Countdown to Sesquicentennial Begins

**BY CHRISTINE MALLION**

**SUNDAY, THE 9th of August 2007, marked the beginning of the remembrance, celebration, and renewal of Ateneo de Manila’s 150-year heritage, as the three-year countdown towards Ateneo’s sesquicentennial celebration in 2009 was launched at the Church of the Gesu.**

No less than the Very Reverend Daniel Patrick L. Huang, Provincial Superior of the Society of Jesus, presided over the mass, while University President Fr. Bienvenido F. Nebres, SJ, served as the homilist. Fr. Carmelo “Tito” Caluag II and Grade School Headmaster Fr. Jose Moises Fermin were in attendance.

In his homily, Fr. Nebres remembered the beginnings of Ateneo de Manila in 1859 when the Jesuits returned to the Philippines, taught Ignatian Spirituality to Filipinos, and started the small school called Escuela Municipal de Manila.

“We have a history of almost 150 years. We are children of a distinctive parentage: we go back to St. Ignatius and the first Jesuits, Fr. Cuevas and the founding fathers of the Ateneo and the generations who have gone ahead of us.”

When Ateneo first started, the school had only 23 students. Today, Ateneo is a university that inspires 17,000 grade school, high school, college, graduate school, and professional schools’ students to be the best that they can be.

Fr. Nebres also shared in his homily that Ateneans, whose mission is to be men and women for others, have a history of service to the community that dates back to the 1860s. He recounted how Jesuit scholastic Padre Federico Faura founded and built the Manila Observatory to predict the weather and warn people of typhoons, and how our national hero, Jose Rizal, one of Ateneo’s renowned alumni, strove to make the living standards of the poor better by introducing modern methods of farming and new technology in fishing to farmers and fishermen and by healing and educating the poor.

Fr. Nebres says this legacy of service lives on in Ateneans today who engage in nation-building activities by tutoring public school students, delivering public health, and joining disaster relief and rehabilitation operations.

This legacy of faith, excellence, and service is what Ateneo will proudly celebrate in its sesquicentennial anniversary.

The activities lined up cover the next three years towards Ateneo’s 150th anniversary aim for the Ateneo community to recall the rich history and strong emotional bond we have to Ateneo, and to strengthen in their minds Ateneo’s thrust of academic excellence and spiritual formation to be of service to others.

**Heeding nature’s wisdom, preserving humankind**

**“WITHOUT THE EARTH’s natural environment, human beings and all other beings cannot exist. Yet there is only one earth, which is our cradle, our home, and our paradise. The earth is vast but not boundless,” said Tang Xiyang, a 2007 Ramon Magsaysay Awardee for Peace and International Understanding.**

Quoting a nature scientist, Tang said, “Nature never makes mistakes, because it does not have a brain.” He explained that this means nature moves forward according to its own laws, without any human subjectivity involved.

“The human brain may be a good thing, but it can also be a bad thing, it can be used for good or for evil. The good here is that human beings can get to know nature and follow ecological laws in doing things, the bad is that human beings can be self-centered, narrow-minded, greedy and arrogant,” he continued.

Also, the earth has a history of more than four billion years. “That is to say, the birth of a new species, the survival of a new ecological community and the progress of society are historical processes that Tang explained. “History flows with time and we can’t just focus on the present without considering the past and the future.”

With regard to respecting tradition, he said: “The ecological wisdom of our ancestors are found in tradition. Our ancestors had been immersed in nature for thousands of years, during which they learned how to follow, respect and protect nature.”

In closing, Tang said that we should learn and promote ecological wisdom, through which people and nature live in harmony. “This is a sacred mission that history bestows on us.”

**Bringing Internet to Nepal’s villages**

**BY JET DAMAZO**

“IT started with a dream to connect my village to the Internet,” said Mahadir Pun of Nepal. The 2007 Ramon Magsaysay Award for Community Leadership was speaking to Ateneans at lecture organized by the Ateneo School of Government (ASoG) last 29 August.

That was in 1997, a year when the World Wide Web was already a standard communication tool in other parts of the world, and when the political crisis in Nepal was at its peak. When the Himanchal High School received four used computers, as presents from the students of a school in Australia, the dream began.

Their village of Nangiri in the foothills of the mountains of Nepal, however, did not even have a phone line, making the task seemingly impossible. Pun approached political leaders and officers of Nepal telephone company, but came back with nothing.

In, Pun explained. “So we just bypassed the illegal and installed them.”

An Internet connection, though, is of little use without enough computers. Pun and his group sought for donations of computer parts, which were assembled into wooden boxes that served as the computer cases.

“IT was almost impossible to import the equipment, transport, and use them because of the political crisis and Communist rebels. There were strict regulations and a high license fee for setting up rural ISPs,” PV explained. “So we just bypassed the regulation to overcome the regulatory and legal challenges. We smuggled all the equipment illegally and installed them.”

After seven years, Pun’s seemingly impossible dream was realized. In September 2003, they managed to connect to the Internet not only his village of Nangiri, but six other villages in the area as well.

**13 Ateneans win Palanca, National Book prizes**

The number of Atenean winners at the 2007 Don Carlos Palanca Memorial Awards for Literature and the 26th Manila Critics Circle National Book Awards show the university’s strength in arts and humanities. Read the list of winners in page 3.
SC Johnson Sets Up $100,000 Environmental Leadership Fund in Ateneo

A US$100,000 ENDOWMENT from SC Johnson Philippines, Inc. established the SC Johnson Environmental Leadership Development Fund in the Ateneo. The fund will “support a perpetual professorial chair in environmental leadership in partnership with Ateneo.” Ateneo and SC Johnson Philippines, Inc. signed the memorandum of understanding (MOU) covering the fund last 13 August 2007.

The endowment was made “in recognition of the need for environmental leadership in the country, and in celebration of SC Johnson’s 50th anniversary in the Philippines.”

The fund seeks to award a professorial chair to an environment leader who will “support and reward individuals (or groups) which have shown leadership in environmental research, environmental management, environmental education or advocacy, and who have new ideas to present.”

University President Bienvenido F. Nebres, SJ, SC Johnson and Son, Inc. Vice President for Developing Markets ASEAN Frank F. Guerra (BS Mathematics 1975); School of Science and Engineering Dean Fahim M. Dayrit; and SC Johnson and Son, Inc. Malay Cluster General Manager Ramon P. Daez (BS Business Management 1983) signed the MOU.

During the meeting, Father Nebres emphasized Ateneo’s active involvement in environmental issues since its early years, such as the Manila Observatory which helped the community predict potentially damaging typhoons. He also said that the endowment is “a wonderful gift” in continuing Ateneo’s mission of helping preserve the environment.

Guerra, meanwhile, proudly declared that just as the Ateneo forms “men for others,” SC Johnson is a “company for others.” He also asserted that the awardee for the professorial chair must hold influence in the academe and the community to be able to effect significant environmental changes.

Michelle Camille Cometa, www.ateneo.edu

Bringing Internet to Nepal’s Villages... from p. 1

Stauss Foundation solicited an undergraduate student of the University of California, which they used to purchase the networking equipment, solar panels, and generators. Through a World Bank project, they received another $20,000 grant that is now being used for the project’s second phase. Initially, he only wanted to connect students from different schools via e-mail. Now, he dreams of increasing educational opportunities in community schools by creating a live tele-teaching program, of helping preserve the environment.

Two very famous brands: Ateneo and SC Johnson and Son, Inc. Malay Cluster General Manager Ramon P. Daez (BS Business Management 1983) signed the MOU.

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Michelle Camille Cometa, www.ateneo.edu

OFFICERS OF THE VERY FIRST GRADUATE STUDENT COUNCIL IN THE LOYOLA SCHOOLS: THE ELECTED OFFICERS and some departmental representatives of the Interim Graduate Student Council of the Loyola Schools after taking their oath of office before the Vice President for Loyola Schools. (L-R): Dr. Ma. Assunta Cuyugkeng, VP-LS; Shern Anne Zerna (Secretary), Renee Ann Ortega (Vice President), Niña Katrina Bélizula (President), Pamela Joy Mariano (Finance Officer), Perry Buenaventura (ES rep), Genevieve Lorenzo (BCCE rep), and Norman Quimpo, Associate Dean for Graduate Programs. (3 September 2007)
Notable Achievements

Atenean Shines in International Math Tilt

JONATHAN ALDRIC CHUA (I-BS AMF) garnered the Honorable Mention at the 48th International Mathematical Olympiad, held in Hanoi, Vietnam on 19-31 July 2007. The award is given to students who were able to provide a complete solution to one of the problems in the said competition. Over 500 contestants from 93 countries participated in this year’s math Olympiad.

Jonathan is a member of the Philippine team composed of six delegates. The team is led by Dr. Ian June L. Garces, the team leader, and includes members Sharmila Parmar and Remy Villar, and the co-deputy team leaders, Tesoro and Robbin Tang, respectively. The team was composed of four university students and two high school students.

The 2007 Mathematical Olympiad is organized by the Singapore Mathematical Society and the 2008 International Mathematical Olympiad is scheduled to be held in South Korea.

Ateneo Tops 2007 Chemistry Board Exam

DAVID PERALTA (BS/MS Chemistry) garnered an average of 90.25% to top the Chemistry Board Examinations given by the Professional Regulation Commission last 6-7 September 2007. He is the first Ateneo graduate to earn the top spot in the board exams.

Peralta graduated magna cum laude and was a PDI-DOST Science Awardee 2006. He is a product of the Ateneo Grade School (1998) and Ateneo High School (2002). He currently teaches part-time at the Chemistry Department, and will start teaching full-time effective in the second semester of school year 2007-2008. The other board passers from the Ateneo are Juliene E. D. Alagabre (BS Chem 2005), Joelyn Theresa B. Fajardo (BS Chem 2006), Michelle D. Jose (BS Chem 2007, cum laude, and PDI-DOST Science Awardee 2007), Akan Horner San Juan (BS Chem 2006), and Deniz P. Wong (BS Chem 2006, Honorable Mention; MS Chem 2007). Wong is now a full-time instructor at the department, while Jose is a part-time faculty member.

ADS wins first round of Philippine Debating Championship

ATENEOT DEBATE SOCIETY (ADS) members Sharmila Parmar and Charnose Borromeo won the first round of the Philippine Debating Championship on ABS-CBN News Channels (ANC) “Square Off” program last 1 August 2007.

Taking the opposition or the negative side in the topic “Should the government suspend the peace talks with the Moro Islamic Liberation Front as a result of the beheading of 10 Marine soldiers in Basilan?”, Ateneo beat debaters from the Western Mindanao State University, who took the government or affirmative side. Both schools are among 16 universities vying to represent the Philippines in the 2008 World Universities Debating Championships, the largest debating tournament in the world, on 27 December 2007 to 5 January 2008 at Assumption University, Thailand.

The other 14 universities are the University of the Philippines (UP) – Diliman, UP-Manila, De La Salle University, College of St. Benilde, University of Santo Tomas, University of Baguio, Ateneo de Zamboanga University, Ateneo de Davao University, Polytechnic University of the Philippines, San Beda College, UP-Baguio, Xavier University, Mindanao State University and Lyceum of the Philippines.

Ateneans Win Palanca Awards

EIGHT ATENAEANS were awarded the prestigious 2007 Don Carlos Palanca Memorial Awards for Literature, which is considered as the “Pulitzer Prize” of the Philippines. These are:

- Cynthia Lapena-Amador (MA English Literature 1990), third prize for “The Piano” (full-length play, English) category.
- Douglas James L. Candano (AB Development Studies 2005), second prize for “Dreaming Valhalla” in the Short Story (English) category.
- Mikael Co (BS Environmental Science 2003), first prize for “Hands for a Fistful of Sand” in the English category.
- Amado Angelo R. Lacuesta (Grade School 1984; High School 1988), first prize for “Flames” in the Short Story (English) category.
- Jose Edmund O. Reyes (High School 1990, BS Management Engineering 1994), second prize for “Imaginary Number” in the Poetry (English) category.

Ateneans Win National Book Awards

FIVE ATENAEAN WRITERS were recognized at the 26th Manila Critics Circle National Book Awards. These are:

- Gilda Cordero-Fernando (Master of Arts 1960) for “Bad Kings” in the Best Children’s Book category.
By CHRISTINE MALLION

**FR. ROQUE FERRIOLS, SJ** University professor emeritus and three-time National Book Awarded, is no stranger to awards. Especially poignant, though, was the “Many Faces of the Teacher” award given him by the Bato Balani Foundation, Inc. (BBFI) and Dswa Learning Systems, Inc. (DLSI) last 2 August 2007.

As one of the award’s four recipients this year, Fr. Ferriols is recognized as representing countless of teachers in the Philippines who have performed their work with resolve, commitment and dedication, and have led a life of humility and simplicity.

For the past 52 years, Fr. Ferriols, who celebrated his 83rd birthday last August 15, has committed himself to promoting philosophy in the Filipino language.

“Ang pag-ispak ng hindi laro hanggang taimtin ng pagbagsahang sa totoo... Kung mamimimiso op y ka sa Ingles hangang ang nagwawaliw sa kalye, nananuno sa isa jimpay ay nag-ispak sa Filipino, among uring pagbagsahan ng katotohanan ito? Kailangang kilalanin na ang ordimaran ng tao ay nanamimiso op y din sa nagbagsahan ng katotohanan? Fr. Ferriols once said to a national daily.

His efforts to promote teaching in Filipino were first recognized by the Ateneo when they awarded him the Gawad Tanglaw ng Lahin in 1989.

Aside from this, Fr. Ferriols serves as an example to his colleagues for his ingenuity, simplicity, humility and, most of all, his commitment to his students. Philosophy professor Dr. Manny Dy describes Fr. Ferriols as “One of a kind... a creative genius. He points to the truth. He leads you to the insight.”

“Fr. Ferriols deserves the award because he is a teacher who gives from his very person,” says Roy Torentino, a colleague at the Ateneo’s Philosophy department and a former student. “Fr. Ferriols was one of the teachers who inspired me to pursue the teaching life.”

Fr. Ferriols is an inspiration to students as well. Among Ateenians, he has a reputation for challenging his students to “pugumunumanin—reflecting—and thinking in their own living language.” His quiet demeanor allows the students to enter into philosophical reflection and his method gives them the opportunity to discover their own capacity for thought,” says Mr. Torentino.

BBFI is a non-profit foundation which aims to improve the quality of education in the country. BBFI partnered with DLSI in 2004 and launched “A Tribute to Teachers,” an occasion for Filipinos to express gratitude to the thousands of teachers in the Philippines who have touched lives, given inspiration, and shaped the souls of our youth even in the midst of insurmountable obstacles and difficulties.

Within this program is the annual “Many Faces of the Teacher” search where outstanding teachers are commended to inspire other teachers to continue in their selfless mission to enlighten the minds of the Filipino youth.

The “Many Faces of the Teacher” Award is given to teachers who not only have exemplified excellence in teaching but have influenced society through their profession as well.

The award also recognized three other teachers: mobile teacher Ronyla Santiago of Nueva Ecija, special education teacher Elsa Gratilo Duran of Cotabato City, and journalism professor Luis Teodoro of the University of the Philippines.

The four were recognized at the national annual celebration of “A Tribute to the Teachers” held last 1 September at the Araneta Coliseum, attended by 15,000 teachers.

"Many Faces of the Teacher" Awardee

**Fr. Roque Ferriols, SJ**

**OUTSTANDING TEACHER DR. BENILDA SANTOS (center) with University President Fr. Bienvenido Nebres, SJ (right) and her family.**

**Metrobank Outstanding Teacher Awardee**

**Dr. Benilda Santos**

By CHRISTINE MALLION

OUT OF THE 200 nominated teachers from all over the country, Dr. Benilda Santos was chosen as one of the 10 winners of this year’s Metrobank Foundation Search for Outstanding Teachers.

Dr. Santos, currently the acting dean of the Ateneo School of Humanities and a professor in the Filipino department, was recognized for her efforts and contributions in literature and the arts as a teacher, writer, poet, and critic of Filipino literature.

A prolific writer and author, Dr. Santos is a three-time Palanca awardee for poetry and received the National Book Award in 1997 for Kiowarduro Number Uno (Frame Number One). She also received the Loyola Schools Publication Award for Poetry in 2004 and Parangal Amado V. Hernandez ng Samahang Anak Hagnuyo Award in 2003.

As an educator, she was given the Irwin Memorial Teacher Award in 2006, a university award for excellence from the Ateneo de Manila University, and was recognized as an Outstanding Senior Teacher by the Ateneo School Parents Council in 2003.

Fondly called Ma’am Beni by her fellow teachers and students, Dr. Santos is seen as a mentor who gives special attention and care to younger teachers by patiently guiding them and helping them hone their skills as instructors.

“Hindi siya madamot sa pagbabahagi hindi lamang ng haala lamang kundi ng sarili...” says Christine Bellin, a colleague at the Filipino Department. (She is generous in sharing... not only her knowledge but herself. Though she has physical limitations, Ma’am Beni does not allow these to keep her from being of service to those who need her knowledge... and care.)

Metrobank Foundation initiated the 10 Outstanding Teachers Program in 1985 to bestow honor and due recognition to exemplary teachers who have shown profound commitment to honing the minds of the youth, dedication to their craft, and effective educational leadership. The program aims to elevate the quality of education in the Philippines by choosing outstanding educators to serve as inspiration to thousands of teachers to continue their selfless mission to change the future of the country.

The nationwide search for the Outstanding Teachers is open to elementary, secondary and tertiary education levels. The nominees were officially endorsed by the head of their respective schools and the winners were carefully chosen by a panel of judges headed by Senator Richard Gordon. Supreme Court Associate Justice Ma. Alicia Austria Martinez, Department of Social Welfare and Development Secretary Esperanza Cabral, De La Salle University President Bro. Armin Luistro, FSC, and Philippine Stock Exchange President Francis Lim were among those included in the board of judges.

More Ateenez Among Metrobank Awardees:

• Fred T. Laureles, Ateneo Grade School
• Glendale Lamiseria (MS Math Ed 2006, DepEd-NEAP Scholar Batch 5), Dulag National High School, Leyte
• Dr. Ruben Abucayon (MS Bio education 2002) Alegria National High School, Leyte
• glendale Lamiseria (MS Math ed 2006, Deped-NeAP Scholar Batch 5),
• Fredo T. Laureles, Ateneo grade School Dulag National High School, Leyte

Ms. Lamiseria and Dr. Abucayon obtained their master’s degrees through the DepEd-National Educators’ Academy of the Philippines Scholarship Program for Secondary School Teachers. All winners received a trophy and P250,000.00 cash prize.
EACH YEAR, THE Ateneo Art Awards (AAA) unveils a roster of talented young artists whose creative zeal have played significant roles in shaping the face of modern and contemporary art in the country. Under the stewardship of the Ateneo Art Gallery (AAG), the awards give due recognition to select artists whose works have appeared in group or solo exhibitions in the past year.

This year’s theme, Global Vernacular, celebrates the participating visual artists’ ability to impart aesthetic experiences that speak a universal language, while maintaining a thematic cultural repertoire that is distinctly Filipino. It is a bold affirmation that Philippine visual arts, through catering to an international audience, has firmly kept the Filipino identity intact amid the threat of homogenity brought about by globalization.

That the event was indeed a milestone was not lost among the patrons who came to view the works of the 11 short-listed artists exhibited at the North Court, Power Plant Mall from 2–7 August 2007. For the first time in the AAA’s four-year history, artists were short-listed twice. Bernido De La Cruz, Wawi Navarozza, Jay Tisac, and Jeyjote Vitug in 2007; Mac Valdezco in 2005; and Nona Garcia twice this year. The other short-listed artists include Racquel de Loyola, Winner Jumalon, Vasmin Sison, Lyle Buencamino, and MM Yu.

The formal awarding ceremony, held on 8 August at the Rockwell Tent, concluded the week-long event where Wawi Navarozza, Lyle Buencamino, and MM YU were awarded the country’s most prestigious art prizes.

Lyle Buencamino’s title to his father in a series of paintings entitled “A Bowtie for John Lyle”, exhibited in July 2006 at the Mag:Net Gallery in ABS Bowtie for John Lyle”, exhibited in July 2006 at the Mag:Net Gallery in ABS-BBN. The title was taken from a song the late composer had dedicated to his son. Buencamino’s works feature father and son engaged in humorous jests and autobiographical in nature, the photographs are thematically arranged in black notebooks. Her works were displayed at the Finale Art Gallery in SM Megamall from April to May of this year. The exhibition, called “Thoughts Collected, Recollected”, earned Yu the AAG–Common Room Bandung, Indonesia Residency Grant.

This year marks the first time that all three winners were given AAG International Studio Residency Grants. The first of its kind in the country, the residency grant is expansive and comprehensive. It translates into a three-week stay in a designated work studio in a foreign art institution with monetary allowance, roundtrip airfare, and accommodations provided for. AAG’s managing curator Yael Buenconamo says that the grant presents an “excellent opportunity for the local artists to interact with and be exposed to other artists on an international setting” and, consequently, to keep themselves abreast with the developments in the international art scene - a factor that certainly should contribute to their growth as artists. To mark the culmination of their residencies, the artists will hold solo exhibitions in their respective venues.

In sync with the exhibition theme of the Filipino identity extending its reach globally, the grant gives the artists the privilege of raising the Filipino flag on foreign shores. Likewise a first in the history of the AAA was the presence this year of two foreign jurors: Vince Alessi, managing curator of the La Trobe University Art Museum and Collections in Australia; and art historian, critic and curator Eugene Tan, director of the Institute of Contemporary Arts Singapore.

The AAA aims to promote awareness and appreciation of contemporary Philippine art and artists both here and abroad, in line with the mission and vision of the AAG. Though diverse in forms of expression, these works give further credence to the value of art and culture to Philippine society. The AAA was held in partnership with the Unionbank, Metro Society, Power Plant Mall, Rockwell Land, Smart Gold, and Style with the support of Ateneo Art Gallery, Common Room Networks Foundation, Arts Network Asia, La Trobe University, Bendigo, Timbuk2, and Absolut Vodka.
The typical Ateneo school-year has mid-June to mid-October for the first semester and November to March for the second semester.

JTA participants enter senior year on schedule (June).

JGSOM organizes special junior-year classes held April to July (semester 1) and January to April (semester 2).

This allows the batch to study abroad in the intervening term of August to December—the period when most universities abroad have their first semester.

As a rule, students earn credits for courses taken in partner universities abroad towards fulfilling their local degree requirements.

JTA participants enter senior year on schedule (June).

IN THE NEXT few years, one out of every three graduates of the John Gokongwei School of Management (JGSOM) will have spent a semester abroad in earning his or her degree—even more if present trends continue.

This confident prediction is the result of the very successful Junior Term Abroad (JTA) Program established in 2003. Now on its fifth year, the program organizes one-semester study placements of junior-year management students in various partner universities in Asia, Europe and the United States. It has grown from 17 participants in school year 2003-04—with JGSOM partnering with 5 schools in 4 countries—to 136 participants this school year, involving 33 host schools in 14 countries. The figures can only increase, given sustained student interest along with the growing list of universities undertaking exchange arrangements with Ateneo.

JGSOM’s JTA Program represents the bulk of Loyola Schools’ international student exchange activities. This is one of the principal ways by which the Loyola Schools is establishing stronger world-wide links, tasked as it is with achieving higher levels of internationalization for the University. The challenge is more complex and varied now in this era of globalization, and certainly a far cry from the early 1970s, when Ateneo ventured in student exchanges with its first partner schools that included Sophia University of Tokyo.

It was in 1994 when the Office of International Programs (OIP) was created to be the university’s service arm for internationalization efforts. Working under Dr. Antonette Palma-Angeles, Vice President for Academic Affairs, and Director of OIP, the office manages student exchange programs and is composed of a six-person team.

OIP’s first efforts in the mid-90s dealt with short language training programs for Koreans wanting to learn English. In early 2000, OIP administered special academic programs for student groups from America (University of San Francisco, University of California, Canisius College, Stanford University) and from Japan (Nanzan University) wanting to immerse themselves in the Philippine social and cultural environment. For this purpose, OIP organized month-long academic cum outreach programs, combining classroom lectures on history, economy, politics, and culture with visits to urban poor communities and historical sites.

In 2001, the French embassy in the Philippines offered Archipel scholarships to France, paving the way for the first two-way exchange of students between Ateneo and French students. Soon after many student exchange agreements were signed between Ateneo and French universities.

Adapting to the Changing Times

TO MEET THE current and future challenges of globalization, migration, advances in information and communication technology, and increased competition among higher educational institutions both here and abroad, the Ateneo Loyola Schools is more vigorously pursuing internationalization.

Current Efforts

At present, Ateneo’s internationalization efforts include expanding student mobility between the school and its partner universities in Asia and Europe, developing inbound student mobility through 3-5 week immersion programs, and establishing Ateneo as a regional center for graduate education. The University has also positioned itself as a Center for English Language with student programs for Koreans wanting to learn English.

Recently developed internationally-geared programs include the China initiatives spearheaded by the University’s Confucius Institute, such as exchange visits with Sun Yat Sen University and the newly approved AB in Chinese Studies (see related article in page 8). Theme-centered collaborative research is being encouraged as well, with the University’s research agenda focused on nation-building. The Ateneo is actively seeking foreign academics who can collaborate with our own faculty members on research. Current institutional partnerships supporting this internationalization thrust include the ones with La Trobe University in Australia and the University of the Assumption in Thailand on cityscape and social philosophy.

Academic Vice President, Dr. Antonette Palma-Angeles shared that a conference involving all Ateneo units was held last August on campus with Indonesian and Malaysian academics in cooperation with La Trobe University’s Center for Dialogue on issues having to do with globalizations and its impact on the educational system, and seek regions with similar challenges to form partnerships with. The conference outcome will be used as future projects for the university and open the possibility of starting the Ateneo University of Indonesia as a center for regional dialogue.

Another critical thrust is to broaden the University’s international outlook through the development of links with French universities. Opportunities for students to study in France have increased with the opening of the French cultural center at the University on campus, as a result of the Diplomatie de la Jeunesse program. The center was inaugurated last August following a visit of a delegation from the French Embassy in the Philippines headed by Ambassador Jean Pierre Sabanga.

More French universities can be added to the list of partner schools and the OIP is working on this now. A study tour to France last January facilitated the selection of students interested in pursuing their studies there, and plans are being made to ramp up the exchange arrangements with the French in the near future.

The University has also deepened its involvement in the French cultural center and is working with the French government to strengthen the program offered to students interested in French language study.

While the French initiative is still in its early stages, the University is also working on a challenging internationalization program with the University of California at Berkeley. Currently engaged in internationalization efforts is the OIP, the office created to be the university’s service arm for internationalization efforts and has secured the support of the leadership of the University.

The OIP’s office manages student exchange programs and is composed of a six-person team. Working under Dr. Antonette Palma-Angeles, Vice President for Academic Affairs, and Director of OIP, the office manages student exchange programs and is composed of a six-person team.

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OIP and the Office of the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs (ADAA), however, had to address the problem of students being averse to exchange programs that will unduly delay their graduation. Because of the differences in school schedule, Filipinos going to foreign universities for a semester's study stood to lose a full school-year in the Philippine school calendar.

In 2003, a revolutionary idea from JGSM sparked student interest in studying abroad. The Junior Term Abroad (JTA) Program provided for a local class schedule that would accommodate a full-term abroad for the students with no time lost towards their graduation.

With the program in place, students queued up for placements. JGSM and OIP actively sought partner universities all over Europe, Asia, and the United States to develop exchanges. With these agreements came various arrangements like tuition waivers and partial scholarships from some universities, which served the students and the schools well.

The success of JGSO's JTA program notwithstanding, the other Loyola Schools contribute their share in the internationalization thrust. The School of Social Sciences (SOS) has been sending three or four European Studies students abroad annually for exchange programs. This year SOS will send six students to France and Spain for a semester's stay.

In the School of Science and Engineering (SSE), the Department of Information Systems and Communication Science (DSCS) this year sent 13 students abroad, up from two last year. Also active is the exchange program between the Electronic Communication and Computer Engineering (ECCE) Department and a French engineering school that provides for Philippine students to spend one school-year in France, and French students to spend five months in the Philippines while conducting their research project. Last summer, 14 ECCE students spent one month in an Ateneo partner school in Taiwan for their summer-on-the-job training.

The School of Humanities (SOH) has also sent its students abroad through the Archipel Scholarship Program of the French Embassy. And, yes, there are other initiatives—the short term study tours organized and supervised by the schools themselves: Europe by European Studies and Japan by Japanese Studies, both of SSS, and China by JGSM.

All told, the various efforts at student expatriation establish Ateneo as an institution with strong ties with foreign partners, but ultimately, the students have the most to gain from the socio-cultural lessons they learn while living and studying abroad.

**ADMU International Linkages**

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China in the Horizon
New AB Chinese Studies Program Launched

BY ERLINDA EILEEN G. LOLARGA

A NEW BACHELOR of Arts in Chinese Studies was formally approved by the Board of Trustees of the Ateneo de Manila University in April 2007.

According to Dr. Ellen Palanca, Director of the Chinese Studies Program based at the School of Social Sciences, the whole process of getting approval for the program took a short while because of the support from administrators and members of the School Council.

Part of the new program’s appeal and what makes it unique would be its tracks in Business (in a Chinese context), Humanities (aesthetic theories and the literature and arts of China), and Social Sciences (a broad introduction to the social realities in China and frameworks for analyzing them).

Thus, students interested in taking the program would not only have a comprehensive knowledge of basic Chinese Studies courses such as Mandarin Chinese, Chinese History and Philosophy, Government and Politics, but would also get to specialize in a particular discipline that resonates closer to their inclinations and capabilities.

An interesting feature open to students in the AB Chinese Studies program is that they have an option to spend their junior year in China.

For starters, Dr. Palanca revealed that the University already has tie-ups with the Jesuit Beijing Center for Chinese Studies in Beijing and Sun Yat Sen University in Guangzhou, where the students could go and take the equivalent of some courses in the curriculum.

She said that many of the Ateneo’s Filipino Chinese graduates would go to China to study some more or just to study the language.

With this program, the immersion in China is already integrated into the program if they desire to go abroad to master the language.

The course is particularly relevant now because China is an emerging world power and inbound student numbers are a real need to equip Filipinos with the skills necessary for engaging China from different dimensions and perspectives.

Dr. Palanca emphasized the fact that the country does not have enough experts in Chinese Studies.

The prospective graduates of the program will be able to train in turn more people in Filipino-Chinese schools about China. Dr. Palanca said that the kind of graduates they foresee emerging from the program could be described as those who know the Mandarin Chinese language well (so that they could go further on their own), an appreciation of Chinese culture, has a knowledge of contemporary China (its economy and political system), and would have a more understanding of the issues and be able to analyze these objectively.

To graduates of the program, a wide variety of career opportunities are available because of China’s growth and the increasing number of multinational corporations, governments, businesses and schools that deal with China. As Dr. Palanca pointed out, work for graduates of the program could be in business, foreign service, translation, research, arts, teaching, and writing, both in the Philippines and abroad.

For this school year, according to Dr. Palanca, the program does not have any freshmen yet. The AB Chinese Studies course is slated to go full blast for school year 2008-2009.

The Chinese Studies Program office, however, is working with partners, those who want to double major. She said that of those who have inquired about the new program, about 10 students have already decided to shift by the end of the school year, with the interests now being mostly in the business track.

A roster of highly qualified faculty members, both full time and part-time, is ready to teach the courses to incoming students.

Full-time faculty members at present include Dr. Palanca herself, Ms. Daisy See and Mr. Clark Alejandro. Two Chinese professors from Sun Yat Sen University are currently visiting the University—Professors Luo Bin and Zhang Shitao.

Other academic programs in the works include an M.A. in Education major in teaching Mandarin Chinese which Dr. Palanca said will be a tie-up with the Education Department.

With the rise of Ricardo Leong Center for Chinese Studies on campus and Mandarin language courses under the wing of the Confucius Institute offered in both the Loyola Heights and the Salcedo campuses, China is indeed in the horizon.

The program is ready to take off, fleshing out the internationalization efforts of the University through our solid links with China.
FICTIONISTS at the Ateneo got a rare treat this semester as acclaimed Singaporean novelist Suchen Christine Lim served as visiting faculty at the English Department. The author of such novels as “Fistful of Colors”, “Rice Bowl”, and “A Bit of Earth”, Suchen Christine Lim held two fiction workshops where she led Creative Writing majors and other beginning writers through a series of lectures, writing activities, and feedback sessions, which culminated in the production of a number of short stories.

During the semester, Suchen Lim also gave a talk on “Writing across Race, Language, and Culture in Singaporean Fiction”, joined as guest speaker in classes on Asian Department Literature where her novels were discussed, and met up with Filipino writers from different parts of the country. Her latest book of short stories, “The Lies that Build a Marriage”, published by Monsoon Publications and the National Arts Council of Singapore (and distributed locally by Anvil Publishing, Inc.) was launched last 28 September, and is now available in bookstores.

DO INDONESIAN MUSLIM women fit in the globalization era? This was the question addressed at a symposium held last 14 August 2007 by the Ateneo Center for Asian Studies (ACAS), under the School of Social Sciences. Rina Shahriyani Shahbrullah, a PhD, a current ACAS fellow, pointed out that Indonesia, like most countries in the world, is experiencing the process of globalization, and Indonesian Muslim women are very much involved in this.

She said that there exists a wrong perception that Indonesian Muslim women do not participate in globalization processes because Islam restricts their “freedom.” Correcting this misconception, she explained that the equal and fair treatment of women is very much emphasized in Islam. In fact, she said that Indonesian Muslim women are involved in almost all aspects of life: education, economy, science, politics, governance, etc.

However, she added that in the context of Islam, “equality” is not identical with “sameness.” At the end of her talk, she challenged Indonesian Muslim women, especially those in the audience, to be pro-active agents of globalization without losing their identity as Muslims.

Dr. Rina Shahriyani Shahbrullah teaches International Law, Comparative Law, Legal Research Methodology, and Alternative Dispute Resolution and Arbitration at the Universitas Internasional Batam. She is also a fellow of the Asian Public Intellectual. She will be in the Philippines for a year to do research on human trafficking.

The symposium, organized by the Departments of History and Political Science, was attended by visiting students from Indonesia, Ateneo faculty and students, and representatives from non-government organizations.

Picture Stories Show History

LAW COLLEGE last 19 September 2007.

Author of several books on Philippine history, Dr. Rafael explores the uncanny legacy of empire in the languages of sovereignty—often confused with freedom and always associated with power—in the late-19th- and 20th-century Philippines. With particular reference to the writings of Apolinario Mabini and Santiago Alvarez, Dr. Rafael asks how this imperial legacy of “sovereignty” is conjured, re-appropriated, and momentarily suspended by the event of the Filipino Revolution. In doing so, he seeks to inquire into one of the most perplexing features of modernity: the vexed relationship between freedom and violence in various attempts to redeem social life in the face of human finitude.

Roundtable Tackles “Love-Teams” in Family Business

CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY last 19 September 2007 at the Manila Polo Club.

Attended by 35 family business practitioners, the roundtable featured two couples who shared their experiences as husband-and-wife teams running a business, as well as the marriage-threatening challenges that often come along with it.

Salvador Magundayao and Pin Antonio of the Salon de Manila chain of upscale beauty salons, and Feliciano and Bernadette Juarez of the popular photocopying and printing chain Copylandia, explained their experiences as husband-and-wife teams running a business, as well as the marriage-threatening challenges that often come along with it.

Both couples agreed that these business functions ceased the moment they arrived home and assumed their husband-and-wife roles. As a rule, both partners needed to have a shared vision of the enterprise, in much the same way that they share a dream for their family.

The roundtable series, now on its 15th session, is held quarterly under the sponsorship of the Family Business Development Centre (FBDC) of the John Gokongwei School of Management (JGSoM). Headed by JGSoM Professors Ricardo H. Mercado and Ma. Teresa Galutra, FBDC provides specialized consultancy service to family enterprises, addressing sensitive issues related to managing a family business. Slated for the next roundtable is the topic: Sibling Reversal—How Brothers and Sisters Work Together.
THE COLD AND stormy weather that night proved to be of no hindrance to the hundreds of people who flocked to Ateneo's Church of the Gesu on the 25th of August. Sitting on aisles and standing against walls, they all came to witness the launching of the Bukas Palad Music Ministry's latest album.

Hindi Kita Malilimutan, the group's 13th album, is a double-CD project with 20 tracks. The first disc is compilation of 10 mellow liturgical songs and includes the title track which was given a multi-lingual treatment, while the second disc features 10 pop-inspired inspirational songs—one song, perhaps, to mark each of the 20 years the group has made music together. "We started writing songs in high school—songs which we would then sing in school masses," recalls Agatep.

In June of 1986, when the three, together with a handful of other friends, were invited to sing for a wedding, the formal beginnings of Bukas Palad emerged. Shortly after they recorded their first album called Bukas Palad, thus giving the group its name. Bukas Palad has since performed in over a hundred concerts all over the Philippines, and in Japan, Hong Kong, and the United States.

Bukas Palad, under the Jesuit Music Ministry, strives to help build a world of justice, peace, hope, and love by writing, performing, and propagating original liturgical and inspirational music. Its ministry includes reaching out to choirs within Metro Manila and offering free workshops. Among its most popular songs are "Hindi Kita Malilimutan", "Tanging Yaman", "Sa Yo Lamang", "Anima Christi", and "I Will Sing Forever"—songs that have become significant parts of the Filipino spiritual music culture. "Hindi Kita Malilimutan" is the first song composed by Fr. Manoling Francisco, SJ, to gain widespread recognition. It even earned Fr. Francisco six Cecil Awards. "[We chose it as the album's title] because it is the theme of the album—God's enduring love," says Roy Tolentino, one of the album's producers.

By Christine Mallion

PHOTO COURTESY OF NORMAN AGATEP

Hindi Kita Malilimutan: an Album 20 Years in the Making

Forever be part of the group.

When asked how being a member of Bukas Palad has changed her life, Maan Villanueva says: "The dedication to serve is infectious. I've long admired the group for its ministry, being able to spread the goodness of God to His people through their beautiful original music."

Bukas Palad also collaborated with accomplished artists Noel Cabangon and Gary Granada in the creation of the album. Furthermore, five of the songs included in the album are composed by winners of Bayan Umawit, a songwriting competition initiated and organized by Bukas Palad to encourage Filipino composers to write liturgical and inspirational music.

Two decades down the road, Bukas Palad has certainly made its mark not only in the music industry, but in the lives of countless of people it has inspired. Hindi Kita Malilimutan is but a fitting way to celebrate this milestone.
**The Replacement Killers**

BY RICK OLIVARES

The Philippines has not been a constant participant in the Universiade, but when the Philippine Olympic Committee was contacted by the Universiade Bangkok Organizing Committee, a 44-man Philippine contingent was quickly drawn up mostly from UAAP schools. The athletes from Ateneo, University of the Philippines, University of Santo Tomas, University of the East, De La Salle University, Far Eastern University, the College of St. Benilde, and Ateneo De Naga competed in fencing, shooting, swimming, and taekwondo events.

Ateneo de Manila’s contingent included 10 shooters including their coach Danny Tomas, University of the East, De La Salle University, Far Eastern University, the College of St. Benilde, and Ateneo De Naga competed in fencing, shooting, swimming, and taekwondo events.

The Philippines, on the other hand, managed to bring home its first ever medal from a Universiade competition—a bronze medal in the taekwondo middleweight division by De La Salle University’s Christiela Rosas. One bronze medal may not be much, but considering that the Philippine team was a hastily formed one, it is quite an achievement.

IF SOMEONE TOLD you prior to this UAAP basketball season that Claiford Arao would be the Blue Eagles’ leading scorer and go-to player, you’d probably think the person was joking. If you thought that Jai Reyes was too small to play college ball and that he was only good for a situational three-pointer, then you’d be pleasantly surprised to know that he’s one of the league’s leaders in assists.

If you thought that when former Blue Eagle star Olsen Racela said that UST’s phenomenal swingman Khasim Mirza right before the second round clash with Ateneo, “Sahi ni coach Pido [Jarencio, the Tigers’ coach]; kahit walang panalo ang Ateneo never underestimate sila. Hanggang mo i-underestimate sila. Hanggang walang panalo ang Ateneo never underestimate them. They will fight to the end. That’s why we have a lot of respect for them.” After the NU Bulldogs pulled off the tourney’s biggest upset so far and denied Ateneo the second seed, graduating senior Joseph Lingao-Lingao was visibly elated. “We fell short of our goal of making the Final Four, but now, beating Ateneo, a team we have a lot of respect for, is in the highlight of our season.” That was, indeed, a stinging loss. But given that, in the last two years, the team swept the first rounds, lost by the wayside have done an about face and have placed them next to UE in the team’s standings at one time or another during the course of the eliminations. When you read the newspapers now, those basketball prophesizers who prophesized the fighting heart of an Atenean.

Miggy MenD oza

The Replacement Killers

BY RICK OLIVARES

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Miggy MenD oza

The Placement Killers

BY RICK OLIVARES

IF SOMEONE TOLD you prior to this UAAP basketball season that Claiford Arao would be the Blue Eagles’ leading scorer and go-to player, you’d probably think the person was joking. If you thought that Jai Reyes was too small to play college ball and that he was only good for a situational three-pointer, then you’d be pleasantly surprised to know that he’s one of the league’s leaders in assists.
Flying High with the
Lady Eagles

THE ATENO LADY Eagles have been a final four habitué for five years running, have made three trips to the UAAP Women’s Basketball Finals (1987, 2004, and 2005), and have come away with one title. When it comes to recruitment, the school and the team are preferred destinations by female hoopsters.

But for all the gaudy numbers in recent years, there is one dubious record that the Lady Eagles wears on its sleeve: 1-35. It is a record of futility wrought at a time when Ateneo sports and women’s basketball hardly mattered. It was a time when the team was the unlikely doormat; a game with the team meant a sure win for opponents even before the opening whistle was blown.

That was before. Today, opponents take every game against the Lady Eagles seriously. They know that they’ll be in for one heck of a match and that they’ll be lucky to walk away with a win. If their foes didn’t talk smack before, well, now they do. Except that, as it was before, they don’t get the satisfaction of a retort.

“We have a rule where we forbid trash talking and taunting of any sort, no matter what the situation,” says 7-year coach John Flores. “Even now that we have a winning team, we still tell the girls that we don’t have the right to do that. Alamin at tandemil na lang saan tayo hanggang galing. (They should know and remember where we came from.)” And the 1-35 didn’t even happen on his watch.

This is more than just lip service. A few years ago, when the team was still struggling for wins, they managed to score a victory against the UP squad—their constant tormentor. However, the team unwittingly committed a violation when two of their foreign-born players—Carol Tanchi and Cassie Tioseco—were on the floor together during a crucial 30-second stretch in the game. UAAP basketball rules stipulate that only one foreign player can be on the court at any one time. But no one noticed it; not even the table officials. When the Ateneo coaching staff realized the mistake, they immediately volunteered their error even if it meant that their precious victory would be overturned.

“We’re always about treating the game with respect,” explains Flores. “You respect the game and the game respects you. I’d say that since that incident, we’ve been pretty lucky.”

It’s more than luck, though. It is to Flores’ credit that the program has grown. Every year since 2001, the team has shown marked improvement in the win-loss column. Treena Limengco, the team’s starting two guard out of Maryland, USA, attests to the soundness of the current program. “While trying out for the women’s national team, it was there that I realized how fundamentally sound we were compared to most of the others. It really says a lot about the program.”

The team has three simple rules that govern their game plan: one, run every chance they get; two, they’re free to run what offense they think is best; and three, defense is Flores’ sole call: “I make the decisions on defense.”

Of course, a game plan is no good without the right players to execute it. “When we recruit players, we go for those with brains,” explains Flores. “Not just girls with an aptitude for basketball, but those who can hack the demands on them as students. If they’re not as athletically gifted, then their court smarts more than compensates for that.”

The Lady Eagles’ 2005 champion squad is now down to its last holdovers in guards Kat Quimpo and Cheryl Ngo, and forwards Tioseco and AJ Barracoso. The experience of having gone to consecutive finals finishes in 2004 and 2005 is golden, something that even University President Fr. Benvienido Nebres, SJ realizes. “Fr. Ben constantly reminds the 2005 veterans to bring that mindset of a champion to the current team at all times,” says Tioseco, the league’s reigning MVP. “We have to act like one, not arrogantly, not just to our opponents, but also to our teammates.”
Mike Coroza believes, however, that his work (Palanca third prize awardee for “Imbisibol Man ang Tatay” in the Maikling Kwentong Pambata) is not a complete departure from his poetry since for him, a fictionist is also a poet, working on various images and dramatic encounters that any writer expresses in a form that suits his reading public.

What motivated Coroza to write a short story for children was the prodding of his son, Miggy, who one day asked him if he is a “real author”, since for his son “real authors” are those who write children stories. Coroza felt that there is a need to reach out to children in a literary form that is easily accessible for them, understandable, although not at all simplistic. Coroza explored the consciousness of a child and, in his winning entry, he tried to show how a child deals with the problem of being illegitimate, seeing his father with another family, and consequently hoping that he would acquire the power to be invisible from his classmates and playmates.

Allan Derain (Palanca first place awardee for “Paputian ng Laba” in the Maikling Kuwento Category), fictionist and last year’s Palanca awardee for Children’s Literature category, agrees with Coroza. Derain believes that writing for short fiction is no different from writing children’s literature and that’s why in his collection of stories, “Iskrapbuk” (University of the Philippines Press, 2005), he added two stories for children. Derain wants to be daring not only by experimenting with genres but with the retelling of stories itself. For instance, he wants to retell the popular corrido “Adarna” where the protagonists will be the Aetas trapped in the bottle of King Salermo, Don Juan is actually a weakling, and the Adarna bird tastes like ordinary grilled chicken. Derain is hopeful that such project will be received with much enthusiasm.

Mikael Co (Palanca first prize awardee for “Hands for a Fistful of Sand” in the Poetry-English category) who has been recognized early for his works in Filipino poetry, points out that knowing English is not a guarantee in understanding English Poetry or being proficient in Filipino does not necessarily translate to an adeptness in Filipino poetry. Co’s award-winning poetry, “Rolyo” in Cinemalaya Film Festival Short Film Category, says that although writing for film requires a different approach or technique to writing a novel, the important challenge a writer must surmount is the tedium of the writing process itself. Writers must be output oriented, according to Yapan, whether one is working on the filming of novels or the novelization of a film, since what is important is how readers or viewers must be always challenged by the literary work.

This year’s awardees are definitely a surprise but a welcome surprise nonetheless; though it certainly won’t be surprising if Ateneans garner more awards in the coming years.
Ateneo’s First MLA-Indexed Electronic Academic Journal

Kritika Kultura, The semi-annual peer-reviewed international electronic journal of literary, language and cultural studies of the Department of English, has recently received an invitation for indexing by the Modern Language Association (MLA). Kritika Kultura's International Bibliography, founded in 1883, the MLA is often cited as "the principal professional association in the United States for American and international scholars of literature and literary criticism" with 300,000 members in 106 countries.

As the MLA letter of invitation to Kritika Kultura states, the MLA International Bibliography is "the most widely distributed humanities database, is the preeminent reference work in the fields of literature, language, linguistics, pedagogy, and folklore" to which "most North American and European higher education institutions subscribe."

Since its founding in 2002, Kritika Kultura has published works of nationally and internationally noted writers and scholars such as E. San Juan Jr., Peter Horn, Bienvenido Lumbera, Neferti Tadiar, and Doreen Fernandez, Harry Aveling, Suchen Christine Lee, Danton Remoto, Oscar Campanones, and many others.

Kritika Kultura has been indexed in the Directory of Open Access Journals based in Europe as well as in the online catalogues of many top research and university libraries abroad. It is also listed in a number of noted Philippine and Asian Studies web links. A cursory glance at Google listings suggests Kritika Kultura’s global compass among academics in general, and in particular, among scholars in Literary Studies, Language Studies, Cultural Studies, Philippine Studies, Asian Studies, Postcolonial Studies, Critical Theory and Criticism.

As a pioneering electronic journal of its kind in the Philippines, Kritika Kultura is an attempt to respond to the needs of the globalizing world of the academe in general and of Philippine society in particular.

Kritika Kultura addresses issues relevant to the 21st century within the disciplines of literature, language and cultural studies even as addressing those same issues would have to be precisely about crossing the very borders of these disciplines. The themes it has covered include language and literature and cultural policy, political cultures of representation, the political economy of language, literature and culture, the production of cultural texts, audience reception, systems of representation, effects of texts on concrete readers/audiences, the history and dynamics of canon formation, gender and sexuality, ethnicity, diaspora, nationalism and nationhood, national liberation movements, identity politics, feminism, women's liberation movements.

Kritika Kultura is edited by Dr. Ma Luisa Torres Reyes. The current editorial staff members are Mary Thomas, Ivery de Pano, Mark Anthony Cayanan, and Gino Sinio Dizon, and the editorial associates are hazy YV, Charline Diaz, Markit Uychoco, and Miguel Lizada.

To date, Kritika Kultura has an International Board of Editors, and many of the papers, essays and literary works it has published have come from noted international scholars and writers who are actively engaged in a lively global scholarly conversation. The KK referees have come from here and abroad.

The members of the editorial board are among the world’s renowned writers and scholars in literary, language and cultural studies, namely, Jan Baecker, (University of Southern California), Peter Horn (University of Cape Town, South Africa), Roshanak Faruk (Gadjah Mada University, Indonesia), Regenia Gagnier (University of Exeter, UK), Inderpal Grewal (University of California, Irvine, USA), Peter Horn (University of Cape Town, South Africa), Annette Horn (University of Pretoria, South Africa), David Lloyd (University of Southern California, USA), Bienvenido Lumbera (University of the Philippines), Rajeev S. Patke (National University of Singapore), Temonario Rivera (International Christian University, Japan), E. San Juan Jr. (Philippine Cultural Studies Center, USA), Neferti X.M. Tadiar (Columbia University, USA), and Antony Tattow (University of Dublin, Ireland).

Kritika Kultura is now on its 8th issue, with the 9th forthcoming. Visit www.ateneo.edu/kritikakultura.

Kritika Kultura Lecture Series

IN HER LECTURE entitled “Transnational Domesticities: The Dilemmas of the Hawaiian Quilt” last 13 July, Doreen Fernandez, Assistant Professor in the University of Hawaii, discussed the economic and more importantly, the cultural history woven into the physical product of the Hawaiian quilt.

In her discourse, Fernandez asks three critical questions first: “how do women labor negotiate a web of gendered and global geopolitics?” and final, how does the quilt get produced within the multiplicity of the domination of man?” Guided by these questions and aided by her critical research and actual interaction with the factories and markets which sell these products, Fernandez ultimately maps and links the contemporary trends with the cultural and economics constructions of tourism and gender policies.

Given all this, Fernandez views the quilt as “a long traveling text of ideology which shows domination, and as remembrance, not just of one’s visit to Hawaii but as a ‘souvenir of globalization’ as well.”

The critique of Gonzalez on the Hawaiian quilt foregrounds and exemplifies the discussion of Charlie Samuya Veric on the rise and proliferation of Cultural Studies on a global scale in his July 18 lecture entitled “World Republic of Theory: Notes of Cultural Studies Across the Planet.”

A candidate for Ph.D. in American Studies from Yale University, Veric debunked the so-called death of Cultural Studies with the closure of the Department of

School of Humanities

The School of Humanities, through its six academic departments and one program, aims to provide students with a liberal humanistic education distinguished by sapientia et eloquentia. This liberal humanistic education draws from the rich traditions of philosophy, faith, literature, language, and art. It is manifested through courses designed for the holistic formation of students who are articulate and critical, imaginative and productive, students who are rooted in their own culture, yet open to other cultures, proactive in the global environment, and strongly committed to faith and justice.

New Appointees:
- Mr. Danilo Francisco M. Reyes
- Ms. Christine S. Bellen

School of humanities events

Philippine-Australia Studies Network Events

By Preciosa Regina A. de Joya

Promoting a long-term partnership in education and research, the Philippine-Australia Studies Network (PASN) of the Ateneo de Manila University, in cooperation with the Philippine-Australia Studies Centre (PASC) of La Trobe University, sponsored a week of events, from 17-22 June 2007, that included an international colloquium, a series of public lectures, and an art exhibit.

The colloquium, entitled “Palimpsest: Mapping, Imagining, and Moving Antipodean Landscapes,” gathered a group of philosophers, sociologists, literary writers, performance and visual artists, and art theoreticians, to engage a multi-disciplinary reflection on the Asian and Australian responses to the challenges of a technological and globalizing age.

These responses, seen from the perspective of the Palimpsest tradition, are the result neither of an unequivocal rejection nor an absolute assimilation, but of a cultural hybridity produced by an “overlaying of texts,” which is basically determined by the porous exchange or cultural hybridity, and links the contemporary trends with the cultural and economics constructions of tourism and gender policies.

Aside from providing a venue for intellectual discourse, the colloquium was also organized to promote the collaboration among regional journals, namely Budhi: A Journal of Culture and Ideas, Philippine Studies Journal (Ateneo de Manila), and Thesis Eleven: A Journal of Critical Theory and Historical Sociology (La Trobe University). This collaboration also includes Pragya Vishwa Journal of Philosophy and Religion, a journal of Assumption University, Thailand, which hosted the second leg of the colloquium. The colloquium, entitled Cartographies of Thought, was held in Bangkok, from 25 to 30 June 2007.

Modern Languages Department celebrates 50 years of the EU

By Quenie Caranto, Patrick Michael L. Capili

THE MODERN LANGUAGES Department sponsored an exhibit at the lobby of the Manuel V. Pangilinan Center for Student Leadership from 2 to 6 July 2007.
Cultural Studies in University of Birmingham by investigating the rise of cultural discourses across time and cultural spaces. Tracing the rise of cultural discourses from Birmingham to Buenos Aires (and then to Shanghai), to even the Philippines, surveying the discourses by engaging with such names as Fredric Jameson and Zeus Velasco, we can see how these theorists and critical works were received, interpreted and even challenged. Veric demonstrates how Cultural Studies became and still continues to be a global phenomenon, a critical site of discourse which seeks to critically critique the ideologies and principles which sweep the world and govern what we do and how we think.

Miguel Antonio N. Lizada


In this roundtable talk co-hosted with the Ateneo Fine Arts Program last July 27, the question is one created as an alternative to those run by mainstream institutions. The creation of this path is said to be brought about by the propensity in art to be public and to engage the community being a very public artform with the ability to intervene in time and cultural spaces. Phoethig is a muralist whose interest in the mural is its being a very public artform with the ability to intervene in time and cultural spaces.

With Wofford in the panel were fellow Galleon Trade Arts Exchange scholar-participant from Cal State Fullerton, and Norberto (Peewee) Roldan, curator of Green Papaya Art Projects, a venue for Filipino multimedia art expression and exchange with other art institutions in the Asia-Pacific area. The Galleon Trade in Manila was hosted by Green Papaya Art Projects, Mapnent The Fort, and Magnett Kalipunan from July 24 to August 16, 2007. The roundtable talk was organized by scholar Luzyn Burns (co-organizer of the Galleon Trade with Wolford) and Prof. Oscar Campomanes of the Ateneo English Department.

Ivery de Pano

Cuban Yankees and Resurrected Sphinxes: Stagings of America and the Orient in El Filipinsterismo

The concept of international arts exchange was serendipitously triggered by a lecture, "El Filipinsterismo" presented by Adam Lifshey from the Department of Spanish and Portuguese at Georgetown University last August 3, in his lecture that seemed at first to be worlds apart from the modern art galleries and exhibitions previously discussed. For one, this off-tangent topic was Jose Rizal's "El Filipinsterismo" (and in passing, the earlier novel Noli Me Tangere), which entered the literary scene more than a century ago as an anti-colonial (yet independence-resistant) critique strangely contained in a very Western artistic form. In simplistic terms, Rizal was an agent of this cross-cultural exchange since he imported the Western novel into the Philippines and exported his "Filipino" sentiments to Spain (and the freethinking world). But in complicated terms, as Dr. Lifshey showed, a lot more were caught up in this "exchange": Simoun, the ambiguous hero of "El Filipinsterismo" (and of "Simoun's Travels") became a metaphor for a body aclass in Cuba, that "incredible heterogeneity" gained from extensive transcultural interactions. The unstable multicity and duality in Simoun displace attempts to familiarize him as Filipino.

Ivery de Pano

German Philosopher Visits Ateneo

KARIN HUTFLOETZ, a doctoral candidate from the Munich School of Philosophy, came for a three-week visit in August, holding lectures and engaging faculty members of the Department of Philosophy in discussions and conversations. More than a lecture, it was an interview. "What does it mean to think philosophically?" on 22 August 2007 at the De la Costa Hall. On 29 August 2007, she presented a paper titled "Art and art of art?" at the "Ashes of Art?" conference held by the members of the Department of Philosophy in the Ateneo Art Gallery.

Remmon E. Bazarba
IN AUGUST OF year, the celebration of Buwan ng mga Wika at Kultura (Month of Languages and Culture) centers on a theme that usually is an aspect or a dimension of the Filipino language or culture. Among the themes chosen in the past were Katawawan (Comedy) and Kabataan (Youth), but this year, the Loyola Schools’ Filipino Department chose the theme Kahiwagaan (the Bizarre or the Uncanny).

For many Filipino teachers and students, this aspect of our culture is oftentimes ignored and largely unarticulated in scholarly works and literature. But the uncanny or the paranormal is practically an intrinsic part of every Filipino’s life, be it in communicating with ghosts and spirits, or in accounting for the mysterious disappearance of billions of government funds.

The month-long celebrations kicked off with the traditional raising of the Philippine flag across the administration office last August 6. The Vice President for the Loyola Schools, Dr. Ma. Assunta Cuyegkeng, the Dean of School of Humanities, Dr. Benilda S. Santos; faculty members of the Filipino Department; and students—all donning the country's national costumes—graced the affair.

In line with the theme, a two-week exhibit of fictionist Tony Perez’s works was held at the lobby of the Manuel Pangilinan Building. Mr. Perez is known for his works in the paranormal and the bizarre, but in the lecture he gave as part of the celebrations, he discussed instead the problems in our society emanating from a certain consciousness of privileges, entitlement, and self-fashioning, which run contradictory to our nature. For Mr. Perez, such contradictions lead to our experience of the uncanny and bizarre, and if there’s one thing that we can learn from the paranormal, it is that the paranormal is symptomatic of everyday problems.

Writer and Filipino Department faculty member Edgar Samar, in a follow-up lecture last 23 August, discussed the element of the uncanny in urban spaces in Perez’s works, including how such spaces inhibit and become symptomatic consciousness of broken and uneven relationships, power play, and dynamics of alterity.

Kwizbibo contestants

The highlight of Buwan ng mga Wika at Kultura was the various student competitions in poetry, song, and essay. This year, the Filipino Department added Kwizbibo—a team competition that tested students’ knowledge of pop culture and literature. The winners received three prints of original artworks of budding artists, like Rodel Tapaya and Farley del Rosario, courtesy of Vof Gallery and Artery Manila.

The month culminated with KA, where winners were awarded and a “poetry jamming” session was held. This year’s Palanca champion in English Poetry division, Mikael Co, and the best actor ensemble of Tribu, grand prize winner in the recently held Cinemalaya Feature Length Film Competition, graced the event.

ACELT Co-founder Pays Tribute to Fr. Joseph Galdon, SJ

ACELT’s 38th Bi-Annual Conference Teachers as Learners

Teachers experience student-centered learning

TEACHERS, TEACHER TRainers, and English language and literature teaching managers alike gathered at the Escaler Hall last 8 September 2007 for the 38th Bi-Annual Conference of the Ateneo Center for English Language Teaching (ACELT).

This year’s theme, “Revisiting Student Centered Pedagogy: Teaching for Understanding in the Language and Literature Classrooms”, looks back at the philosophical reengineering that revolutionized teaching practices, and effectively allowed it to evolve from teacher-centered to student-centered learning (SCL).

Though SCL has long been proven to be the most effective learning method for students, Dr. Edna Z. Manlapaz, keynote speaker and co-founder of ACELT, addressed the difficulties of putting this Western theory into practice alongside the need to adapt SCL into the Philippine context. Delving deeper into its core principles, Dr. Manlapaz discussed the challenges of effectively implementing this approach within the precepts of language and literature teaching.

The multi-faceted conference offered five interactive parallel workshops, each catering to a specific professional orientation and interests of its respective participants.

One workshop pitted the traditional approach of information subordination against practical instruction, which makes use of more timely and relevant learning materials and activities in teaching grammar. In another, techniques for designing more meaningful writing activities for students as active contributors to the learning process were tackled.

Issues, such as the challenges and opportunities presented by SCL, as well as how students can serve as active participants in the evaluation of their own academic performance, were also addressed.

In tandem with the learning environment ACELT advocates, all participants were given the opportunity to experience student-centered learning in action by constructing learning materials and implementing what they have learned in the workshops.

The Bi-Annual Conference coincides with ACELT’s 26th anniversary. ACELT was founded in 1981 as the Department of English’s outreach arm, in response to increasing requests for teacher training. Today, ACELT continues to live up to its commitment to refine the art of English language and literature teaching through a holistic approach that is grounded on the ideology of SCL.

ACELT works hand in hand with Ateneo’s vision to mold professionally competent individuals as soldiers of progress in the country’s forward march towards the sustainable development of Philippine education.

BEFORE GIVING HER KEYNOTE address on Reviving Student-Centered Pedagogy at the 38th Bi-Annual ACELT Conference last September 8 at Escaler Hall, Dr. Edna Z. Manlapaz paid tribute to Fr. Joseph A. Galdon, SJ, the spirit that moves the Ateneo Center for English Language Teaching (ACELT).

Recalling how ACELT began in 1981, Dr. Manlapaz spoke of the many invitations from teachers all over the country for Fr. Galdon to speak on the concept he called Significant Human Experience or SHE—a way of teaching English and literature. Dr. Manlapaz pointed out correctly that SHE was in fact a mutation of student-centered learning, which Fr. Galdon passionately believes in, and which ACELT stresses in its process-oriented and learner-centered methodology in teacher training.

Although Fr. Galdon is now afflicted with Alzheimer’s, Dr. Manlapaz believes that “Faith assures us that in some secret place of his mind and heart, Fr Galdon knows of the good work that ACELT continues to do and rejoices with us” as ACELT celebrates its 26th anniversary.

Fr. Galdon also marked his birthday this month, and the Galdon Club, a group of loyal friends, former students and fans celebrated it with him at the Jesuit Residence last 15 September.