Loyola Schools welcomes 2,105 freshmen

A Message from the Vice President for the Loyola Schools

Welcome to the Loyola Schools!

University life is a time to enjoy new friends and relationships; it is also time to take stock of our directions. Our Ateneo community can help us do both. This new school year is an opportunity to learn from past challenges, to be more passionate about the things that we do, and to be more engaged in the world. Let us use this opportunity to learn, not just competencies, but life’s lessons. Let us use this to prepare, not just for careers, but for the future.

Thanks to Dr. Anna Miren Gonzalez-Intal and the Deans, our LS institutions have grown to provide a fertile setting for our development. Ultimately, it is our choice to become the leaders who will build a culture of excellence and professionalism, tempered with care and compassion, and dedicated to service.

I wish you all the best for School Year 2006-2007.

Ma. Assunta C. Cuyegkeng, Ph.D.
Quezon City, 6 June 2006

Thank you!

In two separate celebrations with top secret preparations, administrators, faculty, staff, friends, and fans expressed their appreciation for the contributions made by outgoing Vice President for the Loyola Schools, Dr. Miren Intal, and outgoing Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, Ms. Chita Rosales, to the Loyola Schools and University communities.

On March 22, 2006, Dr. Intal was feted by LS friends in a surprise merienda cena which included song numbers from staff, faculty, and the LS deans. Ms. Rosales had her turn on May 23, 2006 when she was led to a surprise affair at CTC-201.

To Dr. Intal and Ms. Rosales, our deepest thanks for the years of service, dedication, and excellence!

Dr. Intal launches term report

Dr. Anna Miren Gonzales-Intal launched her Loyola Schools term report for the years 2000-2006 on March 22, 2006. Using the metaphor of bricklaying, Dr. Intal expressed her appreciation for the “remarkable communal effort” to build the Loyola Schools, the dedication and hard work that went into each and every contribution.

The first copies of the term report were presented to University President Fr. Bienvenido Nebres, S.J., the Loyola Schools Deans Rodolfo P. Ang, Fr. Jose M. Cruz, S.J., Dr. Fabian M. Dayrit, and Dr. Leovino M. Garcia, and to Office of Research and Publications Director Karen Berthelen Cardenas.
Loyola Schools has Most Comprehensive Student Services Program

The Commission on Higher Education (CHED) recently gave recognition to the Ateneo de Manila University for having the Most Comprehensive Student Services Program among eight other regional winners in the CHED’s Best Practices in Student Services Awards. The awarding ceremony was held on May 15, 2006 at the National Computer Center, University of the Philippines, Diliman.

Several awards and monetary grants for specific areas of student services were also given to the various regional universities. The CHED awards were given in recognition of the efforts of various higher educational institutions to deliver services to students in support of their tertiary education.

Ateneo’s honor is shared by the offices and programs that work together to deliver the best in student services and formation, including the Office of the Associate Dean for Student Affairs, the Loyola Schools Guidance Office, the Office of Social Concern and Involvement, the Office of Student Activities, the Campus Ministry Office, College Athletics, Residence Halls, the Ateneo Placement Office, the Office of Admission and Aid, the Office of International Programs, and the Office of Administrative Services.

In her acceptance speech on behalf of the Ateneo de Manila and other recipients, Dr. Ma. Assunta Cuyegkeng, vice president for the Loyola Schools, said that “a comprehensive student services program involves a conscious decision to devote a good share of resources to programs that will address non-academic formation, as a complement to our academic efforts.”

“However, it is truly the vision, dedication, and creativity of the members of the Student Affairs Team and their respective administration and faculty, which distinguish the Loyola Schools in its role as a leader in student affairs, raising the standard of student services that may become the model in higher education,” she added.

According to Rene Salvador San Andres, Associate Dean for Student Affairs, the Office of Student Affairs and services program supports the formation of leaders who will respond to the needs of society and the call for national development in the real world by utilizing their professional expertise. Thus, more than aiming simply for the formation of persons for others, it strives to develop “professionals for others.”

The Loyola Schools has a new vice president. Ma. Assunta Cuyegkeng of the Chemistry Department replaces Anna Miren Gonzalez-Intl, who steps down after six years in the position. Cuyegkeng is only the second vice president for the Loyola Schools.

What will she do differently? Cuyegkeng credits Intl’s administration for putting the necessary systems and physical facilities in place. “We can build on these foundations,” she says. The thrust of her administration, at least on the first year, is “leadership formation through community and culture.” While leadership formation has always been on the agenda of the university, Cuyegkeng opines that it has been pursued mainly through student organizations. She wants to “make it available to all students having a foster culture of leadership.”

This will entail a comprehensive plan, in which the leadership-building efforts of existing units and programs of the Loyola Schools, such as INTACT and NSTP, are synchronized.

Spirituality is an important aspect of Cuyegkeng’s vision of a culture of leadership. In her view, leadership consists of three stages: self-awareness or self-knowledge, spiritual formation, and social involvement. “You can have the last without spirituality, but what makes the Ateneo different is the spiritual foundation. That’s where they find meaning in social involvement.”

Cuyegkeng’s emphasis on leadership formation is tied to the very story behind her appointment as vice-president. Although she had been appointed to top administrative positions before (as acting dean of the School of Arts and Sciences), she had not been officially an interior minister of Arts and Sciences into the four schools has meant growth for each school but has also raised the threat of isolationism. Cuyegkeng would like to see the various schools in the future “thinking as one Loyola School.”

This should not come as a surprise, as Cuyegkeng herself straddles two worlds—poetry and chemistry.

“You’ll never please everyone,” she was warned by Marj-Roju Ruiz, former dean of the School of Arts and Sciences. Perhaps, Cuyegkeng’s skill in mixing chemicals, including the volatile and the vitriolic, will enable her finally to brew an elixir for the Loyola Schools—a complement to our academic efforts, she added.

The poet is a vice president.
Keeping Ateneo culture INTACT

Dr. Norman Quimpo of the Mathematics Department had life after the Ateneo planned out—he would retire from teaching, maybe try his hand at writing or work with the NGO sector. But something happened on the way to retirement, and Norman is back full-time at the Loyola Schools as Director of the Office of Graduate Services (OGS). He takes over from Cynthia Tobanes, who leaves with her family for Jakarta, Indonesia this month.

Asked why he decided to accept the position, Norman explains that although he was looking forward to exploring new territory, “after all these years at the Ateneo, it has a pull on you.” Besides, he admits that “the call of duty is very strong in me.” Norman is no stranger to administrative work, having spent a year as acting Assistant Dean for Academic Affairs in the early 1990s. Despite this, he admits that his new job will entail some adjustments, especially to the regular 8:00–5:00 schedule. Apart from his work at the OGS, he will be teaching a special Math 12 class, leaving him with a full schedule indeed. He jokingly says, “It’s a good thing that I still have the stamina for meetings.” And this is definitely a good thing for the Loyola Schools.

A leap of faith

It was a leap of faith that brought Mary Ann Pineda-Manapat, new Director of the Office of Social Concern and Involvement (OSCI), to the Loyola Schools. After nearly 20 years in the Ateneo Grade School as a teacher and guidance counselor, An began a process of discernment; she felt a need to discover what more she was called to do for Christ. She felt that she had come full circle in the Grade School, having begun her stint there by teaching prep, then middle school, and then prep again. She felt it was time to “risk all for my inner vision,” to find a path that was a “better fit.”

This time of discernment eventually led her to cross paths with Fr. Bienvenido Neohere, SJ, President of the University, and Dr. Ma. Assunta C. Cayeong, new Vice President for the Loyola Schools. Upon speaking with them, what she had expected to be a year of quiet listening turned into an unexpected call to begin work at OSCI immediately. For An, everything had fallen into place much sooner than anticipated. The leap of faith had, in fact, brought her to solid ground and new territory. “I was given the answer after I took the leap.”

The new territory is not so new, as it turns out. “I was an OSCI volunteer in college, and my experiences in OSCI formed me.” She believes that participating in OSCI and other socially oriented activities in college has prepared her for her new position, as has her work at the Grade School. She says, “I’m a simple person, I like to work at the grassroots level.” As she begins her duty of helping form Loyola Schools students, let us hope that Mary Ann keeps listening, learning, and teaching, and teaches others to do the same.

Office of the Associate Dean for Student Affairs

Location: G round Floor, 4 floor, B. San A. era

Their purpose: The A.D.A. offers a new academic service to LGS students. They are responsible for providing student services and formation and development services.

What they do: Services for students include the updating, preparation, and distribution of the Student Handbook; enrollment in general regulations and the code of discipline; preparation and provision of free directories of accredited off-campus student housing facilities or dormitories; provision of emergency medical assistance; handling of important messages from parents or school authorities; handling of student security and campus traffic or identification card services; and recording and recognition of student achievement and excellence.

Loyola Schools Guidance Office

Location: Ground Floor, Berchmans Hall

Director: Dr. Washington C. Garcia

Their mission: The GSO aims to equip students with the necessary tools for self-actualization in the context of personal, familial, and social realities. The office assists in student formation through the developmental stages of self-awareness, self-actualization, and self-offering.

What they do: The GSO provides counseling, testing, individual inventory, faculty/parent consultations research, educational and occupational information, academic/professional follow-up program, scholarship program, and special program design services. The office also participates in the INTACT program for freshmen by offering study habits, stress management, value clarification, and socialization sessions.

Campus Ministry Office

Location: G round Floor, Manuel V. Pangilinan Center for Leadership

Director: Fr. Roberto Ma. Buenconsejo, SJ

Chaplains: Fr. David J. MIN, SJ

Their mission and vision: The CMO seeks to help in the development of persons-for-others through a spiritual formation program that is faithful to the Catholic identity and rooted in Ignatian spirituality.

What they do: They create a culture of spirituality in the Loyola Schools by organizing masses and confessions, facilitating retreats, missions, and prayer sessions; conceptualizing, planning, and organizing spiritual formation programs and activities for admissions, faculty, professionals, students, staff, and maintenance; providing training sessions and workshops; and serving as moderators and spiritual advisors for student organizations.

Office of Social Concern and Involvement

Location: G round Floor, Manuel V. Pangilinan Center for Student Leadership

Director: Ms. Mary Ann Pineda-Manapat

Their mission and vision: The OSCI envisions itself as the Loyola Schools’ center for social formation. It aims to promote awareness of the reality of poverty through experimental learning, integrate service learning in all academic disciplines, foster social awareness, and serve as the link to marginalized sector through solidarity action and advocacy work. In doing this, it develops future leaders with the critical consciousness and the “heart” for the marginalized, and who live a life of faith that does justice.

What they do: They are responsible for developing the OSCI’s four-year developmental social formation program through community area integration processes such as house trips, service-rendering activities, diary work, immersions, workshops, and introspection sessions. The culminating PRAXIS program for seniors allows students to share their acquired and innate skills with marginalized communities.
notable achievements

Fr. Jaime Bulatao receives PGCA award

Fr. Jaime C. Bulatao, S.J. of the Department of Psychology, received the President Emeritus Award from the Philippine Guidance and Counseling Association (PGCA) during the association’s 42nd Annual Convention on May 24, 2006.

The award recognizes Fr. Bulatao’s “invaluable and essential contributions in steering the organization toward the attainment of its objectives and for his sustained efforts in upgrading the competencies, credibility, and integrity of guidance professionals.”

Matanglawin is Best Magazine in Gawad ERJ

For the fifth consecutive year, Matanglawin, Opisyal na Pangmapangang Pangarap at Pamantasang Ateneo de Manila, bagged the 7th Gawad Ernesto Rodriguez, Jr. (ERJ) for Best Magazine in the 66th National Student Press Convention of the College Editors’ Guild of the Philippines (CEGP) concluded last May 23, in Santo Domingo, Abay.

Matanglawin also topped the Best in Alternative Form category in the same event with its book entry, “Bagal: XXX.” Published last year, the book is a compilation of selected articles which defined the organization’s thirty-year journey as one of the three official publications in the university.

Biologist receives NAST-DuPont award

Dr. Elizabeth L. Tenorio is this year’s recipient of the National Academy of Science and Technology (NAST)-Du Pont Talent Search for Young Scientists Award in the Biology Category.

Accenture Confers Awards on CS and MIS Seniors

Computer Science and Management Information System seniors spent six weeks with Accenture as summer interns in the Accenture Education Program (AEP). As one of Accenture’s corporate social responsibility initiatives, the AEP is designed to provide seniors with real-world experience prior to graduation in order to bridge some of the gaps between formal education and corporate life.

A total of 80 students participated in this summer’s program, approximately 15 of whom were from the Ateneo. The other participants come from De La Salle University, Mapua Institute of Technology, Pamantasan Lusong ng Magmila, the University of Asia and the Pacific and the University of the Philippines Diliman.

Accenture conferred special awards on Ateneo CS and MIS students in recognition of their outstanding performance during the AEP. In her role as Assistant to the Team Leader, Maximina-Sosa Banson (IV MIS) received the AEP-Java Class Leadership Award. The AEP-Java Class Most Active Group Award was given to the group with Eduardzo H. Palapul, Jr. (IV MIS) and Merrill Lcster Ang (IV MIS). Finally, the group with Clarissa Sarmiento (IV CS) and Ericka May Tolentino (IV MIS) received the AEP-JENET Class Most Active Group Award.

Mostly Mozart

To celebrate the 250th birth anniversary of Mozart, the Department of Interdisciplinary Studies, together with the Department of Modern Languages and the Dean’s Office of School of Humanities, has organized the festival “Mostly Mozart.”

The festival is so titled because while Mozart’s life and music will be the highlight, the music of the Romantic Period will also be included. The June 21, 2006 performance during the AEP. In her paper “In Symphony with Mozart,” the School of Humanities, has organized the festival “Mostly Mozart.”

The school is to be titiled as both Mozart and the festival. The festival will be held on Friday, June 21, 2006, at the Manila Hotel.

Outbound: The 2006 Ateneo Art Awards shortlist

The Ateneo Art Gallery has announced the twelve artists shortlisted for the 2006 Ateneo Art Awards. They are Ronald Anding, Yason Bable, Liza Cobangbang, Marina Cruz, Mideo Cruz, Antonio del Castillo, Bembol dela Cruz, Maya Muñoz, Wawi Narro, Rodel Tapaya, Jay Tisar, and Jerroie Vitag.

The final twelve were selected by the 2006 Ateneo Art Awards jury from over 70 nominations. The three recipients of the Ateneo Art Awards will be selected on June 21, 2006. The winners will then be announced on August 8, 2006 at a formal ceremony at the Rockwell Tent following 2006 A time A wards Outbound, an exhibition of the works of the short-listed artists at Power Plant Mall from August 1-6, 2006.

The Ateneo Art Gallery’s partners for the Ateneo Art Awards 2006 are Smart Infinity, M. Aroso, Y. Style, Rockwell Land, and Power Plant Mall.

Cross Encounters exhibition at the Ateneo Art Gallery


Ventura, who won last year’s Ateneo Art Awards along with Anne Cabiting and Eric Zaramco, was chosen as the inaugural recipient of the Ateneo Art Gallery Sydney Residency Grant. Cross Encounters is his response to his visit to Australia in November last year, dominated by the color yellow, the images of dogs, and the influence of street signages. With the tension of alarm and precariousness, Ventura’s works include handpainted sculptures, paintings, sketches, toy figurines, and even a riot shield.

we remember

Noel P. Magino, duplicating machine operator, Office of Research and Publications, who passed away on April 8, 2006 at the age of 38.

Carmen Díaz Tafredo, Ph.D., former University Registrar and President, the Department of Philosophy.

Shirley C. Advincula, retired associate professor, Department of Political Science, who passed away on May 15, 2006 at the age of 69.

new books

“Pag-aabang sa Kundiman: Isang Talambuhay” by Edgar Calebia Samar of the Kauguran ng Filipino, was launched on May 12, 2006 at the Conspicuous Garden Café. More than 100 guests arrived to listen to Gaya’s poetry. Copies of the collection, published by the Office of Research and Publications (ORP), are available at the ORP office at P200.00.

Loyola Schools Review Vol V, 2007

CALL FOR PAPERS

Faculty members of the Loyola Schools are invited to submit their work, not previously published, for Volume V, 2007 of The Loyola Schools Review. These may be in the form of articles, reviews, and notes. Creative writing in no format is included in the LS, but should instead be sent to the literary folio (cl) of the Faculty Development Program. Articles based on theses and dissertations of Ateneo graduate students are also welcome.

All submissions should be in both hard copy and soft copy (Word .doc or .rtf file on diskette or e-mail attachment, 12 pts Times New Roman, double-spaced. Articles should have a maximum of 30 pages, 8.5” x 11”, inclusive of figures and tables, illustrations or photographs.

Please submit your work to the respective editors of the different schools on or before 28 July 2006. You may also wish to consult them for additional information.

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