, he served in South Korea, where he was instrumental in establishing the Dominican mission. He became Superior of the St. Dominic House in Seoul (2000–2003, 2007–2010) and later served as Vicar of the Provincial for the Mission in Korea (2010–2012). Near the close of his earthly pilgrimage, he continued his pastoral ministry, and also served as Cantor and Assistant for Justice and Peace. Fr. Arrázola is remembered with great affection and respect by his Dominican brothers, the faithful whose lives he touched, and the generations of priests and religious he formed with wisdom and compassion.

We invite the Thomasian community to offer prayers for the eternal repose of the soul of †Rev. Fr. Javier Arrázola Elorza, O.P. Laid to rest on 18 April 2025, Good Friday, we entrust his soul to the eternal embrace of the Risen Lord he so generously served.

“Well done, my good and faithful servant... come share your master’s joy” (Mt 25:23).

Living Rosary 2025

Ms. Jenalyn D. Aninao, LPT

The Living Rosary carries profound spiritual and communal significance, serving as a powerful expression of faith. By forming a physical chain, participants embody unity and devotion through prayer.

On May 31, 2025, the UST Miguel de Benavides Library, under the Human Values Committee, marked the conclusion of the *Flores de Mayo* celebration with this meaningful tradition. Library staff gathered in a large circular formation, symbolizing a continuous link of prayer. Following the Dominican tradition – which typically omits the Apostles' Creed at the start – each member was assigned a prayer, offering it before the statue of Mama Mary near the Music Section at the ground floor. Between each mystery, the chorus of Ave Maria was sung, encouraging deep reflection as flowers were offered.

Through these elements, the Living Rosary became a profoundly immersive experience, blending devotion, contemplation, and communal connection. The event reinforced the unity among the Library and maintenance staff, strengthened through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

OUTREACH

"Grab a book and win a friend"

Sr. Lib. Michelle M. San Gabriel, RL, MLIS

LITERARY CORNER

Green enough

Sr. Lib. Rose Anne Camille C.
Dionisio-Galang, RL, MLIS

I once look on the other side of the fence
I noticed how the grass is vibrantly dense
I look mine - not as luscious yet with no crack
I don't know where things may have gone off track.

Carefully thoughtless, thoughtfully careless
I unconsciously become reckless
Missed what matters, missing what matters
Slowly, something shatters.

Day by day, jealousy goes by
Every night, envy does not bid goodbye
Simultaneously, my grass did not thrive
Gradually, resentment is eating me alive.

Dawning unto me what I did neglect
I came to realize what I should have checked
Because if I am mentally tough
I have believed that my green is green enough.

The University of Santo Tomas (UST) Library Committee on Extension Services launched an impactful literacy outreach program titled "**Grab a Book and Win a Friend.**" This happened on April 11, 2025 at the Sitio San Martin de Porres Library in Bamban, Tarlac. Spearheaded by Sr. Lib. Michelle M. San Gabriel, RL, MLIS, Chair of the Committee, with the presence of the UST Chief Librarian, Sr. Lib. Maria Cecilia D. Lobo, RL, MLIS. The initiative aimed to cultivate literacy and social skills among

50 Aeta grades 4 and 5 students through peer partnerships and interactive reading activities.

The day began with an energetic icebreaker led by one of the Library staff, Ms. Madelyn R. Perez, where children guessed iconic book characters from visual clues, generating enthusiasm for the activities ahead.



One UST librarian, Sr. Lib. Rosemary B. Balbin, RL, MLIS, conducted a guided Library tour, familiarizing students with the resources and organization of the San Martin de Porres Library.

The program's highlight featured a "**Book Buddy**" system where each student was paired with a reading partner. Together, they explored chosen books and engaged in facilitated discussions led by Ms. Arleen M. Abad, answering reflective questions about their reading experiences.

Students completed book review exercises with sentence starters such as "The most interesting thing about the book is..." and "I would recommend this book to my friend because..." These reviews were proudly displayed on the newly created "Library Wall of Fame" bulletin board.

The program concluded with snacks and a photo booth showcasing the books selected by the students. These photos were later added to the bulletin board, creating lasting memories of their literary achievements. The initiative, supported by the other UST Library committees, successfully promoted reading comprehension, social interaction, and genuine enthusiasm for literacy among the participating Aeta students.

Cottolengo Filipino Inc. celebrates 25 years of compassion and faith

Sr. Lib. Michelle M. San Gabriel, RL, MLIS

On May 17, 2025, Cottolengo Filipino, Inc. (CFI) in Rodriguez, Rizal celebrated its 25th anniversary alongside the feast day of its founder, Saint Luigi Orione. The event brought together staff, volunteers, children, and guests in a testament to faith, hope, and commitment.

The day began with a Eucharistic Mass officiated by Rev. Fr. John Castillo, FDP, Delegate Superior of the Congregation, where attendees reflected on the Organization's journey from modest beginnings to becoming a beacon of compassion in the Philippines.

Following the mass, a meaningful program highlighted the Congregation's rich history, where Board of Trustees member Ms. Mercedes Victoria DF. Guerrero shared insights on the CFI's growth. Subsequently, key milestones and heartwarming stories of the Organization were showcased in a captivating video. Festivities continued with lively dance performances by the CFI children and the Little Missionary Sisters of Charity. A community lunch fostered fellowship among staff, visitors, and children under CFI's care.

A legacy of service: from humble beginnings to enduring hope

Rev. Fr. Oreste Ferrari I, FDP, an Italian priest and novice master of the Sons of Divine Providence Congregation, provided a compelling account of the CFI roots in the Philippines. He recounted how the mission began in 1991, following a pivotal visit from Fr. Angelo Mugnai. The Mother of Divine Providence Parish was established in Payatas, Quezon City, in 1992, an area then known as "Metro Manila's new Smokey Mountain" – a place where the Congregation's work was desperately needed. Despite facing hardships and the loss of two priests, the mission grew beyond Payatas. In 1997, land was purchased in Montalban for youth activities. By 1999, the cornerstone of Cottolengo Filipino was laid, and it was inaugurated in 2000. It was inspired by Saint Giuseppe Benedetto Cottolengo, renowned for his compassionate care for the abandoned and disabled.

Cottolengo Filipino Inc. 25th Anniversary & St. Luigi Orione Feast



Looking to the future with gratitude and renewed commitment

Fr. John Carl Gene B. Volante, FDP, the Vice Director, delivered the closing remarks, thanking participants for 25 years of dedicated service. Among the special guests were UST Library staff members, including benefactor Rev. Fr. Angel Aparicio, O.P., UST Prefect of Libraries, and former Chair of the UST Library Community and Extension Services Committee, Sr. Lib. Narcelita Lane T. Olamit, RL, who started the Library's outreach at Cottolengo Filipino in 2013. Current Chair Sr. Lib. Michelle M. San Gabriel, RL, MLIS, and Committee member Ms. Madelyn R. Perez were also in attendance.

The event emphasized the happiness and strength of the children, which reflects our shared human spirit. Cottolengo Filipino, Inc. remains dedicated to caring for those in need, inspired by the legacies of Saints Orione and Cottolengo. The celebration not only honored a rich past but also cast a hopeful gaze toward the future, reaffirming CFI's unwavering commitment to serving the vulnerable with compassion rooted in faith.

Borgonia wins theme and logo contest

Mr. Cristen E. Borgonia



A winning theme and logo that inspired a movement

In a spectacular showcase of talent, teamwork, and spirit, the UST support staff sportsfest 2025 was set to go down in history not only for its games, but for the powerful theme and logo that brought everyone together.

A theme that unites

The winning theme, “Rise as One, Ignite Hope, Embrace Victory,” was not just a slogan but a movement the calls each participant to:

- Rise as one: Standing shoulder to shoulder, leaving divisions behind, and moving forward together as a united community.

- Ignite, hope: Sparking positivity, courage, and the belief that every challenge can be overcome.
- Embrace victory: Celebrating every achievement, not just winning games but conquering fears, building friendships, and pushing personal limits.

In a time where connection and encouragement are more vital than ever, this theme uplifts every individual’s role in the bigger picture proving that true victory lies in solidarity and shared purpose.

A logo that captures the spirit

The winning logo is a visual triumph. Dominated by a shining golden trophy, it represents excellence, determination, and the glory of sportsmanship. Bold lettering with a sleek blue and gold palette exudes strength and prestige.

Surrounding the trophy are iconic sports elements from basketball, volleyball, badminton to chess and table tennis symbolizing the unity and sportsmanship of this event. Each sport reflects a different strength, but all contribute to one unified goal: victory through unity.

Notably, the logos of the organizing bodies proudly sit beneath the trophy, grounding the design in identity, purpose, and official recognition from the University of Santo Tomas, Human Resource Department and *Samahan ng mga Manggagawa* (SM-UST).

More than just a competition

This theme and logo are more than branding; they are beacons of hope, identity, and aspiration for the entire support staff community. They remind us that sports are not only about strength or skill, it is about rising together, believing in the power of unity, and celebrating both big and small wins.

As Sportsfest 2025 unfolds, may we all carry this spirit forward on and off the field. Together, we RISE AS ONE, IGNITE HOPE, EMBRACE VICTORY!

EDITORIAL STAFF

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Edward H. Puzon

-Asst. Editor-

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Jenalyn D. Aninao

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Lady Catherine R. De Leon

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English Editor:

Ms. Estrella S. Majuelo

-Advisers-

Fr. Angel Aparicio, O.P.

Ms. Maria Cecilia D. Lobo

Published quarterly by UST Miguel de Benavides Library, UST, Manila.

 library.ust.edu.ph

 library@ust.edu.ph



@ustmdblib