SOSE students and faculty reap awards and honors

David Peralta awarded 3rd place in BPI-DOST Research Awards for work on ginger

David P. Peralta, IV BS/MS Chemistry, placed 3rd in the Project of the Year Competition of the BPI-DOST Science Awards held last January 24 at the Bank of the Philippine Islands headquarters in Makati.

His work, entitled “Isolation, Purification, and Characterization of a 25-35kDa Glycosidase from Ginger (Zingiber officinale),” involved the characterization of an enzyme that is able to convert some plant compounds from an inactive form to its active form. He undertook the project for his BS Chemistry thesis under the guidance of Nina Rosario L. Rojas, Ph.D., Chair of the Department of Chemistry.

Every year, the BPI and DOST select six projects from over thirty projects of the current BPI-DOST Science Awardees nationwide. The six projects are presented orally to a board of judges.

Two of this year’s six finalists came from the Ateneo. Aside from David, his mentor was Raphael Guerrero, Ph.D., of the Department of Physics.

The SWEEP contest required teams to develop novel wireless service applications that can be accessed via the Smart network using SMS, MMS, WAP, GPRS, SIP, voice, or Bluetooth.

Ateneo’s team Atlas bagged the first place with an integrated system that provides commuters precise information regarding directions to a selected destination both by public transport and by car. Based on the texted keywords, the service provides the client with either an SMS or MMS reply.

DOST outstanding MS thesis award

Lorna Arao-de Leoz, an instructor and MS Chemistry graduate of the Department of Chemistry, won the award for Outstanding Thesis in Advanced Science and Technology Research and Development (PCASTRD) of the Department of Science and Technology (DOST).

Lorna de Leoz receives the Outstanding Thesis Award from DOST Secretary Engr. Edelberto S. Mariano as other officials look on.

Lorna de Leoz, an instructor and MS Chemistry graduate of the Department of Chemistry, won the award for Outstanding Thesis in Advanced Science and Technology Research and Development (PCASTRD) of the Department of Science and Technology (DOST). The awarding ceremony took place last December 9 at the PHIVOLCS Auditorium at UP Diliman.

De Leoz’s MS thesis entitled “A Modified Synthetic Method for Mitoxantrone, An Anti-cancer Drug” was chosen among many contenders in the field of chemistry from various universities. Her thesis adviser was Modesto T. Chua, Ph.D., of the Department of Chemistry and Executive Director of the Philippine Institute of Pure and Applied Chemistry (PIPAC). De Leoz did her research in collaboration with Mary Ann Endoma, Ph.D., of UP Diliman Institute of Chemistry and Gisela Concepcion, Ph.D. and Lourdes Cruz, Ph.D., both from the UP Marine Science Institute.

This is not the first time that de Leoz has received an award for this research. In March 2003, she also won first place in the SOSE Awards for Outstanding Student Research, Graduate Level.

De Leoz completed her undergraduates education at the Ateneo with a BS Chemistry in 1994 and a BS Computer Engineering in 1995. She was recently accepted to the PhD Chemistry program at the University of California, Davis.

The 15th ASPAC Parangal at Pasasalamat

(to read more on ASPAC, turn to page 9)
Freshman AMF major is Philippine Statistics Quiz National Champion

The Mathematics Department is proud of Monzenn Carlo Mallari. This freshman BS M Applied Math Finance major won the national championship in the 16th Philippine Statistics Quiz National Finals last December at the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas, Manila.

Monzenn, who represented the National Capital Region (NCR) in the national finals, bested seventeen other regional finalists. He received a trophy, certificate, and P25,000 cash. His coach was Raul Raltrill of the Mathematics Department.

This nationwide competition is conducted by the Philippine Statistical Association.

19th Annual Stat-is-Eeks winner

The Ateneo-AMS A team won First Place in the 19th Annual Stat-is-Eeks, a statistics quiz competition held last September at NISMED, UP Diliman, organized by the UP Statistical Society. The Ateneo-AMS A team was composed of Seigfried Baluyot (III BS Ma), Malerie Dy (III BS AMP) and Neil Ivan Lee (III BS Ma).

The Ateneo Mathematics Department sent five teams consisting of Mathematics and Management Engineering majors to the competition. All of them qualified for the final round. The awardees received cash prizes while the team received cash, medals, and a trophy. They were around 35 teams, from colleges and universities in Metro Manila and nearby provinces. Raul Raltrill of the Mathematics Department was the team coach.

Ateneo wins first place at UP programming contest

For several years now, Ateneo has been first place at the UP Manila programming contest. This year, the Ateneo team, consisting of Neil Wilber Li and Michael Joseph Tan, both III BSCS, again won first place at the contest held in January. John Patrick Manalo (I BSCS) was alternate contestant.

The contestants were given two problems to be solved in three hours. One involved converting alphanumeric phone numbers to standard form, and determining duplicate numbers by sorting or using hash tables. The Ateneo team garnered 200 points out of 200. De La Salle University made 125 points to come in at second place. UP Diliman came in third with 100 points. Neil is with team Gamma at the ACM-ICPC contest. Michael is with team Persistence at the ACM-ICPC contest. Ateneo’s top team, The Linden BoyZ, is staying away from local competitions, as they prepare for the ACM World Finals in April, 2006, in San Antonio Texas.

Ateneo places second in the Clash of the Brains

The Clash of the Brains is an annual computer science trivia contest held by the De La Salle Computer Society. Ateneo has dominated this competition, placing first for five straight years. This year, the Clash of the Brains has moved to a new format in which a total of twenty-eight trivia questions are given, grouped into thirty, with judges conducting in real-time. The contestants in multiple-choice format. This year, Ateneo placed second to the University of the Philippines - Diliman after a very decisive final round at the contest held last November.

The Ateneo team was composed of Randolph Espinosa (IV BSCS), Gil Russell San Pedro (IV BSCS), Jan Vincent Llwianan (III BSCS), and Ealden Esto Escanan (IV BS MIS). The team was coached by Eric Vidal of the Department of Informations Systems and Computer Science.

Chemistry assistant professor does post-doctoral research at Albert Einstein College of Medicine

Biology compounds are generally divided into genes, proteins, lipids and carbohydrates. While genomics and proteomics have achieved a certain level of public popularity, knowledge regarding carbohydrates is usually limited to simple sugars, such as sucrose and glucose.

Glycobiology is a relatively new field of study that seeks to understand the intricate and important role that various sugars have in biological systems. Jennifer T. Aguilan, Ph.D., assistant professor at the Department of Chemistry, is currently a post-doctoral research associate at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine in New York City, conducting research in the field of glycobiology. She is studying a fundamental biochemical process called glycosylation, which is needed to understand various congenital diseases, immunologic conditions and muscular dystrophies.

Dr. Aguilan completed her Ph.D. Chemistry at Ateneo in 2005 working on the structure of kappacarragenan, the carbohydrate found in seaweeds. Her research was recognized by the SOSE Outstanding Student Research and CHED Republika awards.

Mark Punzalan: Positive exposure

Mark Punzalan spent much of his senior year looking for pictures. Given a large database of images, he tried to develop an efficient way of searching for images using visual examples. Instead of describing pictures using key words and other text-based classifiers, a user can query his system using a color scheme or spatial layout. For this achievement, he was named one of the 2006 BPI Science Awardees of the Ateneo de Manila University.

Mark has done the Ateneo proud in numerous computer science contests, the most prestigious of which is the ACM International Collegiate Programming Competition (ACM ICPC). Mark is one of the three Linden BoyZ representing the Ateneo and the Philippines in the ACM ICPC World Finals that will be held in San Antonio, Texas in April 2006.

To relax, Mark strums his guitar, reads Isaac Asimov, shoots hoops, or plays table tennis. He can also solve a Rubik’s cube in less than one minute.

David Peralta awarded 3rd place... (from page 1)

Final judging of the projects was based on the scientific merit, commercial potential, and national impact. Judges included BPI and DOST officials and invited experts. The BPI-DOST Awards of the Ateneo de Manila will be given at a ceremony on March 8.

Aside from being a candidate for magna cum laude honors this March, David heads the Ateneo Chemical Society (ACHES) and sings with Kinema. He looks forward to the study tour this summer of the advanced German class. David can be considered a second generation BPI Science Awardee because his thesis mentor, Dr. Rojas also received a BPI Science Award in 1990. He will stay for another year at the Chemistry Department to complete a BS/MS Chemistry five-year degree program.
From his vantage point, Felix Muga of the Mathematics Department is in a perfect position to look back as well as forward.

In nearly thirty years of an academic career, he has taught, done research, won awards, and been able to inject a healthy dose of activism into his work. “Fulfilled” is how he feels when he looks back at the years between graduating magna cum laude from Silliman University in 1979, and today, when he finds himself firmly ensconced in the Ateneo de Manila University, with a doctorate from the University of the Philippines, and with a 1998 Outstanding Young Scientist Award from the National Academy of Science and Technology (NAST) under his belt.

At present, he is involved with Outstanding Young Scientists Inc., the computer science and operations research section of the National Research Council of the Philippines (NRCP), the TeX User Group of the Philippines (TUG-Phil.), the Computing Society of the Philippines (CSP), the CHED Technical Sub-Panel in Mathematics, the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE) Computer Society, the Association of Computer Machinery (ACM), the Mathematical Society of the Philippines, and the Southeast Asian Bulletin of Mathematics.

Aside from this, combinatorial network theory and graph theory are also at the top of Felix’s list of favorite research topics. His papers have appeared in journals such as Matimyas Matematika, Science Diliman, IEEE Transactions on Parallel and Distributed Systems, Southeast Asian Bulletin of Mathematics, and the Loyola Schools Review.

For his research work, he received the Dean’s Awards for Faculty Research from the Ateneo in 2001 and the 2002 Outstanding Scientific Paper Awards given by the NAST.

Giving talks and attending conferences both locally and internationally are regular activities. He has fulfilled stints as visiting researcher at Academia Sinica in Taipei, Taiwan, Fordham University in New York City, and at the University of Aizu in Japan.

His leisure interest in history is no less intellectual than his professional pursuits. Martial history takes priority as he views his favorite Japanese samurai movies. Korean movies also score a high rating from Felix. Time spent with his wife Amy, and daughters Raisa and Regina round out his days. Raisa is starting college, and Regina, well-known to Math Department habitués as the cute little girl with ringlets in her hair, is a preschooler.

Given all his interests, activities, affiliations, and contributions to the university and the country, Felix can gladly look back at a full career in which he has clearly lived as a man of science and a man for others. The future looks equally good, with many more years of worthy work with his colleagues and students at the Loyola Schools and enjoyment with his family, now.

February 2006

Jose Marasigan, Ph.D.

Apart from fellowships in Japan and Australia, and seven years of postgraduate studies at the Technische Hochschule Darmstadt in Germany, Jose Marasigan has spent his entire career at the Ateneo de Manila University. Asked his reason for staying at the Ateneo, he says provisionally had a hand in it. He had finished his graduate studies in Germany and was back at the Ateneo, waiting to leave for a teaching position in Canada, when martial law was declared in 1972. Not only was travel prohibited, but schools had been closed, leaving him jobless for a time. On the day he was to accept a job offer at the operations research division of San Miguel Corporation, the Ateneo reopened, and Jose found himself back in front of a blackboard.

Apart from providence, it was gratitude to two Jesuits that drove Jose to teach. Wallace Campbell, S.J. and Nicholas Kunkel, S.J., then Chair of the Department of Mathematics and Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, respectively, took Jose under their wing when he entered the Ateneo for the first time as a San Pablo, Laguna boy on his own in Manila. They advised him to think of teaching at the Ateneo when Jose asked them how he could repay their kindness.

Thus began an academic career that has now spanned more than forty years. Through the years, Jose, fondly known as Doc Mara to students and colleagues, has been a cornerstone of the Math Dept, dividing his time between his duties as a teacher, researcher, math education advocate, textbook writer and editor, and coach and leader of count- less Philippine teams to international Mathematics Olympics.

He recalls how then Arts and Sciences Dean Bienvenido F. Nievres, S.J. (now President of the Ateneo), decided that teaching should be an Ateneo faculty member’s focus over research. And so they taught, and how they taught! By Jose’s reckoning, their original goal of producing a critical mass of doctoral degree holders in the Philippines has been more than successfully achieved. He says their efforts have paid off, as evidenced by the large number of faculty members with doc- torates that have emerged from their care, who are devoted and committed to mathematics and math education. Were he and other Math Dept stalwarts like Mari-Jo P. Ruiz, Ph.D., and Norman Quimpo, Ph.D., to retire, he believes the department tradition would remain strong, thanks to the next generation of hardworking educators and mathematicians they have mentored.

Along the way, awards have come. In 1982, Jose received the Outstanding Young Scientist Award in Mathematics from the National Academy of Science and Technology (NAST), in recognition of his work and contributions to mathematical education in the Philippines as a professor, author, and researcher in mathematics, and member of the Executive Committee, Faculty Development in Pure and Applied Mathematics Project of the Ateneo-UP-DLSU Consortium. He was the Most Outstanding Senior Lay Teacher for SY 1992-93 of the ADMU. In 1993, he received the Dr. Juan Salcedo Jr. Science Education Award for the Tertiary Level.

Joe continues to commit himself, this time in setting up the Financial Math Program, which, in his opinion, has attracted the “best” students. Among his goals for this program is to build a steady faculty base, which may take several years yet. For now, he enjoys teaching the program’s students. At times, he says his students complain of the demands he makes on them. He believes, though, that this is the only way they can be motivated to perform well. He remarks that during his student days, teachers demanded just as much, and even more, than he now does of his students.

His advice to students continues along these lines. He encourages them to develop a culture of excellence, one of doing and giving one’s best, and to do away with the “parang ma pamutong” attitude. This may partly be the influence of his years in Germany, and his emulation of the “German way,” which he characterizes as thorough, with no half-measures tolerated. From the Germans, he learned the importance of strong foundations and the search for deeper knowledge about one’s area. He shares that during his studies in Germany, “I acquired a depth of understanding about things that I thought I already knew.”

(continued on page 4)
Tribute to math faculty at the Algebra and Combinatorics Conference, Manila 2006

On March 31 to April 2, 2006, the Ateneo’s Department of Mathematics will host a conference on algebra and combinatorics, in honor of its faculty members, Jose A. Marasigan, Ph.D., Mari Jo P. Ruiz, Ph.D., and Norman F. Quimpo, Ph.D., who have worked in these areas. More than a hundred researchers from the Philippines, Japan, Singapore, and other countries, including faculty, students, industrial mathematicians, and computer scientists, will exchange ideas and findings.

Jose A. Marasigan

Dr. Marasigan, who specializes in Geometric Algebra, is best known for his problem solving. He established the Program of Excellence to train talented high school students for the international Math Olympiad. He received the Outstanding Scientist Award in 1992 and the Juan Salcedo Jr. Science Education Award in 1993. He developed the BS M Applied Mathematics major in Mathematical Finance program. Together with some Japanese colleagues, Dr. Marasigan organized the International Conference on Algebraic Combinatorics and Related Topics held in 1994, which was the first international conference on algebraic combinatorics held in Manila.

Dr. Ruiz, who specializes in Graph Theory and Operations Research, is well known not only to Math, but also to Management Engineering majors. She was instrumental in establishing and maintaining the standard of excellence that the Management Engineering Program is known for. She is a member of the editorial board of the international mathematics journal, Graphs and Combinatorics, and of the UNESCO team that produced the traveling exhibit “Experience Mathematics” to promote mathematics awareness and appreciation. She was president of the Southeast Asian Mathematical Society from 1991 to 1993. Dr. Ruiz won the 1992 Metrobank Outstanding Teacher award and was honored by the same body in 2004 for continuing excellence and service.

Dr. Quimpo, whose expertise is in Graph Theory, has made invaluable contributions, which include establishing Ateneo’s BS Applied Math program in Computational Science, writing textbooks, and reviewing papers for the journal Zentratid für Mathe- matics and other journals. But his activities transcend math. Dr. Quimpo was chair of the volunteer NGO Local Initiatives in S&T, which, among others, campaigned against the Bataan Nuclear Power Plant and lobbied for legislation to control high-risk scientific experiments.

The three professors, all former chairs of the Math Department, have been recognized as outstanding teachers by the Ateneo School Parents Council and for their work in Mathematics by the National Research Council of the Philippines.
The Chemistry Building, now renamed Schmitt Hall, is forty years old. To celebrate the anniversary of the building and the department, a Grand Chemistry Alumni Homecoming was held last December.

There are many things to celebrate at the Chemistry Department—the achievements of its students, alumni, faculty, and staff; innovative new programs and evolution of old ones; research, philanthropic, and preservation; and renovations in its infrastructure.

In the Jesuit tradition of “not many, but others,” the department remains a small group, but remains a focused group of dedicated chemists with a strong tradition of excellence and leadership—a legacy from the late William J. Schmitt, S.J., the late Armando F. Kapauan, Ph.D., the late Anna Maria Jellavala, Ph.D., and Modesto T. Chua, Ph.D.

During the 1980s, the department identified four key areas in research in which it wanted to make a difference—analytical and instrumental chemistry, materials and polymers, bioactive compounds—and chemistry education. These remain to be the key growth areas in chemistry in the 21st century. This growth is also mirrored by developments in these areas within the Department of Chemistry.

Analytical chemistry is allied with all the other disciplines and with environmental science research. It is supported by the Research and Development Center, home to the country’s only Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR) Spectrometer and a high resolution Mass Spectrometer. While these are commonly used in research for structural analysis of compounds, they also have applications for more mundane uses, such as determining the tax rates for imported ingredients for plastics or assessing the export quality of soy sauce.

Materials and polymers research generated the new MSE program (see epigraph, this article), as well as collaborations with the paints and coatings industry, the semiconductor industry, and others.

Bioactive natural products and biochemistry research work behind the scenes to develop medicinal products, as well as new directions in molecular medicine in collaboration with the Medical City; the upcoming Ateno School of Medicine and Public Health; and the Department of Biology.

Chemistry education research is high-lighted by faculty involvement in national educational policy formulation and by classroom innovations. For example, an MS Chemistry Education thesis by Chona Malader of the Makati Science High School evolved into Science beyond the Classroom: A Tele-Collaborative Link between the School and the Global Community, involving high school students from as close as Korea to as far away as Finland.

Through the years, the department has also lent its members as leaders for the university, such as the Dean of the School of Science and Engineering, Fabian M. Dyrrit, Ph.D., and the incoming Part-time Teacher Award from ASPAC of Mary Jocelyn A. Gonzales.

All these are part of the culture of service and excellence that the department seeks to nurture in its students, faculty, and staff: living the call to be persons-for-others by also being professionals-for-others, ars invenire.
EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS

The Loyola Schools’ youngest baby is the Health Sciences Program, conceived as the course that offers the seamless curriculum that leads to the Ateneo School of Medicine and Public Health.

Today, it continues to grow and develop as it strives to provide undergraduate training and formation for the “Doctor of the Future.” Medical doctors with specialization in various fields teach the Health Sciences electives. Among them is Alvin Marcelo, MD, who is a recipient of the Ten Outstanding Young Men Award for medical informatics. The Health Sciences program’s early initiatives are the Avian Flu Preparedness Plan of the university.

The Health Sciences program is proud of this schoolyear’s freshmen – its first batch. Twenty-five percent of them are in the Dean’s List. When asked why he took the challenge of enrolling in the Health Science program, Carlo Lenon, a straight-A student who turned down an opportunity to get into the Internet program of UP, had this to say: “Becoming a doctor in a third world country entails training that goes beyond the knowledge of how to cure a person.” Anna Mae de la Cruz, a freshman Merit Scholar and consistent honor student and leader in her high school says: “This program will allow me to become not just an outstanding clinician, but a dynamic manager and social catalyst as well.”

The Department of Biology rocks!

The active participation of scientific, academic and social activities, this has been a busy year for the faculty and students of the Department of Biology.

The school year started with Sweet Bin High Biology Night 2005, a gathering of all biology majors, sponsored by the department and the Biological Organization Xplore Xperience Xcel (BOx).

Biology majors participated in competitions and national examinations where they have performed creditably. Jose Mariano T. Tan II (V1 BS Bio) was an official delegate in the 7th National Ayala Young Leaders Congress.

In the conference scene, a number of papers from the department have garnered citations for their high quality. MS Biology student Elaine Anne Y. Lim and her adviser Vivian Panes, Ph.D., received the Best Paper Award during the 2004 Annual Philippines Society for Mycology Conference held at UP Los Baños last April, for their paper entitled “Genetic Diversity and Species Identification of Philippine Rice Wine Making Yeasts: DNA Fingerprinting Analysis.”

Biology undergraduates Maribel Co and Justine Uy won 3rd Best Poster in the 2nd Annual Bioinformatics Conference and Convention of NIMBUS held at the University of Santo Tomas, Manila in October 2005. Their paper was entitled “Evaluation of Biofilm formation of Candida albicans using Bioinformatics Tools.”

The Department of Electronics, Computer, and Communication Engineering once more unites the academic, industry, and government, through the offering of a master of science degree program in Electronics Engineering (MSEE).

Faithful to its mission of being an active research and development partner of the government and the industry, this research-based graduate program was developed in consultation with the Semiconductor and Electronics Industries Association of the Philippines, Inc. (SEIBP) and the Philippine Council for Advanced Science and Technology Research and Development (PCASTRD). The MS EE program seeks to support the Philippine semiconductor and electronics industry in its drive to increase exports, create more jobs, and move up the value chain.

The MS EE program is Ateneo’s contribution to the commitment in which industry upgrades its engineers through graduate studies, while the government provides the grants for graduate studies, and the academy provides the graduate programs.

The aim of the program is to develop a pool of engineers with advanced skills and cutting edge research expertise.

In 1998, a small group of faculty from the Department of Environmental Science went on an investigatory trip to San Pablo City, Laguna. Its objective: to find out how the department could be of assistance to the local community in establishing an environmental management program for its most treasured and unique resource, the Seven Lakes of San Pablo.

Fishing, the main source of livelihood in the community, is supplemented by small scale agriculture. However, the rapid pace of industrialization in the Calamba area has posed a threat to the sustainability of their resources. Recognizing the urgency of the situation, the ES department committed itself to providing technical assistance to the community.

Since then, the small group of faculty has grown into a network of students and scientists from as far away as the State University of New York at Buffalo and the University of San Francisco who have generously shared their time, resources, and expertise in helping the community learn how to manage and protect their environment. True to the university’s mission of forming men and women for others, the ES department strives to provide excellent technical training in environmental science, tempered with a deep sense of social responsibility.

The Loyola Schools’ youngest baby is the Health Sciences Program, conceived as the course that offers the seamless curriculum that leads to the Ateneo School of Medicine and Public Health.

Today, it continues to grow and develop as it strives to provide undergraduate training and formation for the “Doctor of the Future.” Medical doctors with specialization in various fields teach the Health Sciences electives. Among them is Alvin Marcelo, MD, who is a recipient of the Ten Outstanding Young Men Award for medical informatics. The Health Sciences program’s early initiatives are the Avian Flu Preparedness Plan of the university.

The Health Sciences program is proud of this schoolyear’s freshmen – its first batch. Twenty-five percent of them are in the Dean’s List. When asked why he took the challenge of enrolling in the Health Science program, Carlo Lenon, a straight-A student who turned down an opportunity to get into the Internet program of UP, had this to say: “Becoming a doctor in a third world country entails training that goes beyond the knowledge of how to cure a person.” Anna Mae de la Cruz, a freshman Merit Scholar and consistent honor student and leader in her high school says: “This program will allow me to become not just an outstanding clinician, but a dynamic manager and social catalyst as well.”

A continuous commitment to environmental protection

The departments of Mathematics and Biology continue to be the Department of Education’s (DepEd) partner in strengthening mathematics and biology teacher education in the Philippines at the graduate level.

For six years now, DepEd has been sending public high school mathematics and biology teachers from all regions of the country to the Ateneo de Manila University to pursue their master’s degrees under a fourteen-month scholarship program.

The program, which was a brainchild of the late Bro. Andrew Gonzales when he was secretary of DECS, began in 1999, ended temporarily in 2002, and resumed in 2003, and is now ongoing. The first five batches of scholars received additional funding from the National Educators Academy of the Philippines (NEAP). This schoolyear’s scholars are the first batch to receive scholarships from the Tan Yan Kee Foundation in addition to the DepEd funds. For all six batches, the scholars cover full tuition and fees and travel, living, and book allowance.

The sixteen-month customized graduate scholarship program of the DepEd is just one of its many efforts to provide further training to its secondary school teachers in the fields of mathematics, basic sciences, and English. The departments of Mathematics and Biology were tapped to provide teacher training in their respective fields. The customized programs are quite demanding.

The departments take pride in the achievements of its graduates. Two of the graduates of the Mathematics program, Allan Carunungan, now principal of Ormoc National High School, and Maylan Galicia of Ligan National High School, won the Most Outstanding Teacher Award, Secondary Level given by Metrobank Foundation in 2004 and 2005, respectively, while Generosi Momont from the Biology program won the Metrobank award in 2004.

Many other graduates of the programs are also successful and now occupy important positions in their respective schools.

ECCE launches MS in Electronics Engineering

The Department of Electronics, Computer, and Communication Engineering once more unites the academic, industry, and government, through the offering of a master of science degree program in Electronics Engineering (MSEE).

Faithful to its mission of being an active research and development partner of the government and the industry, this research-based graduate program was developed in consultation with the Semiconductor and Electronics Industries Association of the Philippines, Inc. (SEIBP) and the Philippine Council for Advanced Science and Technology Research and Development (PCASTRD). The MS EE program seeks to support the Philippine semiconductor and electronics industry in its drive to increase exports, create more jobs, and move up the value chain.

The MS EE program is Ateneo’s contribution to the commitment in which industry upgrades its engineers through graduate studies, while the government provides the grants for graduate studies, and the academy provides the graduate programs. The aim of the program is to develop a pool of engineers with advanced skills and cutting edge research expertise.
People talk about the Digital Divide. Karen Michelle S. Padilla (MIS ’05) and Timothy Robert S. Robles II (MIS ’05) decided to do something about it.

Returning from six-month assignments abroad as volunteers to the United Nations Information Technology Services (UNITeS), Karen and Tim recount how the experience changed their lives. The UNITeS mobilizes volunteers in projects that promote information technology for development. It is administered by the United Nations Volunteers (UNV) program.

In school year 2004-05, the Ateneo entered into a memorandum of agreement with the UNV to enable BS Computer Science and BS Management Information Systems graduates to work as UNITeS volunteers with UN partner institutions within and outside the Philippines. DISCS recruited and screened applicants from among the graduating seniors and submitted a shortlist to the UNV. After a series of interviews with the UNV officers and telephonic interviews with prospective UN partners, Karen and Tim were selected for the program.

They left Manila in July 2005 and returned in January 2006. Karen was assigned to the Hung Yen Teachers Training College in Hung Yen, Vietnam, where she taught both students and teachers basic computer literacy skills and web site development. She also helped plan the school’s local area network.

Tim was assigned to work under a non-government organization called the Knowledge Initiative Trust. His duty station was a village school in Goa, India where he and his fellow volunteer from Spain helped the school maximize its computer resources. Their tasks included teaching teachers how to use open office, fixing computers, and assisting students with special exhibits. Tim said that his last task was to teach ninth grade students web page design.

Both Karen and Tim said they joined UNITeS because they were looking for an opportunity to serve. Karen, who lives in Pampanga, said that she was “grateful to have graduated from the Ateneo and wanted to give something back.” Tim said that working for UNITeS was a chance to “do something that was not for myself.”

Their work did not make many technical demands on them, but they were challenged to adjust to living independently in a new environment. They said that the experience was fulfilling and recommend it to their fellow graduates. Karen advises prospective volunteers to be versatile and open-minded. “Expect to learn a lot,” Tim says, “The experience changes you.”

UNITeS volunteers return from six-month assignment

Ateneo-DepEd Masters scholar Maylani Galicia, MS MathEd 2004 (second from right), was selected as one of the MetroBank Outstanding Teachers for Secondary Education for 2005. Allan Canionog, MS Math Ed 2003 (far right), also won the MetroBank award in 2004. Joining them are Catherine Vistro-Yu, Ph.D. and Manuel B. Dy, Jr, Ph.D., who is a humility MetroBank awardee. The awarding ceremony was held last September.

Peter Howard, Ph.D. of the Australian Catholic University visited the Mathematics Department in January. He gave two talks, the first one was on “Mathematics in Australian Schools” on January 19 and “Enhancing Mathematical Learning: the voice of the community people” on January 24. Faculty members and MS Mathematics Education students of the Mathematics department attended his talks.

On January 20, Prof. Jin Akiyama of Tokai University in Tokyo, Japan also gave a lecture in the History of Mathematics class of MariJo P. Ruiz, Ph.D. His talk was attended by faculty members, graduate students and undergraduate students.

Nurturing world-class ICT knowledge workers

Peter Howard, Ph.D.

The Department of Information Systems and Computer Science (DISCS) prides itself in creating an environment that nurtures world-class IT talent.

In the spirit of cura personalis, Pablo Manalastas, Ph.D.; John Paul Vergara, Ph.D., Proceso Fernandez, Joselito Olproc, Eric Vidal, and Christine Amara dedicate their personal time to coach and mentor students in preparation for various competitions. As a result, the Ateneans consistently excel at local and international contests such as the ACM International Programming Competition (ACM ICPC), Hong Kong Shanghai Banking Corporation Young IT Entrepreneurs Award, the UP Diliman Java Cup, the De La Salle University Clash of the Brains, and the UP Manila Programming Contest.

Through its faculty, curricula, and industry partners, DISCS is able to provide students with the technology, practical experience, and employment opportunities to become world-class professionals and researchers. The department’s close ties with industry also provide students with the latest technologies, practitioner inputs, and career opportunities. Through the Ateneo Java Wireless Competency Center (AJWCC), students and graduates are involved in the design and development of commercial wireless applications and services. These products are made available through SMART Communications.

Linkages with Oracle, Microsoft, and Sun Microsystems enable DISCS to provide the latest database and software development tools. The faculty builds courses on advanced databases, embedded systems programming, mobile applications development, and advanced networking on top of these technologies, exposing students to platforms they can expect to use as professionals.

Practitioners from Hewlett Packard and other members of the Philippine Software Industry Association regularly offer electives on topics such as supply chain management, change management, and outsourcing. These electives enrich the CS and MIS curricula by showing students how industry applies the theoretical framework discussed in class.

Our industry partners also help students with practicum placement and employment. Many students find work as interns or regular employees in major corporations such as Microsoft, Hewlett Packard, Canon, IBM, Headstrong, Accenture, SMART Communications, and Globe Telecom.

Our industry friends have only one complaint: we do not have enough IT graduates for them to hire!
Ateneo Science Guild (ASG)

ASG is the cluster of the five accredited science and engineering orgs of the Ateneo sharing one vision – that of creating a community that is aware and active in spreading the beauty and wonders of science, health, and the environment.

Executive Board

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<td>Marguerit E. Magnud</td>
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<td>Allan M. Canlas</td>
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<td>Jesus Riz. D. Pasco</td>
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Ateneo Chemical Society

The Ateneo Chemical Society (ACheS) is the exclusive org of chem majors. Anyone with the heart and curiosity for chemistry can join!

Members participate in seminars, exhibits, quiz bees, company tours, sales, sports festivals, parties, and interschool activities. This year, took part in Kimika Mahika (magic show), the Chemistry Alumni Homecoming, and AChE's Week.

Ateneo Mathematics Society

We define what real passion for math is and prove it. We maximize friendships and minimize conflicts. We choose to make a difference. We let the limit of our excellence approach infinity. We set no bounds for our service. We are the inverse of mediocrity and apathy. We let the limit of our excellence approach infinity. We maximize friendships and minimize conflicts.

We count. We make the complex real. We are the inverse of mediocrity and apathy. We set no bounds for our service. We let the limit of our excellence approach infinity. We maximize friendships and minimize conflicts.

SCiesta! Science Fiesta!

An interactive tradeshow Techno games
The latest gadgets and inventions
These are just some of the things featured at the SCiesta! – a week-long affair celebrating science at the Ateneo. Held last January 16-22, SCiesta was organized by the

Environmental Science Society

The Environmental Science Society provides a venue for students who want to be dynamically involved with the environment. It initiates various environmental advocacy in the Ateneo, offers first-hand experience through coucours, and promotes voluntarism in participating in environmental issues.

Executive Board

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<td>Charlie Anne N. Cayat</td>
<td>President</td>
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<td>Sheryl Jay Ann O. Gutierrez</td>
<td>Internal Vice-chair</td>
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<td>Dante G. Cristino</td>
<td>External Vice-chair</td>
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<td>Carmeline J. Villanueva</td>
<td>Secretary General</td>
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<td>Hannah Paula V. Deon</td>
<td>Finance Officer</td>
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<td>Anna Marie M. Baretto</td>
<td>Moderator</td>
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Academic Excellence + Service + Camaraderie = Ateneo Excellence

We consider excellent academics a project, not an award. Excellence is learning, serving, and proving it.

Loyola Mountaineers

As a Loyola Mountaineer you will go to places where you can swim in pristine lakes, relax on summits in the clouds, and sleep beneath clear night skies with stars made bright by the thin mountain air.

Seeking the preservation, appreciation, and welfare of God’s creation through the promotion of mountaineering as a sport and as a medium for environmental concern is the mission of the Loyola Mountaineers.

Pre Medical Society of the Ateneo

The Pre Medical Society of the Ateneo gives its members a first-hand chance to participate in socially oriented activities, such as medical missions, medicine drives and civic-based health programs. The organization also provides its members with career talks, activities, medical school tours, and other programs designed to help prepare pre-med students for medical school and deepen their passion to become doctors.
An associate professor from the School of Humanities, an assistant professor from the School of Social Sciences, and a lecturer from the School of Science and Engineering joined the list of outstanding teacher awardees of the Ateneo Schools Parents Council (ASPAC). The awarding ceremony, which was held on February 3, at the PLDT-CTC Building, Ateneo de Manila University. The search for outstanding teachers began in 1991 and has given awards to thirty-two faculty members. The annual search is spearheaded by the academics committee of ASPAC. Diego Poblete, Jr. and Daisy Mendola, this schoolyear’s president, and committee chairperson, respectively say that the award “is ASPAC’s way of giving recognition to the people who have helped in moulding the students to be competent men and women for others.”

Each awardee receives a cash prize, a glass trophy by artist Ramon Orlina, a certificate, a plaque of recognition, and a set of the Illustrated History of the World Encyclopedia.

Dr. Intal was given tribute for being a “wonderful person who has been with us through the years, our source of inspiration, the pillar of support in our endeavors, the member of the family who is always there, never imposing but always encouraging.” She was presented with a live orchid plant as a reminder of her “nurturing spirit and love” so that ASPAC will “continue to bloom as you would want...”

The ceremony was also occasion for ASPAC to honor outgoing Vice President for the Loyola Schools, Anna Miren Gonzalez-Intal, Ph.D., herself an Outstanding Junior Teacher Awardee for SY 1997-98.

Teaching and the wealth of friendship

Tomas G. Rosario, Jr.

Tonight, I find myself necessitated to talk about the life of teaching again in view of this award I just received. Lately, I have been teaching and serving students for almost thirty years. In terms of personal honor and achievements, the first twenty years were relatively uneventful except for the fact that I served for sixteen years as dorm proctor and later as director of the Ateneo Residence Halls.

Assuming the role of their [the dormers] second parent or of their big brother, my patience was constantly challenged in my efforts to guide them and even to discipline them. But today, it is an uplifting and lasting joy that certain dormers coming from distant provinces throughout the country continue to communicate with me and even visit me in order to reaffirm and to renew the elevation of our preceptor-dormer relation, or, of our teacher-student relation to the solidarity of friendship. In fact, some of them are here tonight, coming from as far as Pampanga and La Union.

It seemed to me now that fate and destiny has prescribed on me to remain single so that I could care for personal honor and achievements, the late Fr. Francis Reilly, for educating my heart, for constantly instilling good will in me by believing in me and by his patience in guiding me not only during the years when I was his student but also during the early years of my teaching in this university.

When I returned to full-time teaching in schoolyear 1996-97, it marked the beginning of the full blossom of my scholarship although, in relation to my age at that time, we can say that it was already late. Pushing myself to a high level of research discipline, my scholarship for the last nine years has yielded personal benefits like travel opportunities, and major awards. On hindsight, it never crossed my mind during the earliest years of my teaching in Ateneo that I would be able to travel to certain countries in Asia, Western Europe, and even to Russia to participate and to read papers in international conferences. Nor did I dream to win such major awards like the Outstanding Scholarly Work Award sponsored by the Loyola Schools in its initial year in December 2001, the National Book Award in August 2004, and culminating in tonight’s award as Outstanding Senior Teacher.

In all honesty, I am not really a big book reader. But what is significant to note in this narrative of my services to resident students is that they confirm the validity of my belief that the teacher’s patience, sacrifice, and generosity in our students is to propagate good will, which clearly generates mutual good will. I am convinced that teaching involves something much more than training in intellectual skills. It involves more the formation of what Mortimer Adler calls “the educated heart” or what I see as the formation of good will. In fact, I will never forget my Jesuit mentor, the late Fr. Francis Reilly, for educating my heart, for constantly instilling good will in me by believing in me and by his patience in guiding me not only during the years when I was his student but also during the early years of my teaching in this university.

Tonight, on his desk will also be Orlina’s photo by Bj A. Patiño.
Jose Cecilio J. Magadia, S.J.  
Assistant Professor  
Department of Political Science  
School of Social Sciences  
Outstanding Junior Teacher 2006  

If there is someone who exemplifies the Jesuit ideal of total availability in the context of one’s calling and mission, it is Fr. Jojo Magadia. He joined the Political Science Department as a full-time faculty member soon after he finished his Ph.D. in Political Science from Columbia University in 1999. Never one to turn down assignments or requests wherever his help and presence were needed, that semester he agreed without hesitation to teach three classes of the introductory core course, Politics and Governance and an MA course, Demographic and Population Policy.  
The following year, he accepted the position of executive director of the Ateneo Center for Social Policy and Public Affairs, which he has headed until the center’s integration this year into the Ateneo School of Government of which he is now associate dean. In 2001, he was appointed recto of the Loyola House Studies. In 2002, he became concurrent executive director of the Center for Community Services. In the same year, he was elected to the university’s Board of Trustees.

Although all the administrative assignments and apostolates, he has made himself available to teach a wide range of courses in political science, including contemporary issues and problems in Philippine politics, comparative politics, and research methods.  

What is truly remarkable is that the ever-busy Fr. Jojo rarely comes across as harassed, never calling attention to himself nor his difficulties. His students love his pleasant disposition and down-to-earth manner. The female students say he has the most soothing and reassuring voice that makes every 7:10 am class worth attending. He is known for making complicated things simple, leading his students toward maximum comprehension and seeing to it that all unclear points are clarified. Students often wonder how he can make so much sense of the readings for class without sounding too technical. His lectures are always neatly outlined, which makes for trouble-free note-taking and effortless reviewing. When debates ensue in class discussions, Fr. Jojo is always ready to accommodate all sides and calm the eager disputants with a more holistic perspective. Students also appreciate the weight of experience he shares in class coming from his many socio-political involvements outside the academy. Last year, the graduating seniors voted him as the “wisest teacher” during the Blue Roast celebration.

But there is a third level, and that is the fantastic teacher. A teacher teaches from his book; a good teacher drops his book and speaks from the heart; a fantastic teacher often need not even speak at all. His very life is his teaching—his actions, his movements, his lifestyle, the choices he makes, the commitments he lives, the way of proceeding, his total being is his teaching. His actions truly speak louder than his words because he needs to open hearts and minds once more, especially when worlds have become a little too tight and narrow, when styles become too cramped, when choices turn out to become more restricted and the pickings lean.  

Today, we honor the teaching profession. Many of us here in the Ateneo are real teachers, because at least we try to get to know even more what we had earlier began to study. There are also some, I believe, who are already good teachers, but only a countable few will qualify as fantastic. But I would like to think that we are all trying, and tonight, I thank ASPAC for this initiative in giving these awards to us who continue to try to do our best.

I thank the Ateneo community for helping create the conditions for learning to happen. I thank my Jesuit family for being my support and my inspiration. And I thank our families and friends, for giving us the space to give of ourselves, in this most noble of professions, where we have the distinct privilege and opportunity to come in contact with the human mind and the human heart, to form and transform for the better.

Mary Jocelyn Ang  
Lecturer  
Department of Chemistry  
School of Science and Engineering  
Outstanding Part-time teacher

Mary Jocelyn Ang—or Gig, as she is fondly called by colleagues and friends—was recognized this year’s ASPAC Most Outstanding Part-Time Teacher.

Gigi joined the faculty of the Chemistry Department in 1990 after completing her MS Chemistry. Before outside commitments took more of her time, she played an active role in research in electrochemical analysis and was associate chair of the Department of Chemistry. Today, despite her busy schedule running the family’s rubber footwear business, she still takes time to teach her trademark General Chemistry II class and laboratory for chemistry majors.

Her humor and ability to explain complex chemistry in terms of simple analogies was evident in the response she gave during the ASPAC award ceremonies, when she compared the award to thermodynamic stress that disrupted the equilibrium of her life, and her giving as a teacher: the conservation of energy; just as she expends energy to illuminate her students, she hopes that her students, in turn, will do something for society.

José Cecilio J. Magadia, S.J.

The teacher fantastic

A teacher, if he is to be true to his trade, is someone who never stops to get to know his matter more and more—he studies it well, reviews it, turns it on his head, and some might even memorize, as to be able to give back everything in his brain, word-for-word.

But a good teacher is more than just someone who knows his stuff. A good teacher is someone who has gotten to such depth and breadth of knowledge that he is able to be flexible about how he delivers his message, without changing the matter. He knows his stuff so well that he can adjust himself according to the needs of those he is given to teach. A teacher carries books; a good teacher can more easily drop the books, and speak from the heart.

Chemical states

Mary Jocelyn Ang

This award comes as a pleasant surprise at a time when I have thought of myself as being in a state of chemical equilibrium. A system is said to be in a state of chemical equilibrium when all opposing reactions are occurring at the same rate. Such a system is DY-NAMIC, but since the rate of the forward reaction is equal to the rate of the reverse reaction, NO NET CHANGE can be observed.

I have been BUSY; but life has been CONSTANT. Lately, two events have started to disturb my equilibrium. Last week, I finally fulfilled one goal of an alchemist...turned GOLD. Today, I am being described as OUTSTANDING for something that I just love to do.

These two events are STRESSES to my equilibrium. When a stress is applied to a system in a state of equilibrium, the system will always react in the direction that will tend to REDUCE the stress until equilibrium is established again.

As years are added to my system, my system would look for ways to reduce the effects of the added years. Does this mean that I might also fulfill the other goal of an alchemist and ... find my FOUNTAIN OF YOUTH? Not bad at all! How about the outstanding part... does this mean favoring reactions that would lead to a NET LOSS OF ENERGY and become LESS outstanding? Well, I really don’t mind. When a system is allowed to interact with its surroundings, energy lost by the system is gained by its surroundings. Isn’t that what teaching is all about? ... losing our energies to our students, so that someday, they too will lose their energies to their surroundings!

While it is a privilege to be called upon to teach, I am forever grateful to the chemistry department for accommodating me almost every second semester of the school year. I am also thankful to have family and friends who have supported and, in many ways, subsidized my teaching. While it is true that I do part-time teaching, it is NOT my part-time job. Thank you so much for this recognition!
JGSOM Juniors win first and third place at the First Chinese-Filipino Business Club Writing Competition held on February 8 at the CBBC Auditorium, Buendia, Manila.

First Prize: John Leyo Chil, Marco David Doronio, Chloee Ysabelle Lopez, Roselle Jean Nauto, and Patricia San Diego

Second Prize: Gabe Domingo, Kristl Go, Lalaine Ong, Aimee Pua, Johann See, and Therese Syling

Enrico Osi and Dickie Soriano, faculty members of the Department of Marketing and Law Department were advisers to the student groups.

notable achievements

Ang Nilalang ni Ron Capinding

Ron Capinding, a brilliant and talented actor, director and translator, directed Tanghalang Ateno’s final play of its repertory season—Ang Nilalang ni Victor Frankenstein, the play is an adaptation of the Mary Shelley’s classic, Frankenstein, and has run its last in January to early February.

Ron graduated with a degree in Philosophy from the Ateneo and holds an MA in Educational Administration. He is currently an adviser to the Loyola Department of the Ateneo de Manila High School and a lecturer in basic acting for the Theatre Arts Program of the Loyola Schools.

He has received numerous awards, including the Dean’s Awards for Service and Excellence, Best Actor of Gadan ng Sining at Kalambau, both from the Ateneo. He is affiliated with theater organizations such as Bulwagang Bugaw, the Metropolitan Theatre Guild, and Tanghalang Ateno where he is currently the company’s acting moderator, filling in for the TA’s resident moderator and artistic director, Ricardo Abad, Ph.D., who is on sabbatical leave.

Ron began the 27th season of TA with Bayan-Rayaan, a play that he says is very close to his heart. His latest directorial project, Ang Nilalang ni Victor Frankenstein posed a new challenge being a period, modernized classic, poetic, and horrific play rolled up in one. While he felt Rayaan: Katumuan was his best, he now feels that Nilalang is the best play he has directed.

Ron reckoned his inhibitions and unleashed his artistic beast by taking more risks thematically and directorially both with Bayan-Rayaan and Ang Nilalang ni Victor Frankenstein. He hopes that after watching Nilalang, people would have come out with a new appreciation of life and relationships.

TA ends season with Frankenstein

Tanghalang Ateno closed its 27th season with Ang Nilalang ni Victor Frankenstein, a play about the consequences of playing God. The play, a Filipino translation of Neal Bell’s Monster, takes off from Mary Shelley’s classic novel, Frankenstein.

Nilalang chronicles the tale of Victor Frankenstein, a promising young physician, who becomes obsessed with creating human life. Using the remains of various corpses, he crafts a creature and brings it to life after jolting its body with bolts of lightning drawn from a kite strung on a Leyden jar. But the creature is distraught with his resurrection: he suffers from isolation and extreme loneliness, and begs Victor to make him a bride. Victor rejects this request. The creature strikes back by first killing Victor’s servant, then in succession, and with his rejection Victor abandons him, brother, best friend, and eventually his newly wedded wife, Elizabeth. The creature then disappears, leaving Victor in a pit of guilt and remorse for having created a monster. Victor promises his own revenge. He searches for the creature to the ends of the earth, and finds it in the cold barrens of the North Pole.

Caught in a winter storm, both creator and creature confront each other, ready to strike, but only find tragic warmth in each other’s company.

Ronan Capinding translated and directed, while Gino Gonzales designed the set and costumes. Jose Villaruel was in charge of lighting design, while Reuben David worked on the sound design.

The Ateneo Debate Society is sole Asian team to reach the Worlds Final Series

The Ateneo Debate Society continued its record of international debating success as it reached the Final Series of the 26th World Universities Debating Championship held in the University College Dublin, Ireland from December 27 to January 3.

After nine grueling preliminary rounds in which they faced top teams from Oxford, Cambridge, Yale, and Sydney, ADMIU Team B composed of Sharmila Parmanand (III AB PO), and Charles Borromeo (II BS ME), and ADMIU Team A, composed of Luxmaria Elias Claudio (III AB Corp) and Roland Glenn Tuazon (III AB Com), emerged octo-finalists, outlasting over 560 debaters from the best debate institutions around the world. They were the only Asian teams to reach the final series. This is also the first time that two Ateno teams have reached the octo-finals, thus showcasing the ADS pool of talent.

Stephanie Co (III BS Prech) also displayed world-class debating skills as the qualified among the sixty best adjudicators in the world and judged in the best rounds of the tournament. She was one of the youngest adjudicators to make it to the final series of the championship.

This recent victory of the ADS is a testament to Ateno’s continuing dominance in the region and its growing prominence in the international scene. In the past year, the society has won the National and Asian championships, and reached the grand finals of the Australia, the second largest debate tournament after the Worlds. This May 2006, the ADS will be hosting the Asian Universities Debating Championship in Manila. akbayanan@bidaadmu.com.ph

this month

LOYOLA SCHOOLS

March 1, 10:00 am
10th Annual Mass Church of the Gesù

March 3, 4:00 pm
LS Awards for Leadership & Service At the Escaler Hall, Science Education Complex, AdMU, Loyola Heights, QC

March 4, 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm
Feb 24 & Mar 1, 7:00 pm
Feb 26 & Mar 5, 10:00 am & 2:00 pm

Pabasin 2006: A summit for the graduating students, with Romuald P. Nilo, III AM, Amilcar Gaunay, Jean Pierre, J.J., Cancio Capistrano and Washington Garcia, Ph.D.

March 8, 4:00 pm
LS Scholarship Week Awards At the CFC 201, PLET/CTD AdMU, Loyola Heights, QC

March 10, 4:00 pm
Awarding Ceremonies Loyola Schools Awards for the Arts At Arter Hall, Science Education Complex, AdMU, Loyola Heights, QC

SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES

Feb 24 & Mar 1, 7:00 pm
Feb 25 & Mar 4, 7:00 pm & 7:00 pm
Feb 26 & Mar 5, 10:00 am & 2:00 pm
Comfort Woman Statue of Destiny A play based on Lilo Ron’s Batangbayan adapted and directed by Mary Guevara, with a cast by theat Lab At the Fine Arts Theater, S/F, Georgina Building, Ateneo, Loyola Heights, QC

March 1, 4:00 am to 3:00 pm
February Exhibition At the Natividad Galang-Fajardo Conference Room, G/f de la Costa Hall, AdMU, Loyola Heights, QC

March 3, 2:00 pm to 3:00 pm
Special Topics Lecture: French Corporation Policy By Patronitas Czarnaya of the Embassy of France in Manila At the Natividad Galang-Fajardo Conference Room, G/f de la Costa Hall, AdMU, Loyola Heights, QC

March 4, 8:00 am to 12:00 noon
SOH Open House for Prospective Freshmen At Arter Hall, Science Education Complex, AdMU, Loyola Heights, QC

March 10, 4:00 pm to 5:00 pm
Milestones in Literature Lecture Series: On King Lear By Alexandra Pimental, Assistant Professor Department of English At the Natividad Galang-Fajardo Conference Room, G/f de la Costa Hall, AdMU, Loyola Heights, QC

March 12-14
Research Symposium: Philosophical Reflections on Globalization in the Asia-Pacific Context At the Natividad Galang-Fajardo Conference Room, G/f de la Costa Hall, AdMU, Loyola Heights, QC

JOHN GOKONGWEI SCHOOL

February 24 to 26, 8:00 am to 4:00 pm
JGSO Open House At Arter Hall, Science Education Complex, AdMU, Loyola Heights, QC

March 1, 6:00 pm
JGSO Testimonial Dinner for Honor Graduates and Outstanding Students At the JGSO Gardens, AdMU, Loyola Heights, QC

SCHOOL OF BUSINESS AND ENGINEERING

March 17, 8:00 pm
Certificate Program in Training and Development The Strategic Training and Development Program is a certificate course aimed at developing the competencies of HR professionals and managers in designing, facilitating, administering, and evaluating training in their organizations. For more details, e-mail sternlorec@admu.edu.ph

March 18-20
Trendwatcher Series: Emerging HR Roles, Structures and Technologies This learning session features research/case studies and workshops on emerging HR competencies. JGSO Seminars at the Ateneo CORD, 3/F Höffner Bldg., Social Development Complex, AdMU, Loyola Heights, QC

March 17, 9:00 am
Department of Sociology-Antropology SA Congratulatory Ceremony At the SBAR, Social Science Building, AdMU, Loyola Heights, QC

March 21, 11:00 am
Department of Sociology-Antropology SA Recognition Ceremony At the Escaler Hall, Social Education Complex, AdMU, Loyola Heights, QC

March 22, 10:30 am to 4:00 pm
Trendsetting Series: Emerging HR Roles, Structures and Technologies This learning session features research/case studies in emerging HR roles, structures and technologies. Gaye Lawrey will be sharing her insights on managing HR communications. Santos and SMART will be sharing their HR journeys and inventions; and Tita Boluso will be sharing the experience of Accenture in implementing shared benefits.

For more details, e-mail sternlorec@admu.edu.ph

At the Ateneo Hotel
The Second Round: Still a clean slate
Miguel Fernando S. Siojo
Defendant/Mid-fielder
Men’s Football Team

Looking back at the second round of UAAP football action, it’s difficult to put the emotions to rest. After a heated battle almost ending in an all-out rumble, facing an impending shut-out game saved by a miraculous last minute goal, surviving an unforeseen postponed match, and outlasting the last of the elimination round—the Ateneo Blue Booters remain undefeated.

The pressure coming into the second round, with all opponents seeking to break our clean slate, was slowly eased as each game ended in sweet victory. In the first match, the UP Fighting Maroons came back with bitter retribution. They held the game scoreless until a hand-ball penalty against them was awarded and made, pushing the Blue Booters ahead. Following an astonishing piece of goalkeeping that secured the Ateneo win, tempers flurried from both camps due to controversial officiating and die-hard fans. That round was not for the faint-hearted.

Headstrong and focused, the Blue Booters quickly put away second-game rivals UE, and in confident fashion bettered their last round efforts whipping them 2-0. The Shades of Blue Glory then showed great persistence and even bigger hearts versus the FEU Tamaraws. In game 3, a technically sound FEU side threatened to deal us our first loss or draw using pin-point passing and dizzying build-ups. The Blue Booters kept their composure and patience pushing forward ever more so. The fatal blow came in the dying seconds from the relentless attacks rained down by our boys in blue. From the jaws of defeat Ateneo soared winning 1-0.

In perfect championship form, the Blue Booters showed no hint of slowing down. A desperate UST squad would try to sidetrack this winning run in an odd protest that had game 9 eventually deferred. This proved unfavorable to them. Fixture 9 resumed four days after. The men's football team mocked UST burying them deep and out of contention, annihilating them 4-1.

In the last elimination game, the Blue Booters failed to seize the crown versus the Green Archers. Nonetheless, a well-fought battle left the game 0-0, keeping the historic ‘no loss’ record intact. All eyes now turn to the finals, where the Ateneo men’s football team enters with a twice-to-beat advantage.

The Ateneo football fields are flushed with the setting sun, retreating after a hard-worked season. A cool early evening breeze sweeps the pitch, rolling empty water cups and ruffling the blue and white tarpaulins. The cemented benches and walkways and the fields are bare. Only the echoes of cheer and jubilation remain. As this is being written, we look toward the championship round, carrying hopes for a three-peat, knowing that the final is a stage like no other. It is where heroes are tested and champions survive. As we band together like a sea of blue filling the flanks and chanting our song, we hope and pray for the happy ending – and win or lose, it’s the school we choose.

Shades of Blue Glory
Miguel Fernando S. Siojo
Defendant/Mid-fielder
Men’s Football Team

There was a restless mood in the air as the football season reached its halfway point. The shades of championship history that were witnessed in the last two weeks brought an extreme rush of excitement. At the end of the exhilarating first round, the Ateneo men’s Blue Booters are five-for-five in 68th season of the UAAP.

Coming off the impressive handling of the UP Fighting Maroons in game one, the Ateneo faithfuls wasted no time in gaining more ground and momentum. In the much anticipated battle versus the green boys of La Salle, the Blue Booters were relentless in their attack and rock-steady on defense outclassing and trouncing the highly-rated contenders with a 2-0 beating. Winning form was taking shape. A sluggish Sunday, then, saw the Football team scrabbling for points before finally putting away the UE Red Warriors. Composure and patience was Ateneo’s key to unlocking the pesky stronghold of the opponent, which rendered a relieving 1-0 win. Hardy slowing down, the fourth fixture victory against FEU propelled the already soaring football squad much higher in points standing. Staring at a 3-2 massacre, the young Iloilo players of FEU painfully yielded to our experienced Booters. Last season, UST held Ateneo at bay only folding under pressure in the dying minutes of a penalty shootout in the finals. This year the Blue Booters would not wait for the Championships. They decisively crushed UST 1-0 in a brilliant display of quality football. A poised Ateneo team finished strong, dominating ball possession and securing the win, rightly ending the first round of soccer action on an exciting and remarkable note.

In the women’s division, the Ateneo Women’s Football team continues to fight for their first win. They remain in contention for a well-seeded spot in the overall rankings, sticking close and making life impossible for rival teams. The second round promises that never-say-die attitude and solid performance from our faithfuls.

In the quiet crossing of the season, the football teams are strong in mind and body, and humble in spirit. Facing the last matches of the second round, training intensifies and clear focus is restored. The first half has been laid to rest as a new battlefield emerges.

“Back to zero!”

“Walang magrerelax (No one will relax)” the players constantly recite, to remind everyone of a mission not yet completed. Once again the fields will fill with eager spectators, banging drums, and cheering fans. Come rain or come shine the deciding second round will unfurl and the gladiators of football will take their places on the pitch.