

UNIVERSITY of the PHILIPPINES ALUMNI ASSOCIATION in AMERICA, INC.
(UPAAA, Inc.) ESTABLISHED IN 1981

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**EXECUTIVE BOARD
2011-2013**

2013 UPAAA, INC. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

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It feels like it was just yesterday when we were in a similar occasion in Jacksonville, Florida and within weeks after that, I started to learn the foibles and intricacies of operation of what is now known as UPAAA, Inc. In fairness and even before that, I had some active role during the administration of two of my predecessors.

The salient components of activities of the 2011-2013 UPAAA, Inc. administration are:

- Because of bureaucratic complications and bookkeeping oversight, the Executive Board decided to amend the name of UPAAA to UPAAA, Inc, effective June 2012. This allowed us to apply for new State and IRS registration as a non-profit organization. This is now under the care of our Treasurer, Luzviminda Sapin Micabalo.
- We had extensive and healthy debates about issues of concern and we resolved them in a democratic process that may have to be revisited later as they relate to the UP Office of Alumni Relations' initiative to expand the definition of UP alumni.
- In 2011, through the initiative of past president Francis Sy, he worked vigorously to raise more funds via alumni donation to complete the minimum requirement of \$36,000 of the UPAAA Professorial Chair (according to the Executive Director of UP Foundation). Necessary paperwork on behalf of the previous administrations was completed by Romy Aquino and then communicated with Mr. Gerry Agulto. This was later confirmed by an official courtesy call by selected UPAAA, Inc officers led by the UPAAA, Inc President on February 24, 2012 at the UP President's office and at the UP Foundation office in Diliman, Quezon City.
- In December 2012, the official Deed of Donation was signed by UPAAA Inc. representative and past president Francis Sy and UP President Alfredo Pascual. The endowed chair will be named 2005-2009 UPAAA Professorial Chair to reflect the contribution of three past administrations in the project. This will be awarded to three under-funded UP campuses - UP Baguio, UP Visayas and UP Mindanao - on two-year rotation basis.
- The planning and organizing of the 17th UPAAA, Inc Convention with host UPAA chapter -Nevada was started in 2011 (followed by two more meetings in 2012) at the residence of Dr. and Mrs. Zosimo Micabalo in Summerlin, Nevada. Romy Aquino and some officers of UPAAA, Inc met with Elizabeth Ilagan and the UPAA Nevada officers to agree on working principles in the conduct of the UPAAA convention and in committee assignments. Treasure Island Hotel and Casino was chosen as the convention venue and Aug 30-Sept 01, 2013 was secured as the date for the convention.
- Communication/membership and their impact on attendance and participation are major concerns. In 2012, through the efforts of Dina Barros-Ellorin and Jab Andreo Buhay, we successfully created a UPAAA website (www.upaainamerica.org) and Facebook pages (UPAA-in-America, Inc. and Upaa America) respectively, which allowed us to reach a wider range of alumni audience. This social media technology is a major factor in reaching other UPAA chapters in America and UPAA Diliman and in sharing announcements in more expeditious fashion.
- Vigorous promotion and ad campaign for the 17th UPAAA, Inc General Assembly, Convention, and Reunion ensued in early 2013 to the present.

Respectfully submitted:

Romulo F. Aquino
UPAAA, Inc President

Past National Presidents

Arsenio Talingdan, AA'51,MPA'55
Founding President (1981-83)
Benito Vasquez, BSA'59 (1984-85)
Constancia S. Uy, MD'67(1986-87)

Luzviminda Sapin Gonzalez-Micabalo
BSN'58, MPS (1988-91)
Reuben Seguritan, AB'66, LLB'70
(1991-93)
Clemencio C. Apeles UPHS, AB '61
(1994-95)

Carmencita Q. Fulgado,AA'60, AB'61, PhD
(1995-99)
Benjamin V. Marte, AA'51,BS'53,MD'59
(2000-01)
Josefina P. Abaya-Wee Sit, BSE'54,Med'67
(2001-03)
Fel E. Tabangay, AB'69,LLB'74 (2003-05)

Theodore B.M. Aquino, BSCE'71
(2005-07)
Francisco S. Sy, BS'70,MD'75, DrPH
(2007-09)
Belinda A. Aquino, PhD, AB'57
(2009-2011) Immediate Past President

The Secretary's Report **by Dr. Erlinda Rojas Santos**

The University of the Philippines Alumni Association in America, Inc. under the able leadership of its President Romulo F. Aquino, and the UPAA-Nevada Chapter under the presidency of Elizabeth Reyes Ilagan, pushed to a smashing success the 17th UPAAA General Assembly, Convention and Reunion, held at the Treasure Island Hotel and Casino, Las Vegas, Nevada on August 30 to September 31, 2013.

The UPAAA event is held every two years at any of the major cities in America so past conventions were already done in the following venues: Atlantic City, Chicago, Las Vegas, Houston, San Diego, San Francisco, Washington DC, and Jacksonville. This 2013 Convention was held in Las Vegas for a second time, co-sponsored and hosted by UPAA-Nevada. The prime movers were Dr. Romulo Aquino as UPAAA-President and Convention Chair, Luzviminda Sapin Micabalo as Co-Chair and Treasurer, Elizabeth Reyes Ilagan as president of the host chapter and Dr. Erlinda Rojas Santos as National Secretary and Chairperson for both Committees on Jubilarians and on Evaluation--dubbed "The Committee of Four" in the Convention Journal.

Carrying the theme "Making U.P. A Great World-Class University" and with an eye-catching Convention Logo featuring UP's iconic Oblation and the UPAAA and UP logos deftly designed, the invitation to alumni, their families and friends to join in the 3-day event was sent through the various media of communication - Save the Date postcards, emails, radio broadcasts, letters, phone calls, newspaper articles, its new UPAAA Facebook page at www.upaa-in-america.inc and its website at www.upaainamerica.org

In response, alumni from all over the USA including a few from the Philippines and Europe converged for the activities that started with the registration onsite headed by Minerva Ramos Wimperis when each registrant was given a special Convention Eco-bag with the material inserts of a hanging ID badge, meal tickets, Souvenir Journal, hotel map, and Las Vegas/Nevada tourist brochures, etc.

A Welcome-Reception for the Speakers and Awardees was held on the first afternoon, chaired by Necitas Manere-Aquino where Award Committee Chair Dr. Francisco Sy introduced the twelve 2013 UPAAA Awardees, to wit:

Alfredo F. Galvez, PhD - Distinguished Alumnus in Molecular Biology
Almira Astudillo Gilles, PhD -Distinguished Alumna in Literature
Maria Elisa "Boots" Anson Roa -Distinguished Alumna in Culture and Arts
Marilyn Aldeguer Resurreccion, MD -Distinguished Alumna in Anesthesiology
Erlinda Rojas Santos, PhD -Distinguished Alumna for Community Leadership
Luis Ma. Ragaza Calingo, PhD - Distinguished Alumnus in Education and International Development
Milagros P. Reyes, MD - Distinguished Alumna in Infectious Disease Research
Rigoberto C. Advincula, PhD - Distinguished Alumnus in Chemical Science
Xenia Tiglao Tigno, PhD -Distinguished Alumna in Health Science Administration
Emmanuel C. Besa, MD-Distinguished Alumnus in Medical Oncology
Heidi Laxamana Weiss, PhD -Distinguished Alumna in Biostatistics and Cancer Research
Laurel G. Yap, MD -Distinguished Alumnus in Health Care Leadership

The Fellowship Night, brightened with the Mardi Gras Theme, was aplomb with bling and colors, with a program emceed by Luz Sapin Micabalo and Nelsie T. Parrado, starting with the Invocation by Rev. Dr. Federico Agnir. Musical numbers were presented by alumni groups: The Delta Lambda Sigma Sorority

with soloist Ruby Leah Ordinario Agnir, the Pharmacy alumni "Pharmasonics" of Dr. Erlinda Rojas Santos, the UPAA San Diego instrumentalists conducted by Dr. Francisca Caccam. The UPAAA contribution was a piano medley by Secretary Erlinda Rojas Santos, who also did the accompaniment on the grand piano for the other numbers, giving due credit to the donors for the piano rental to Lally Ferro and Dr. Vidal Borromeo. Other entertaining numbers were the songs of The Frank Sinatra of the Philippines Art Mendoza, Larry Henares and Victoria Tambunting, Joe Santos, and the dance number of Richard and Leonarda Santos and a lively talk of Brig. Gen. Estrella Villamor "Monet" Ong. The strong bond of UP campus groups was so exhilarating when brought together onstage in reunion as: UP Prep, UP Elementary, UP Integrated, UP High, Business Administration, UP Pharmacy, Delta Lambda Sigma Sorority, Alphi Phi Beta Fraternity, UPSCA, UPCYM and other college circles. The following marched in the Parade of UPAAA presidents: Dr. Carmencita Quesada Fulgado, Luzviminda Sapin Micabalo, Dr. Francisco S. Sy, Theodore Aquino, and incumbent Dr. Romulo Aquino (with the unfortunate absence of other past presidents).

Dr. Romulo Aquino presented the UPAAA Inc. Presidential Recognition/ Appreciation Certificates to the following recipients:

For the Certificate of Presidential Recognition "in grateful recognition of your outstanding service to UPAAA Inc. above and beyond the call of duty":

Luzviminda Sapin Micabalo, Elizabeth Reyes Ilagan, Erlinda Rojas Santos, Isidro Dela Cruz, Benita Barros Murrell, Dina Barros Ellorin, Jab Andreo Buhay, Gil Silvester "Cholo" Paz, and Marcos Phillip Vega.

For the Certificate of Appreciation "in grateful recognition of your outstanding performance and valuable contribution to UPAAA Inc.": Elizabeth Ordinario Weil, Roy Coloma, Edward Granadocin, Brig. Gen. Estrella Villamor (Monet) Ong, Art Mendoza, Dr. Dan Soriano and the Amorsolo String Quartet.

The announcement of the Silent Auction and Raffle winners was done by Ester Reyes. Community Singing of "Push On UP" was led by UPAA VP-Midwest Delia Hidalgo Rayos followed by the Closing Remarks of UPAA Nevada First President Will Vicuna. The evening was alive with dancing on to the wee hours of the night with lively music provided by DJ Eric Colina.

The General Assembly, welcomed by Convention co-Chair Luz Micabalo, covered a Keynote Speech, a Symposium and a Luncheon Speech. The speakers, introduced by Committee Chairman Dr. Belinda Aquino, touched on a vast array of interesting topics that elicited a barrage of questions after each talk given by: Keynote Speaker Dr. Luis Ma. Ragaza Calingo- President, Woodbury University on "Transforming U.P. Into a World-Class University: What Can Alumni Do?"

Dr. Rigoberto C. Advincula -Professor of Macromolecular Science and Engineering, Case Western Reserve University on "Engineering for Ingenuity", Dr. Almira Astudillo Gilles- Writer, Environmental Advocate, on "The Filipino Diaspora and Trans-nationalism: Home is Where the Heart Is", Luncheon Speaker Ms. Ma. Elisa "Boots" Anson-Roa - actress, host, columnist, on "The UP Alumnus and Social Media -Pang-Twitter ba o Pang-FB?"

The Business Meeting was presided by Pres. Romulo Aquino who passed on the important matter of the Nomination and Election of the UPAAA officers for the 2013 -2015 term to Committee Chair Rev. Dr. Federico Agnir. With the manner of votation agreed upon by the body of delegates, a new set of officers for UPAAA, Inc. 2013-2015 was elected and were inducted to office by Keynote Speaker Dr. Luis Ma. Calingo at the Gala Night. The elected and appointed officers are::

President- Dr. Juanita Santos-Nacu (CA)

Vice President- West - Dr. Erlinda Rojas-Santos (CO)

Vice President- Midwest - Dr. Rigoberto Advincula (IL)
Vice President-South - Ruby Leah Ordinario-Agnir (FL)
Vice President-East - Ma. Consuelo Almonte (NY)
Secretary - Dr. Almira Astudillo Gilles (IL)
Asst. Secretary - Connie Oliveros (CA)
Treasurer - Cristina Colmenar (CA)
Asst. Treasurer - Minerva Ramos Wimperis (NV)
Auditor- Letty Quizon (CA)
PRO - Dina Barros -Ellorin (CA)
Liaison -West : Elected-
Elizabeth Reyes Ilagan (NV) , Appointed-Joe Santos(NV) and Alma Hidalgo Onrubia (CA)
Liaison-Midwest:Elected - Delia Hidalgo Rayos (MI)
Liaison-South: Rev.Dr. Federico Agnir (FL)
Liaison-East: Elected - Nelsie Tabudlong Parrado (NJ) and Appointed - Leonarda Santos (NJ)
Historian- Luzviminda Sapin Micabalo (NV), Parliamentarian - Dr. Juanita Francisco Caccam (CA)

The Gala Night was a blast of Fabulous Vegas starting with a photo-op featuring Elvis and a Vegas Showgirl in a pose with each delegate/jubilarian, through the photography services of UPAAAN Jab Buhay. With Emcees Luz Micabalo and Sid Dela Cruz, the program opened with the singing of the Star Spangled Banner led by Elizabeth Ordinario Weil and the Pambansang Awit led by Ed Granadocin with Dr. Erlinda Rojas Santos as piano accompanist, followed with the Invocation by Rev. Dr. Federico Agnir. The Parade of Jubilarians was headed by Elvis singing "Viva Las Vegas" with a Vegas Showgirl on his side. By seniority, the Jubilarians marched into the hall with their respective banners heralding each jubilee category starting with the Diamond Jubilarian and down to the Crystal Jubilarian. Onstage, each was called by the emcee to center front to be handed a Certificate of Recognition as Jubilarian by Committee Chair Dr. Erlinda Rojas Santos, with a handshake. The Oath of Loyalty to UP was recited in unison by all Jubilarians (and other alumni on the floor), led by Chairman Erlinda Santos while each held a lighted LED lamp and together sang the UP Hymn "UP Beloved/UP Naming Mahal" after.

The UPAAA Inc. salutes the Jubilarians of 2013 :

DIAMOND - 1953 and beyond (60 YEARS AND OVER)
Aurora Soriano Cudal, BS Education - CA

EMERALD (55 YEARS)
Ruby Leah Orinario Agnir, BA English (FL)
Federico Agnir, BA History (FL)
Emerlinda Barzaga Arcelo, BS Pharmacy (CA)
Rosalinda Dela Rosa Bernal, BS Pharmacy (CA)
Grace Fabella Bulaong, BS Library Science (NJ)
Emmelina Serrano Ceguerra, BS Business Administration (FL)
Divinia Santiago Conde, BA Social Work (NV)
Emma Nalupta Dichoso, BS Botany (OH)
Graciano Dichoso, BS Zoology (OH)
Nancy Clemente Garcia, BS Pharmacy (OH)
Luzviminda Sapin Micabalo, BS Nursing (NV)
Virginia Inez Nasol, BS Pharmacy (MI)
Josefa Palacios, BS Pharmacy (CA)

Rufino Goseco Roque, BS Agriculture (CA)
Erlinda Rojas Santos, BS Pharmacy (CO)
Jade Lin Simonson, BS Mathematics (CA)
Illuminada Aquino Sotelo, BS Business Administration (IL)
Alicia Brown Stapleton, Bachelor of Science (MI)

GOLD (50 YEARS)

Lily Vinluan Casillan, BS Business Administration (KS)
Benjamin Mandac Eugenio, BS Chemical Engineering (CA)
Edith Collado Galvan, BS Education (CA)
Josephine Fabella Miller, BS Education (NV)
Ernesto Resurreccion, Doctor of Medicine (NY)
Marilyn Aldeguer Resurreccion, Doctor of Medicine, (NY)
Ma. Elisa Anson Roa, BS Communications (NV)
Nerita Estampador Ulep, Doctor of Medicine (MD)

SAPPHIRE (45 YEARS)

Ingrid Tawatao Cabrera, BS Business Administration (NV)
Isidro Dela Cruz, BS Business Administration (NV)
Dina Barros Ellorin, BS Food Technology (CA)
Rodrigo Farrales, Doctor of Medicine (NV)
Elouisa Farrales, Doctor of Medicine (NV)
Juanita Santos Nacu, BS Nursing (CA)
Nelsie Tabudlong Parrado, BS Hygiene (NJ)
Minerva Ramos Wimperis, BS Education (NV)

RUBY (40 YEARS)

Cecilia Bautista Fabella, Doctor of Medicine (NV)
Gil Silvestre Paz, BS Electrical Engineering (NV)
Jose V. Tinio, AB Economics (NV)

CORAL (35 YEARS)

Virginia V. Alipio, BS Mathematics (NV)
Romualdo Aragon, Jr. BS Biology (NV)
Luis Ma. Ragaza Calingo, MS Urban and Regional Planning (CA)
Maria Christina Torres Colmenar, BS Statistics (CA)
Laurel G. Yap, Doctor of Medicine (MD)

PEARL (30 YEARS)

Victoria Aureus Eugenio, MS Community Architecture (CA)
Elizabeth Reyes Ilagan, BS Physical Therapy (NV)

SILVER (25 YEARS)

Marcos Phillip Mabesa Vega, BS Development Communications

CRYSTAL (15 YEARS)

Fe Tengco Labayen, Doctor of Psychology -Anthropology (NV)
Xenia Tigno, MS Epidemiology

President Romulo Aquino gave his Presidential Address and the FUPFA Vice Chair Polly Cortez delivered the Message of UP President Alfredo Pascual who could not be present at the Convention at Las Vegas. Dr. Juanita Santos Nacu delivered her Inaugural Address as newly inducted President for UPAAA Inc 2013-2015, giving the vision and mission of her administration and exhorting the alumni to be active and participative. The dancing was a big contribution to the merriment and socialization of alumni in a grand reunion that lasted to midnight.

The last-day activity of the UPAAA convention was the Breakfast Meeting which served as a Closing /Transition Meeting of the old set of officers and the new set of officers. The report on the results of the Evaluation of the 3-day event was done by Committee Chair Erlinda Rojas Santos where the delegates gave the convention an overall rating of Excellent. Different aspects that were highly rated were the Fellowship Night, the Conference Rooms and Vendor Booths including the hotel accommodations and services. the Souvenir Journal, and the Gala Night, All the speakers : Keynote, Symposium and Luncheon, were duly ranked Excellent to Very Good, considering the extent that the topics and discussions were relevant and consistent with the stated program goals. For the information on the convention, the benefits of the social media communications (UPAAA website, UPAAA Facebook, online emailing, letters, postcards and snail mail, phone services and news periodicals) were assessed, showing that some alumni still do not avail of the newer social media. The suggestions and comments were collated to reveal that many agree on an annual UPAAA membership fee with one suggesting that it be included with the Convention registration fee. giving varying amounts.. San Diego was chosen as the next convention venue in 2015 and some gave the basis for their choice on the attractions in SD, its favorable weather, and the high density of UP alumni in the West. although this was an interesting comment "A great city but expensive"..There were at least two who suggested a cruise for a reunion. .There was one who wanted the convention to be moved to October so that it does not conflict with the opening of classes in September. Several themes were offered for the coming conventions (How Alumni Can Give Back to UP, Re-examining the UPAAA Organizationally and Institutionally, Health and Wellness of Filipinos, Better Investments for Seniors. etc.). There were many good suggestions for the improvement of the convention by way of certain activities and involvement of more, while cutting on some of the numbers in the program for the evenings. There is also the advice to leverage technology to increase participation and employ e-group for more communication among officers.

The agenda for the meeting proper was prepared by the new president emphasizing her vision and mission. A 5-minute interaction between the old and the new counterpart officer was done, after the introduction of each attendee in the room. President Aquino cited his President's Report printed in the Souvenir Journal and this was followed by answering queries fielded from the body, explaining some of the actions taken during his administration. As his secretary, Erlinda Santos added details on her own duties and involvement in many UPAA and UPAAA events, both in USA and in the Philippines. The new secretary, Dr. Almira Gilles took the minutes of the meeting which would be reviewed by Pres. Nacu before it is disseminated to the board members. A September 15 deadline was set for the submission of a resume by each officer to the new president. The meeting adjourned on a congenial understanding and cooperation of the two administrations and the commitment of all officers to their sworn duties.

Respectfully prepared and submitted by:

Dr. Erlinda Rojas Santos
UPAAA Inc. National Secretary 2011-2013

Note: The secretary hereby apologizes for any inadvertent error or omission in this general report. She expresses thanks for those who have given valuable data to enrich this report. A separate report was submitted on the results of the Survey Questionnaire by the Convention Delegates , prepared by the Chairperson of the Evaluation Committee. Relevant photos shall be affixed accordingly as supplied by the PRO and the UPAAA Convention official photographers. Thank you.