



Alumni Newsletter

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7 receive Outstanding Sillimanian award

Seven alumni will receive the Outstanding Sillimanian Awards on August 28 to highlight the 103rd Founders Day. Five of them are based abroad. The three women nominees are all based in the United States. Of the four men, one is based in London, another in the US, and the remaining two in Manila and in Mindanao.

The Outstanding Sillimanians for 2004 are: Crescencio C. Bendijo (Business Management), Bishop Hilario M. Gomez (Peace Advocacy and Religious Life); Rufino "Junix" D. Inocian (Theatre Arts); Leticia C. Jue (Advocacy and Outreach in Nursing); Priscilla L. Kelso (Education); Dr. Edmundo A. Pantejo (Counselling Ministry); and Dr. Rowena T. Torrevilas (Literature and Creative Writing).

Crescencio C. Bendijo (Education '67) is the senior executive vice president of College Assurance Plan, which structure he helped set up to make it the country's pioneer pre-need corporation and ranked as No. 1 by the SEC. He is a veteran lecturer in leadership and marketing. Bendijo was nominated by the Silliman University Metro Manila Alumni Association (SUMMAA).



Bishop Hilario M. Gomez Jr. (AB English '61), cited for Peace Advocacy and Religious Life, was born in December 1941. He is Bishop Emeritus of the United Church of Christ in the Philippines (UCCP) and now serves as the Administrative Pastor, UCCP-Dipolog. He was nominated by the Zamboanga del Norte-Dipolog-Dapitan Chapter.

Rufino "Junix" Inocian (AB Speech and Theatre Arts) is among the few Filipinos who have called worldwide attention to the wealth of talents that abounds in the Philippines, particularly with his role as the Engineer in the UK run of Miss Saigon. His professional acting career spans 26 years starting with the Repertory Philippines. He has performed in theatre, film, radio, television, and foreign advertisements. His career now is enhanced by his involvement with the Trumpet, a Christian theatre company. He was endorsed by the Dumaguete Alumni Chapter.



Leticia Catacutan Jue (BSN '65) retired from gainful employment in 1988, and now divides her time doing volunteer work with the Silliman University Alumni Association of Southern California and the Philippine Nurses Association of Southern California while focusing also on her family. Her advocacy both for outreach in nursing and for active Silliman alumni are equaled only by her own example.



She wrote the abbreviated history of the Philippine Nurses Association of Southern California as well as the abbreviated history of the alumni association in Southern California, detailing the many accomplishments of the chapter that

include book collections for the University Library, medical equipment for the Medical Center and the Silliman North America Alumni Fund which provides Silliman instructors incentive for outstanding work.

Prof. Priscilla Lasmarias Kelso (AB English, magna cum laude '61), was endorsed by the Silliman Association of New England (SANE). She holds an MA in English and American Literature from Stanford University. She has traveled extensively to develop and promote international education and actively negotiated for inter-institutional partnerships.

She has spoken on Asian-American issues and the role of women in international development. She has been active in international studies and international relationships in her stint in California and Boston.



Dr. Edmundo Pantejo (Bachelor of Theology, cum laude, '57), based in Florida endures frail health but he is still keen to close his working years doing part-time preaching “to the extent that my health would allow as I come full circle in my life’s faith journey.” He worked for the federal government for 25 years until 1995 with the Supervisory Counseling Psychologist as division chief. After retirement he accepted a call as Interim Pastor of Park Palace Congregational Church in Pawtucket, Rhode Island, where he and his wife served the church for one and a half years, helping the church to find permanent pastor. He had another stint as interim pastor for United Congregational Church in Newport while their regular pastor was on sabbatical. In February 1999, he came to Silliman as regular senior pastor and University chaplain until retirement on December 16, 2001. While here he wrote a book “Toward a Dream Church.”

Dr. Rowena Tiempo-Torrevillas (AB Creative Writing '71) is a recipient of numerous prestigious awards for both her teaching and writing skills, including Outstanding Educator of the Year at the National Gintong Sipag Award in 1985; Philippine National Book Award; Progress 2002 Famous Fifty, the Iowa City Press-Citizen; and several Palanca first place awards in poetry and fiction. She has written and edited numerous books in literature.

Dr. Tiempo served Silliman for seven years until 1981 as coordinator of the Honors Program. From 1985 to 2002, she was program coordinator of the International Writing Program at the University of Iowa. That position required skills to be attentive to a multiplicity of tasks. She was also grants writer of the Museum of Art of the same University. Dr. Tiempo is currently a visiting professor at the Department of English, the University of Iowa. (With reports from the *SU Calendar*)



Alumni Hall receives donations from Northern California Alumni Association

The Alumni Hall Dormitory received a donation of towels, shower curtains, and other fittings from the Northern California Alumni Association early this year.

The items, SAAI Executive Secretary Yolanda “Inday” Valente Maxino said, complements their efforts to improve and add more amenities to Alumni Hall. Last year, the Alumni Hall underwent electrical rewiring. The SAAI is also coming up with a master plan to refurbish the bedrooms and bathrooms of the dormitory. Among the plans is the setting up of a suite room.

Maxino said the SAAI hopes to find support from the various alumni associations in the country and abroad in sponsoring the refurbishing of a room, or donating items or funds. She said their most immediate concern are the beds. The SAAI hopes to purchase more stable beds and cushions to replace the old ones.

The Alumni Hall Dormitory has a total of 11 rooms – six dormitory type (good for four persons in a room) and five regular rooms (good for two persons). It is the housing choice of visiting Sillimanians and guests. It also accommodates foreign students who come to take up special English courses in the University (SU Calendar).

Cebu Alumni Chapter reactivated

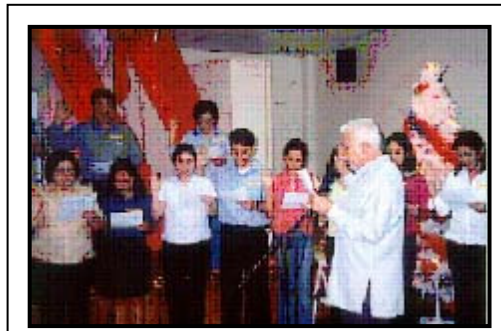
The Cebu alumni chapter with 288 active members was reactivated through the initiative and support of Trustee Madison Villavito Sr.

The officers of the Cebu alumni chapter are: Jomar de la Torre, president; Rio Teves, vice-president (internal); Joel Llaban Jr., vice-president (external); Nisan Puracan, secretary; Cristine Joyce Marcelino, assistant secretary; Maribel Rizado, treasurer; Rose Dale Machitar, auditor; Pearly Queen Café, Kan Nagashima, Douglas Baena, Jimmaryvic Cañete, Mary Joy Garlito, and Johanna Paula Guance, PROs. The board of directors are: Atty. Casiano Lomotos Jr., Greg Magdadaro, Ma. Edna Francisco, Allan Rendal, Dr. Henry Yu, Madison Villavito Sr., Winglip Chang, Emma de la Peña, and Dr. Leonard Raymond Cimafranca.

The officers were inducted on Dec. 5, 2003 at the Visayas Community Medical Center Conference Room with Trustee Antonio Villamor as inducting officer and inspirational speaker.

The affair was attended by Regal Mendoza Oliva, SAAI national president; Yolanda Maxino, SAAI executive secretary; and Jocelyn S. de la Cruz, director of the Alumni Affairs Office.

It was also announced that the annual alumni convention will be held on Aug. 27, 2004 at the Multimedia Center and that the deadline for the 2005 Outstanding Sillimanian Award is on Oct. 15, 2004. Nominations with chapter endorsements should be sent to the Executive Secretary, Silliman Alumni Association, Inc., Alumni Hall, Silliman University.



Trustee Antonio Villamor (right) inducts the Cebu Alumni Chapter officers.

Obituaries

Bishop Juan I. Pia Sr. (Bachelor of Theology, 1935), Outstanding Sillimanian in the field of religion and church, died at the age of 98 at Harmony Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, Chicago, Illinois on Dec. 18, 2003. He is survived by his children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren.

Aurora Hojilla Arrieta, a Sillimanian and a mother of Sillimianians, died on Dec. 30, 2003 at the age of 85. She is survived by her husband, Miguel Arrieta and five children.

Samuel Ybarley (HS '69, BSCE) died on Oct. 7, 2003 at the age of 50.

Eileen Janice Raterta Colina (HS '84, BBA '88) died in 2003.

Alfredo Cuevas, former employee of the Silliman Business and Finance Office, died on Oct. 19, 2003.

Joel Pino (BBA-Management 1996) died on Feb. 16, 2004.

Homero Velasco (HS '54) died on March 14, 2003.

Vernah Lynn Velez Cannen (BSGS '81), a medical doctor, died on Nov. 1, 2003.

Dr. Cicero D. Calderon, former president of Silliman University, died in May 2004.

Karl Leo Flores Udarbe (SUHS '74) died on August 1, 2004 in Sacramento, California, USA.

Prof. Lina S. Rabor, former SUHS principal, died on Aug. 22, 2004 in Los Baños, Laguna.

Engr. Johnny Villaluz, former faculty of the College of Engineering died in 2004.