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BIA PATINO

Double Issue
August & September 2006
Volume II
Number 3 & 4

loyolaschoolsbulletin

we build community we nurture hope



For Ambeth Ocampo The student's the thing

Ambeth Ocampo is one of the recipients this year of the Metrobank Outstanding Teacher Award. He is the ninth faculty member of the Loyola Schools to be given the award, following Ramon C. Reyes, Mari-Jo P. Ruiz, Ma. Assunta C. Cuyegkeng, Doreen G. Fernandez, Ma. Christina A. Astorga, Ricardo Abad, and Queena N. Lee-Chua.

twenty years. For him, it is all about the students. Interviewed by the Metrobank Foundation, he said, "What makes you good or even exceptional is that you go beyond the subject matter, that you not just inform but . . . form your students." In the case of the history teacher, "you let the students use history as a mirror in which to see themselves." Only when the student finds himself or herself in the

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Ocampo has been teaching courses in Philippine history for



Ambeth Ocampo (fifth from left) with fellow Metrobank Outstanding Teachers and Central Bank Governor Amando M. Tetangco, Jr. and Metrobank Chair George S.K. Ty

MA. ASSUNTA C. CUYEGKENG



Kellda Centeno (far right) with President Gloria M. Arroyo and other TOSP 2006 awardees

COURTESY OF KELLDA CENTENO

Centeno gains TOSP recognition

Another Atenean has made it to the elite national roster of exemplary students. Karina Kellda M. Centeno, BS Management-Honors 2006, *magna cum laude*, was chosen as one of the Ten Outstanding Students of the Philippines for 2006. The awarding ceremony was held at the Heroes' Hall of the Malacañang Palace on July 14, 2006, with President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo presenting the awards to the ten outstanding students. The nine other outstanding students are Jerome Dayao, Wesleyan University, Cabanatuan City; Fritzie Anne Jimenez, UP Manila; Michael

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New Facilities



Opening Day! (left to right) MA Cuyegkeng, M V Pangilinan, B F Nebres, SJ, MT Colayco, A M Intal inaugurate the MVP Center for Student Leadership

COCOY SARMENTA

MVPCSL is Open for business

The Manuel V Pangilinan (MVP) Center for Student Leadership was inaugurated and blessed on July 25, 2006. Gracing the event were building donor Manuel V Pangilinan, PLDT and Smart chairman and chair of the Ateneo de Manila Board of Trustees; University President Bienvenido F. Nebres, SJ; Ma. Teresa J. Colayco, Manila Cordage Company Executive Vice President and Corporate Secretary; Anna Miren Gonzalez-Intal, PhD, former Vice President for the Loyola Schools and



The MVPCSL opening and the MVP Leadership Forum more on page 2

Loyola Schools dives in



IRWIN CRUZ

Athletes, administrators, faculty, staff, alumni, and friends of the Ateneo took part in the blessing and inauguration of the Loyola Schools swimming pool in the afternoon of July 15, 2006. The celebration was marked by good cheer, gratitude, and hope for further excellence in the field of swimming as exercise and sport.

The event started with a ribbon cutting led by Cecilio K. Pedro, alumnus, former Blue Tanker, and president of Lamoian Corporation; Bienvenido F. Nebres, SJ, University President; Ma. Assunta C. Cuyegkeng, PhD, Vice President for

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MVPCSL is open for business (from page 1)

current Department of Psychology professor; and Ma. Assunta C. Cuyegkeng, PhD, Vice President for the Loyola Schools. The event was well-attended despite the rainy weather, and guests were sheltered from the elements by a well-organized logistical support team composed of students and staff. The event was hosted by Luis Andres R. Abad, President of the *Sangguniang ng mga Mag-aaral* and Miriam R. Delos Santos, Director of the Office of Student Activities.



Sciences dean; Adolfo N. Dacanay, SJ, Department of Theology associate professor; and Nemesio S. Que, SJ, Office of Admission and Aid director. In his remarks, Mr. Pangilinan said that it was his “privilege and pleasure” to be part of student life in the Ateneo. He opined that his was the “easier” role of supporting the Ateneo’s vision,



Following the ribbon-cutting, welcome and opening remarks, and the unveiling of a marker located in the building’s East Lobby, the building’s different

floors were blessed by Fathers Nebres; Roberto Ma. Buenconsejo, SJ, Campus Ministry Office director; Jose M. Cruz, SJ, School of Social

and that it is the Ateneo’s programs that will ultimately form leaders in all sectors.

Chartsiri Sophonpanich and Hong Kong-based Hang Lung Properties Limited Chairman Ronnie Chan as guest speakers.

Following light refreshments, participants proceeded to Escaler Hall at the Science Education Complex for the first Ateneo MVP Center Annual Leadership Forum which featured Thailand-based Bangkok Bank President



The first Ateneo MVP Center Leadership Forum: Lessons from World-class leaders

photos by Cocoy Sarmenta

To mark the blessing and inauguration of the Ateneo MVP Center for Student Leadership, a leadership forum was held on July 25, 2006 at the Escaler Hall of the Science Education. The forum, envisioned to be an annual event, had for its first year’ theme “Preparing for the challenges of leadership in the Asia of tomorrow.”



The audience learns from the masters

Two prominent Asian business leaders were invited speakers: Chartsiri Sophonpanich, president of Bangkok Bank in Thailand, one of the largest regional banks in Southeast Asia; and Ronnie Chan, chairman of the Hang Lung Properties Limited, one of the largest real estate development, management, and investment firms in Hong Kong. The forum was hosted and facilitated by David Celdran.

Warren Buffet are invited as speakers.

In his opening remarks, Manuel V Pangilinan, alumnus, business leader, and generous donor after whom the MVP Center for Student Leadership is named, described the forum as a different way of celebrating the construction of the center. He said that the inauguration was patterned after the practice at Stanford University where top leaders such as Bill Gates and

Mr. Pangilinan, a known sports buff, shared nuggets of leadership wisdom. Likening leadership to badminton, he encouraged students to “play with people better than you are.” He explained that this practice enables one to better know and understand one’s competitors, one’s goals, as well as one’s self.

Hybrid of experiences

Mr. Sophonpanich began by describing the ideal leader in today’s world, citing important qualities such as integrity, flexibility, and diversity. He shared how his ability to lead was tested during the Asian economic crisis in the late ‘90s. As leader of a major bank in

Thailand and in the Asian region, he faced the challenge of building a more modern and resilient institution. He implemented several reforms within the organization such as adopting foreign principles, strengthening communication by letting employees know their corporate vision and values well, and engaging the government, customers, and the world at large. The secret of Bangkok Bank’s success, according to Mr. Sophonpanich, was that it was able to identify their customers from different sectors—corporate, commercial, small business, and consumer—and provide for each customer’s needs.

Another piece of advice he shared was to “be prepared for the unexpected.” Faced with the unexpected, he said we must learn to visualize solutions, adjust when necessary, learn rapidly from failure, and be open and flexible. He also said that our mindset must be oriented toward competing with companies not just within the region, but around the globe. Thus, the question to keep in mind always is, “What will make you stand out?”

Finally, Mr. Sophonpanich, who was raised in a traditional Thai

family and received Western education, cited his “hybrid of experiences” as an advantage. This, he said, gave him “new ways of thinking and doing.”

World view and human nature For his part, Mr. Chan gave a lively and humor-filled sharing of his experiences as a leader, illustrating the characteristics of a good leader on the macro and micro levels.

On the macro level, he said that a leader must cultivate his world view. This world view, he said, will help one read two of life’s constants: history and human nature. It is in this world view and consequent understanding of human nature that one is able to “project the future.” In addition, a sound world view gives one the “ability to synthesize chaos into rationality.”

On the micro level, Chan advised the future leader to be “extremely demanding on himself.” He said

one must always strive for excellence. Although a person is not perfect and more people are bound to be smarter, the solution is to try harder.

He cited as an example the poverty of the Chinese and the wealth of the Japanese. He said that the Chinese are smart but seem to be not too demanding on themselves, whereas the Japanese, who are probably no smarter than the Chinese, are wealthier precisely because they work harder and strive for excellence.

Open forum

Following their individual talks, Mr. Chan and Mr. Sophonpanich engaged participants in a lively open forum which tackled issues such as Asian leadership approaches, the significance of Asian values in a globalizing world, corporate social responsibility, and corporate involvement in politics. *morrea, www.ateneo.edu*



Fielding questions during the open forum



Chan (top) and Sophonpanich (bottom) talk shop

Loyola Schools dives in (from page 1) photos by Irwin Cruz

the Loyola Schools; and Anna Miren Gonzalez-Intal, PhD, former Vice President for the Loyola Schools. Among the guests were Fabian M. Dayrit, PhD, Dean of the School of Science and Engineering; Jose M. Cruz, SJ, Dean of the School of Social Sciences; Romeo R. Dalandan, Director for Alumni Relations; Vicente W. Araneta III, President of the Ateneo Alumni Association; Jose Capistrano, Jr., University Athletics Director; Ariston Alex Torres, Director of the LS Physical Education Program; and swimming team members from the Ateneo Grade School, High School, and Loyola Schools. With Pedro was his wife Irene and father Peter. Severino R. Sarmenta Jr, Department of Communication assistant professor, was master of ceremonies.



Cecilio K. Pedro makes a dream come true

his inspiration for giving back to the Ateneo. His father, he said, went several times to his school in China to help build track and field facilities. But sports, Pedro said, is only one of his advocacies. He also supports a diverse range of fields such as music, academics, and spiritual development.

Pedro, the pool's primary donor, said that the inauguration was the fulfillment of his dream of building a swimming pool where athletes and students can hone their skills. Being a former Blue Tanker also instilled in him a "special respect for athletes." Moreover, he cited his father as

Following the inauguration ceremonies, the Ateneo varsity swimming teams from the grade school, high school, and Loyola Schools presented a swimming exhibition much to the delight and awe of guests. *mcorrea, www.ateneo.edu*



For Ambeth Ocampo The student's the thing (from page 1)

subject, he said, could they become something more. "That's when teaching become truly formative."

To form and inform—the philosophy is consistent with the emphasis of the Loyola Schools administration on "student-centered learning."

Ocampo writes regularly for the *Inquirer* and heads the National Commission for Culture and the Arts and the National Historical Institute, but he has no desire to abandon teaching. In his acceptance speech, he said that "it is in the classroom where you see whether your message is getting across or not." Students are his first critics, and in the exchange between teacher and student lies the frisson of learning.

The exchange can be mutually enriching. Once, for instance, he showed his class a picture of Leonor Rivera. His students giggled. "I asked them why and explained that [the drawing] was made by Rizal himself. Unfazed, one student stood up and declared, "That's not Leonor Rivera; that's Michael Jackson after cosmetic surgery!" I looked at the fading tired slides I had been using for the past twenty years and for the first time saw other images, other ways of seeing." Simply by knowing where the student is at—a principle of student-centered learning—the teacher learns, too.

A history class with Ocampo is not a dull rehearsal of facts—which fact is probably why his classes are much sought after.

Should one surf the net, one would find such online assessments—anonymous and therefore most candid—as this: "get ambeth ocampo for hi165!!! sayang kinuha ko ung hi165 over the summer...mas masaya pag regular sem...hehe para cyang stand-up comedy show!!! un nga lang he doesnt give very good grades...pero astig tlga ung class nya everyday...he's a very unorthodox teacher, pramis!!! :lol." The orthography may be low but the praise can hardly be higher, indeed.

If, as Ocampo said, "real teaching is all about leaving a legacy," his is secure—in the books and articles he has written certainly, but also in the way he forms and informs his students in the classroom. *jochua*

Centeno gains TOSP recognition (from page 1)

Vincent Uy, UST; Phonexiematte Kierulf, University of Baguio; Micaella Ruth Kwan, San Pedro College, Davao City; Nanetter Hope Sumaya, University of Southern Mindanao, South Cotabato; Christopher Joseph Abraham, St. Mary's University, Nueva Vizcaya; Prince Cassidy Villegas, Mindanao Polytechnic College, Cagayan de Oro; and Cindy Stephanie Toh, DLSU.

The TOSP awardees were chosen from a field of 30 finalists selected from colleges and universities all over the Philippines. The finalists are students who exemplify the "TOSP way of life" through their clear demonstration of leadership,

social responsibility, and academic excellence "grounded on good moral values in pursuit of nation building."

Selection was based not solely on paper credentials. In the final stages, the 30 finalists underwent a week-long live-in program that included both formation and team-building. During this time, they also met and were interviewed by the members of the national board of judges who are among the most respected and well-known personalities in the country.

Present to assist Kelda and to represent the Ateneo during the awarding ceremony was Rodolfo P. Ang, dean of the John Gokongwei School of Management. Kelda's proud parents, Rogelio and Myrna Centeno, and brother, also attended the awarding ceremony. For 2005, Ateneans Joseph Patrick Echevarria (BS Ps '05, V-BS CE) and Kiran Tina Vaswani (BS MIS '05) were named TOSP awardees. *rsanandres, www.ateneo.edu*

Fr. Joseph L. Roche, SJ: Pro ecclesia et pontifice awardee

Pope Benedict XVI frequently laments the secularization of many societies to the point that many people no longer have room for God in their lives. This situation makes the work of handing on the faith more difficult than ever, particularly for catechists and religion educators. As such, the Holy Father's recognition of the contribution made by Rev. Fr. Joseph L. Roche, SJ is truly an occasion for celebration here in the Philippines. The August 18, 2006 conferment of the Pro ecclesia et pontifice award to Fr. Roche not only honors the decades-long service he has given the Philippine Church in forming young men and women but also the work of all catechists and religion educators in the country. As Fr. Roche himself noted in his acceptance speech, he is "merely a small agent among the many [who responded] to the Risen Christ's apostolic commission to make disciples of all peoples, teaching them to observe all that He, our Lord has taught us."

Three endeavors come to mind when we think of Fr. Roche and his work for the Church in the Philippines. First, there is the

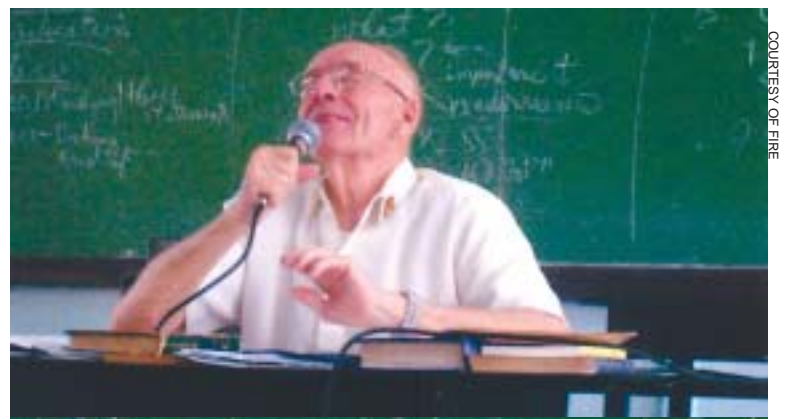
National Catechetical Directory of the Philippines (NCDP). Secondly, we have the Catechism for Filipino Catholics (CFC). The NCDP and the CFC are the two basic sources for catechesis in the country; both the result of more than ten years of scholarly work by Fr. Roche and other educators. The NCDP sets the catechetical program for all levels of religion education, with its unique methodology of integrating faith with daily living. The CFC is the first national catechism to be approved by the Congregation of the Doctrine of the Faith in 1996. Fr. Roche's work on NCDP and the CFC is also a fruit of his experience with the Formation Institute for Religion Educators (FIRE), which he began in 1978. FIRE is the graduate program of the Loyola School's Theology Department that works on a four-summer cycle. It aims to educate and form professional catechists and religion teachers through a holistic use of sources in relation to Christian practices.

If we truly reflect on these and Fr. Roche's many other accomplishments, we find that they are rooted in his truly Ignatian way of life; a life



Fr. Joseph L. Roche, SJ: FIRE in the soul

characterized by his simplicity and dedication to the mission, particularly in "the progress of souls in Christian life and doctrine and the propagation of the faith." Secondly, we cannot fail to recognize his outstanding skill of critical thinking, which passionately comes to fore in order to effectively communicate the faith. This skill is something that Fr. Roche continues to try to pass on not only the graduate students of FIRE but to all his students and colleagues. Finally, his deep love for the Church keeps him true to his mission of communicating the doctrines of the faith so that Filipino Catholics live a truly Christian life, where doctrine, morals, and worship are truly integrated. *melocker, mlnatividad, adurano*



Bishop Honesto Ongtioco confers the Pro ecclesia et pontifice award on Fr. Roche



Fr. Roche with friends and fans

Fr. Roche in his element

MELENCIO GALLARDO

MELENCIO GALLARDO

MELENCIO GALLARDO

COURTESY OF FIRE

The Ateneo's Palanca winners: reflecting on language, tradition, advocacy



Palanca Awardee Lawrence L. Ypil ponders his craft

For years now, Ateneo students, faculty members, and alumni have reaped awards in various literary contests and this year's Don Carlos Palanca Memorial Awards for Literature is no exception.

Lawrence L. Ypil of the Department of English topped the English Poetry division with his collection of poems, *The Highest Hiding Place*, while Allan Alberto N. Derain of the *Kagawaran ng Filipino* copped the third prize in the *Maikling Kuwentong Pambata* division for *Ang Regalo ng Taong Ibon*.

Ateneo alumnus and seasoned writer Jose Edmundo O. Reyes (BS ME '94) won first prize in the English Essay division with *Fungibility, Dead Souls and OCWs*, and Martin V. Villanueva (III BFA-Creative Writing) placed third in the same division with the essay *He'd rather be relevant*. Ryan Edward L. Chua (III AB Comm)

garnered second place in the *Kabataan* Essay division with *Home*.

Other Ateneans who triumphed in the Palancas this year were Socorro Villanueva (AB Psych '82) who won first place in the Short Story division with *Mahogany Water*, and Raymundo T. Pandan, Jr. (AB Eco '83) who placed third in the Poetry division with the collection *Illuminations and Sonorities*.

The aim of the Palanca awards is to develop Philippine literature by providing incentives for writers to craft their most outstanding literary work. Lawrence Ypil couldn't agree more, believing that winning and losing in any literary contest should be understood in the context of this development of tradition, in so far as a "winner" (or a "loser" as in the case may be), upholds or resists the perceived tradition.

For Allan Alberto Derain, the tradition of short story for children has always been compromised by its "marketability," its appeal for middle-class parents, and pedagogical enterprise to the detriment of the craft. With Palanca Awards, Derain believes there are less of these constraints and writers are relatively freer to experiment on topics, themes, and forms. Derain longs for the time when the short story for children will be recognized for its true merits and not just as a subgenre, as though its writers were inferior to writers of "more serious" forms.

Though Derain laments the problem of tokenism of children's literature in general, Ypil, on the other hand, is concerned about the gap between English and Filipino writers, considering the furor raised by some academe and writers over the recent controversy regarding the National Artist Awards for Literature.

Ypil considers the primacy of language use in any writing craft, but more than the eloquence, a writer's preoccupation is the interrogation of his language, whether English or Filipino. "No one has the monopoly on reality, and we perceive the world only through our words." For Ypil, speaking or writing in Filipino does not make one more knowledgeable about our country. "The world comes through the

most intimate and private spaces of our lives," Ypil quips.

For Derain, such interrogation can come only with a sense of advocacy, when writing is pursued not only for its own pleasure but also for its critique of

the existing material conditions of our oppression and socio-political problems. In Derain's winning short story, the gift of the father to his son is the sanctity of vision, when upon viewing the migratory birds, enable both the father and son to understand their bond that transcends time and place.

Ateneo writers have always enjoyed the recognition of their peers in literary circles and it is not surprising that such recognition is bestowed upon this year's Atenean winners, to whom the interrogation of tradition, the world, and the self comes by putting pen to paper. *glevilles*

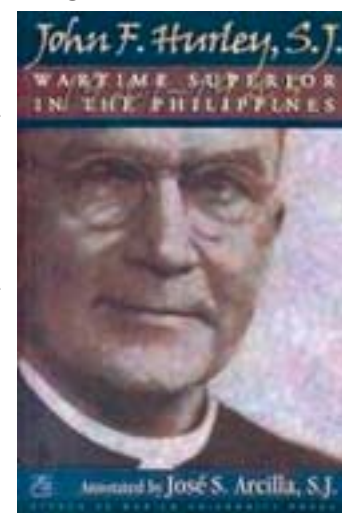
'The world comes through the most intimate and private spaces of our lives'

new books

John F. Hurley, S.J.: Wartime Superior in the Philippines annotated by Jose S. Arcilla, S.J., Ateneo de Manila University Press

Father John Fidelis Hurley, S.J., aged forty-six, was a powerfully built and indomitable young man who assumed office as the superior of the Jesuit Mission of the Philippines in 1936. Nine years later, on 15 December 1945, Father Hurley, with a body no longer young and whose health was permanently impaired by several months of incarceration under the Japanese at the University of Santo Tomas concentration camp, but with a spirit still indomitable, gladly relinquished the reins of his religious office to other hands. In this book, Father Hurley shares his experiences from the first days of World War II until the end of hostilities. He saw and endured the

pain brought by war, but lived through it optimistically, first hand and vicariously, through the different personalities—American, Filipinos, Japanese, and others—whom he knew and got it contact with.



ADMU books get critics' nod: Ateneo shines in the National Book Awards

Last August 31, the Manila Critics Circle (MCC)125 announced the winners of the National Book Awards for Philippine books published in 2005 at the Manila International Book Fair in Pasay City. The awards were sponsored by the National Commission for Culture and the Arts, the National Book Development Board, and Primetrade Asia. Ateneo authors and editors, as well as books published by Ateneo offices, were among the awardees.

Authentic Though Not Exotic: Essays on Filipino Identity by Fernando Nakpil Zialcita, PhD of the Department of Sociology and Anthropology received the Social Science category award. *Tanaw: Perspectives on the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas Painting Collection*, edited by Ateneo Art Gallery Curator Ramon E. S. Lerma received the Alfonso T. Ongpin Award for Best Book on Art. *Tanaw* also re-

ceived a Gintong Aklat Award from the Book Development Association of the Philippines.

Isabel Enriquez Kenny of the Department of Communication was honored in the Film and Film Criticism category for her book *Making Documentaries in the Philippines. University Traditions: The Humanities Interviews*, edited by Ramon Sunico and published by the Office of Mission and Identity and Organizational Development was one of two books named most outstanding in the Education category.

Esther Pacheco, former director of Ateneo de Manila University Press was given a Lifetime Achievement Award.

Ateneo de Manila University Press publications also garnered awards in various categories. Manolete Mora's *Myth, Mimesis and Magic in the Music of the T'boli*

won in the Folklore Category. *The Cardinal's Sins, The General's Cross, The Martyr's Testimony and Other Affirmations* by Gregorio C. Brillantes was recognized in the Essay Category. Luciano Santiago's *To Love and to Suffer: The Development of the Religious Congregations for Women in the Spanish Philippines, 1565-1898* bested other finalists in the History category.

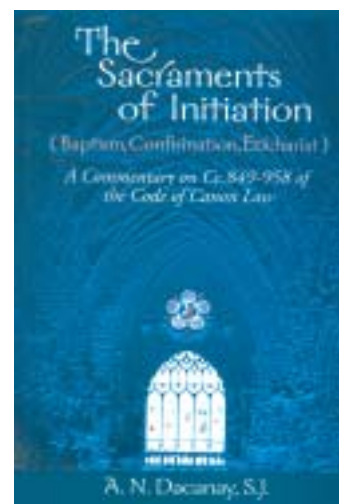
The MCC is a non-stock, non-profit organization of professional literary critics and newspaper columnists which has recognized the country's best books with the National Book Awards since 1981. The MCC's members are: Virgilio S. Almario, Juanio Arcellana, Fr. Miguel A. Bernad, S.J., Cirilo F. Bautista, Isagani R. Cruz, Ruel S. De Vera, Ophelia Alcantara Dimalanta, Resil B. Mojares, Danton R. Remoto, Soledad S. Reyes, and Alfred A. Yuson. *glevilles*

The Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist): A Commentary on Cc. 849-958 of the Code of Canon Law by Adolfo N. Dacanay, S.J., Anvil Publications

Fr. Adolfo N. Dacanay writes in his preface, "this is the second book of a projected four-volume commentary on the sacramental law of the Church. The first book published in 2000 is *Canon Law on Marriage:*

Introductory Notes and Comments, where, as here, I tried to present the different positions regarding controverted questions, what I think is the correct interpretation of the law, and the reason for the position taken. When I was preparing these pages, I had in mind, mainly but not exclusively, those already responsible for the care of souls as well as those still studying canon law in preparation for the ordained ministry."

Fr. Dacanay is a faculty member of the Department of the Theology. He also serves as a judge in the ecclesiastical tribunals of the Archdioceses of Manila and of the Dioceses of Pasig and Lucena.



Forming the formators

photos by Bj A. Patiño

And then there were five. From a skeleton crew of two, the Loyola Schools faculty formation team now consists of five faculty coordinators: Agustin Martin G. Rodriguez, PhD, Coordinator for Faculty Development; Ma. Elizabeth J. Macapagal, PhD, Program Coordinator for Teacher Formation Institute (TFI); Floredeliza F. Francisco, PhD, Program Coordinator for Spiritual Formation (ISEW and Colloquium on Solidarity for Teaching); Edith Liane Peña Alampay, PhD, Coordinator for Research; and Leland Joseph R. de la Cruz, Coordinator for Faculty Social Involvement.

Loyola Schools Bulletin spoke with each of the faculty formators and found that despite the diversity of their fields and skills, the team is one in recognizing the importance of forming faculty members, who in turn serve as their students' formators. Read on and get to know the people who form the formators.



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Talk to us. What do you think of LSB? How is LSB doing? How can we improve LSB? What would you like to see in LSB? Please send us your comments, suggestions, corrections, and questions. **Tell us your stories.** If you have stories or feature suggestions, send them over too. We're at lsbulletin@admu.edu.ph. Please send stories with accompanying photographs or illustrations to lsbulletin@gmail.com.

Agustin Martin G. Rodriguez, PhD

Coordinator for Faculty Development

The faculty needs as much *cara personalis* as do students, and the revitalized faculty development program is the response of the Loyola Schools administration to this need.

In the not so distant past, the faculty development program was synonymous with funding for the higher degree. In the last four years since Agustin Martin "Guss" Rodriguez, PhD assumed the position as program coordinator, however, it has acquired a more holistic character.

After talking to faculty members about their needs, Guss devised programs to "develop the faculty as people who need to be cared for, given that they spend so much of themselves serving the school." In addition to facilitating requests for deloading and financial assistance for the completion of an MA or a PhD, the faculty development program now more actively helps the faculty to become both better formators and better teachers through its various activities and workshops. Among them are the Teachers' Formation Institute, the Ignatian Spirituality for Education Workshop, the Colloquium on Solidarity for Teaching, and workshops on classroom management and teaching methods. The office has also sponsored "lounge days," where faculty from



the four schools socialize with one another over a meal.

To improve the delivery of its services, the faculty development program has ceased to be a one-officer show. Maria Elizabeth Teresa "Melissa" J. Macapagal, PhD coordinates the activities related to teaching skills development, while Floredeliza "Flor" F. Francisco, PhD coordinates those related to spiritual formation.

Guss, a faculty member and graduate of the Philosophy Department where has taught courses in Plato, Scheler, Social Philosophy, and the Philosophy of Religion in the last sixteen years, comments on his own performance as the coordinator of the faculty development program: "I really didn't think I was right for it. I just felt that I knew how people

needed to be cared for at the time, and I was called to serve."

What does he plan to do after faculty development? "To focus on raising my son and my research. I hope to be able to be an involved father without guilt. *Wala kasing support system sa ADMU*, so if you want to be an involved dad, you have to really work hard to not skip meetings because no one will look after your kid."

Perhaps with that response, Rodriguez has hinted at yet another need that the faculty development program can address in the future if it is going to be even more holistic. Until then, the program seems on the right track towards giving the Loyola Schools administration a human and humane face. *joc*

Maria Elizabeth Teresa J. Macapagal, PhD

Coordinator For Teacher Formation Institute

Maria Elizabeth Teresa J. Macapagal, PhD, assistant professor at the Psychology Department, serves as the new Loyola Schools Coordinator for Teacher Formation Institute (TFI). As TFI Coordinator, Melissa's annual work calendar begins during the summer when the TFI offers an orientation program for new faculty members. Throughout the year, the TFI is expected to organize follow-up sessions, sometimes in coordination with the other Loyola Schools coordinators. Right now, Melissa feels that one of her biggest challenges is to identify and address common needs of Loyola Schools'

diverse group of faculty members. A clue may lie in the results of a recently conducted training needs survey which show that faculty members want to learn how to deal more effectively with their students given the students' psychological profiles, and how to construct tests that can effectively measure students' learning process. Also in the pipeline are a series of national situationers as part of the effort to raise faculty members' social consciousness.

Melissa surmises that one of the strengths she brings to her new post is her familiarity with the

Ateneo's culture, values, and formation, having gotten her undergraduate and doctoral degrees here, and having spent a year in Xavier University, Cagayan de Oro as a Jesuit Volunteer in charge of student volunteers formation and campus conscientization programs. She then completed an MA in Social Psychology at Claremont Graduate University in California. She believes that her training and experience as a social psychologist helps her discern the training and development needs of fellow faculty members. She feels that her facilitating style and belief in the dynamics of participation fit right in with her work of facilitating and supporting learning. Lastly, she believes the medium is the message, hence the need for forming teachers who themselves serve as their students' formators. Academic, spiritual, and social aspects of teacher formation must all be addressed in order for the TFI to fulfill its objectives.

Faced with her teaching and coordinating roles, pleasant and soft-spoken Melissa is always sure to make time for her growing family. Away from school, she likes to play badminton and watch movies with her husband JC Mercado and their three children, Angela, 7, Matthew, 5, and Nathan, 1. *eegl*



Flordeliza F. Francisco, PhD

Program Coordinator for Spiritual Formation (ISEW and Colloquium on Solidarity for Teaching)

If there is anyone who is most prepared to take on the job of planning and coordinating spiritual formation activities for faculty, it is Flordeliza “Flor” F. Francisco, PhD, an Associate Chair and Assistant Professor at the Mathematics Department, School of Science and Engineering. When Vice President for the Loyola Schools, Ma. Assunta C. Cuyegkeng, PhD, offered her the position of *Program Coordinator for Spiritual Formation*, Flor was excited yet also apprehensive. After much discernment, she accepted the job because “I believe it is important for us to have a spiritual life to which we can anchor ourselves and from which will spring every commitment, deci-

sion, and service we will undertake.” She declares, “spirituality is an important part of the Ateneo community life. It is also something which is close to my heart.”

A 1984 BS Mathematics graduate (Honorable Mention and Departmental Awardee) and a 1991 PhD Mathematics graduate of the Ateneo de Manila, Flor is perhaps one of very few mathematicians who combines mathematics and spirituality with calculated ease and proficiency. From her college days in Gabay serving as tutor, finance officer, and formation and education officer to her early years as permanent faculty of the Ateneo Mathematics Department partici-

pating in faculty retreats and conscientiously doing the Spiritual Exercises at least once a year, to her transitory life as a religious, and finally back in Ateneo and mathematics teaching as an INTACT adviser as well, Flor sincerely believes “that I have something to contribute in this development of spirituality even by just providing a venue for sharing with each other in our faith journey.”

True to her character, Flor prefers to think that she is merely continuing what has been set in motion by the Office of Mission, Identity and Organizational Development (OMIOD) for the faculty. “The colloquium already has a working template. I am looking at this and thinking of what may be revised or improved to make it more meaningful and attractive to [faculty],” she wistfully reveals. Some of her initial plans include reflection-fellowship sessions leading to reflection-discussion sessions to be led by fellow faculty whom she will tap. A quiet, humble, and down-to-earth individual, Flor, who has embarked on a personal mission to develop expertise in research surrounding effective mathematics teaching, eagerly looks forward to a fruitful year as part of the Loyola Schools administrative team. *epv*



Liane Peña Alampay, PhD

Coordinator for Research



The current Research Coordinator for the Loyola Schools considers herself relatively new to the Ateneo. Liane Peña Alampay, Ph.D., Assistant Professor at the Psychology Department, has been with the Ateneo only six years. Prior to joining the Ateneo, she taught at the University of the Philippines in Diliman where she completed both an AB and MA in Psychology. Her doctorate degree is in Human Development and Family Studies from the Pennsylvania State University.

Liane’s major assignment is to coordinate the research activities of LS faculty members. She also acts as liaison between faculty members and the Loyola Schools administration and the University Research Council (URC). It is her job to ensure that faculty members have opportunities and activities that would help foster a more scholarly research culture in the University. The first few weeks of the semester found her feelings things out and identifying the steps, activities, and priorities to be dealt with this school year. Among the immediate tasks at hand is preparing a call for proposals for the annual URC and Loyola Schools Scholarly Work grants.

Liane is immersed in research work of her own as well. She is a senior

researcher for the Ateneo Grade School and High School Resiliency Research Project with the Ateneo Wellness Center, working with a team of colleagues from the Psychology Department. She is also currently a project director of various research activities in the areas of parenting, adolescent development, and juvenile delinquency and prevention. Active as she is in research, she is fully aware of the issues, challenges, and rewards involved in being a researcher. This awareness is one of the strengths that she brings to her post of LS Research Coordinator. Another strength comes of living a typical faculty members’ lifestyle—juggling teaching, advising, administrative work, and consultancy—which allows her to identify with fellow teachers. She also believes that having graduated from a university with a very strong research culture has also given her training and experience that might be helpful in the Ateneo context.

Balancing her academic life with her family life is also a constant challenge and keeps her on her toes. Apart from being a full-time academic, she is also a wife and mother busy bringing up her brood of three young children Joachim, 6, Javi, 4, and Sarah, 2. *eeg*

Leland Joseph R. de la Cruz

Coordinator For Faculty Social Involvement

Leland Joseph R. de la Cruz, director of the Development Studies Program and assistant professor, exudes a quiet air of confidence which underlies the competence and wide range of experience that he brings to his new role of Coordinator for Faculty Social Involvement. The post is a recently created one that fits him to a “T,” given his engagement with social involvement and development which goes back to his undergraduate days at the Ateneo. His new post is an apt recognition of his ability to bridge the academic and social development worlds. It seems he has always been at the forefront of getting students and faculty members involved in social issues.

As Coordinator for Faculty Social Involvement, Leland’s main responsibility is to support existing initiatives for faculty social involvement. Recent examples of these initiatives include development work with the Dumagats spearheaded by Roberto Conrado “Bobby” Guevarra of the Theology Department and the engagement of several faculty members from different disciplines with the *Pamantasan ng Lungsod ng Marikina* (PLMar). The group provides consultancies *gratis* on a wide range of PLMar’s policies, procedures, and other school concerns. A second task is to spearhead more initiatives for faculty social involvement such as involvement in the



coming 2007 elections and the integration of social involvement into the curriculum.

Leland uses the catch phrase “Professionals for Development” to emphasize that social involvement as intrinsic to one’s work. Social involvement is not to be thought of as an “extracurricular” involvement, and neither is there be a need to go beyond one’s specialization. He strongly believes that professionals can make a more lasting impact in development work when they bring their competencies to the fore, and that competence will make a better and more lasting impact than good intentions alone. To promote social involvement with both faculty members and students alike, he works closely with the Office of Social Concern and Involvement and the Loyola Schools Committee on Social Involvement.

Leland is constantly inspired by the work Ateneo alumni do and the quality of schools they end up in. He observes that they all have a sense of pride in what they, often despite heavy workloads and low pay. Naturally, Leland’s academic life and personal aspirations are closely intertwined. One of his guiding philosophies goes, “it is enough for good people not to do good effectively in order for evil to reign.” Thus, he continues to push students and fellow faculty members to truly become “professionals for others.” He pushes himself as well and is excited about his graduate school activities at the Sociology Department of the University of the Philippines where he is pursuing doctoral studies. On a more personal note, he also enjoys watching the development of his daughter Sinta, who at three years old is now growing fast and set to begin preschool. *eeg*

research

Call for Proposals for LS Scholarly Work and URC Grants

All full-time faculty members are invited to submit project proposals for research or creative work for funding by the *Loyola Schools Scholarly Work Faculty Grants* or the *University Research Council Grants*. The policies and guidelines for each project grant have been forwarded to all departments. The deadline for submission is October 30, 2006.

Proposals for the *Loyola Schools Scholarly Work Faculty Grants* should be submitted to the Office of the Vice President for the Loyola Schools, Rm. 105 Xavier Hall. Proposals for the *University Research Council Grants* should be submitted to the Office of the Academic Vice President, Rm. 201 Xavier Hall

Please direct any questions to Dr. Liane Peña Alampay, Research Coordinator of the Loyola Schools, at lpalampay@ateneo.edu, or loc. 5260-5262.

Matteo Ricci Hall opens its doors

photos by Bj A. Patiño

The Matteo Ricci Study Hall opened its doors to Loyola Schools students in late June 2006. Designed with the students' welfare in mind, the two-story building has an area of 2,472 sqm and is located between Science Education Complex Buildings B and C.

It provides comfortable and quiet study spaces apportioned over a 1,560 sqm area with a 230-person seating capacity. The air-conditioned study hall provides individual study carrels on both levels and group study areas that can accommodate more than 60 students at a time. These areas are ideal for group discussions or course/project work without disturbing other students. Laptop users will enjoy the convenience of a wi-fi connection that links them to the digital resources they

need when they are working online.

The Matteo Ricci Study Hall's architectural design complements the structures in the Science Education Complex and other neighboring buildings, such as the PLDT-Convergent Technologies Center (PLDT-CTC) and the John Gokongwei School of Management (JGSOM) buildings.

It features a wide staircase at the entrance where students can relax while waiting for their next class. The first floor provides computer access to the Rizal Library's scholarly information resources through the Internet.

In addition, the building has two strategically located exhibit halls, one on each level, where students can display their course projects,

and a large balcony where they can eat and drink as they discuss and study.

The building is named after Italian Jesuit missionary Fr. Matteo Ricci, SJ, who was the founder of the Catholic Missions in China. Ricci was successful in spreading Catholic Christianity to a largely Confucian and Buddhist country of his time through his deep understanding of Chinese culture and his broad knowledge of science, mathematics, astronomy, geography, and literature. He was recognized as a scientist of great versatility and a pioneer of cul-

tural relations between China and the West.

The construction of the Matteo Ricci Study Hall began in August 2004. The building temporarily housed the accredited student organizations of the university when Colayco Hall was demolished to give way to the construc-

tion of the four-storey Manuel V Pangilinan Center for Student Leadership which has now been inaugurated as well.

The study hall is open from 7:30 am to 9:30pm Mondays to Fridays, and from 8:00 am to 6:00 pm on Saturdays. *lacacha*, www.ateneo.edu





Booked Solid

photos by Bj A. Patiño

On the ground floor of the newly inaugurated Manuel V Pangilinan Center for Student Leadership is the Loyola Schools bookstore. It is the first of its kind in the campus, and is designed to meet the need of the Loyola Schools community for a “one-stop shop.”

Karen Berthelsen Cardenas, Director of the Office of Research and Publications (ORP) and concurrent manager of the Bookstore, likens it to bookstores at universities in Europe and the United States. The Loyola Schools bookstore is essentially “an outlet for everything the school produces.” Thus, it carries not only the textbooks for the courses taught at the Loyola Schools but also faculty publications, gift items (postcards, knick-knacks, and



stuffed toys), gift accessories (boxes, wrappers, and ribbons), supplies (pens, paper, CDs, and notebooks), and merchandise from the A-Shop (mugs, umbrellas, shirts all stamped “Ateneo”). Soon, the John Gokongwei School of Management will be selling more merchandise there. It

also offers photocopying and binding services. The coffee bar has yet to open, but already there are a number of groups vying for the right to operate it. A lounge area, with an entertainment system, is at the far end of the expansive bookstore. The idea is for students to watch videos adapted from books. Small classes can reserve the space and use it for film viewings. It is apparently drawing the most attention from visitors.

Already, business is brisk, though the staff is skeletal (Djoanna and Jeremy are being “borrowed” from ORP). Cardenas credits this to the convenience afforded by and the visibility of the venue.



Students can get what they want under a single roof, and that right where they are wont to mingle. The ORP, the bookstore’s predecessor, had more an office rather than a retail-store façade. This bookstore, in contrast, invites customers by its very appearance.

The bookstore hopes to sell books by more non-Ateneo publishers (currently, it sells mostly

publications by the Jesuit Communications, the University Press, and the ORP) and to produce its own line of merchandise in the future. Whether or not it does, however, it is almost certain that students’ reply to the question, “Where did/can you get that?” in the coming years will be uniform: “At the bookstore.” *jochua*





JGSOM Student Enterprise Center (JSEC) A new **home** for student entrepreneurs

The JGSOM Student Enterprise Center (JSEC), designed as a showcase for student-owned and managed businesses, is a first. As JGSOM Dean Rudy Ang says “We’re not following a trend in business education, rather, we’re setting the trend. I don’t know of any school that has a retail and service area populated exclusively by student businesses.” Located between the SEC and CTC buildings and slated to begin operations in the second semester of this schoolyear, the 12-stall JSEC serves two purposes: as a laboratory where students can hone

their entrepreneurial skills; and as a space for students to relax, eat, or just plain hang out. Mr. Ang points out that with the campus’ “center of gravity” having shifted to the SEC-CTC-JGSOM area, an additional livable space is needed as an alternative eating and resting area to the college cafeteria located in Gonzaga Hall.

Aiming for a good mix of student businesses at the JSEC, JGSOM has set out criteria for prospective JSEC tenants who will enjoy subsidized rental rates. Only student-run businesses will

be allowed to occupy stalls at JSEC, with lease terms of one semester to one year. To be considered for JSEC, a business must be appropriate for a school setting, and must fit well with the community’s needs. Five out of the 12 stalls are equipped to house food businesses, with the rest to be assigned to businesses serving other needs.

Mr. Ang is optimistic about the JSEC’s possibilities as a learning facility for student entrepreneurs. Asked if JGSOM business owners will be given priority over

non-JGSOM ones, he remarks that better proposals will win every time, whether or not they are from JGSOM student entrepreneurs. “There are no entitlements in the real world! They have to compete for spaces in the mall just as they will have to in any business environment.” This goes for running their businesses professionally as well. Mr. Ang believes that although they are still students, the JSEC tenants must serve their customers professionally. “Our students need to run their businesses as real professionals,” he asserts.

He is realistic about the possibility that some businesses may not succeed, and says losing money is part of the learning process. “We hope to have many success stories, but expect some failures as well. That’s okay, because people learn as much from failure as they do from success.” With student entrepreneurs learning real-life lessons from real-life profit and loss, the JSEC looks like a trend that’s here to stay.

with information from an article by glumo & mcorrea, www.ateneo.edu

photos by Alyson L. Yap

Scenes from the JGSOM Student Enterprise Center Groundbreaking Ceremonies





The cops (l-r: Paolo Apagalang, Joseph dela Cruz, and Richard de Guzman) try to silence one of their colleagues (Jethro Tenorio) who is about to reveal information to a visiting reporter.

Tanghalang Ateneo's **Anarkista** sparks hilarity as it hits political targets

Heaps of howls and hearty laughter greeted the shows of *Ang Aksidenteng Kamatayan ng Isang Anarkista*, Tanghalang Ateneo's first production of SY 2006-2007, now on a Metro Manila campus tour. The show was originally staged from July 21-August 5 at the Rizal Mini-Theater, Loyola Schools.

The play, written by Nobel Prize Winner Dario Fo and translated into Filipino by Joseph dela Cruz, is a devastating satire on police corruption: it tells the true story of an Italian anarchist who mysteriously fell to his death from the window of a police station. Police investigations rule the fall to be an "accidental death." The public thinks otherwise but is powerless to reopen the case. *Anarkista* conducts its own inquiry, steered by a fool (simply named the Maniac) who, through the use of farcical comedy, exposes the police cover-up conspiracy.

Audiences responded with intelligence and glee, quickly picking up the wit of the lines and political references and enjoying the cast's many comic routines. "The antics remind you of Charles Chaplain movies," one viewer said. "It's like Shakespeare or Swift," one teacher remarked, "you can appreciate it on two levels: the lofty and the popular." Theater reviewers were generous in their praise. Tito Valiente, writing for *Business Mirror* (August 8, 2006), noted that "The members of Tanghalang Ateneo (captured) the political air of Fo turning it into a night that was splendid..." And Edsel-Thadeus O. Lorete of the Daily Tribune (August 19, 2006) stated that "*Aksidente* is a must-see play for anyone looking for a fresh perspective on Philippine politics."

Students quickly expressed their delight. One wrote: "*nakakatawa ngunit nakakabagabag, malinaw ang mensahe at maayos na naihayag ang political humor.*" Many agreed the play was "timely," "fun to watch," "hilarious," and "right on target" in poking fun at the police and government officials." Still another student said: "*mainit-init pa talaga ang mga isyu na iniharap dito sa kakatwang mga sitwasyon. Magaling ang pagsalin at paglalagay ng*

contemporaryong hugis at himig ang dulang ito ni Dario Fo."

The references to contemporary Philippine politics are the handiwork of director Ricardo Abad and translator Joseph dela Cruz, who have localized the play as playwright Fo encourages others to do in their own productions. Abad also adapted the movement and gestures from *commedia dell'arte*, a traditional Italian style of acting, to give the comedy a "meta-theatrical effect" where the goings on of the play (including the actors' frequent addresses to the audience) are not to be taken literally.

Set, costumes, light and music complemented the action. Music designer Ruben Reyes enlisted a jazz trio (with himself as bassist) to perform live and follow the comic business of the actors. National Artist Salvador Bernal costumed the actors in understated business wear, as well as created an elegant and monochromatic set, with matching lighting design by Jonjon Villareal, that enabled the riotous comedy to surface with ease.

Audiences unanimously praised the actors, with the best compliment coming from theater artists who lauded the "ensemble playing" of the actors, usually a difficult feat in theater productions. The "powerhouse cast" consists of Ronan Capinding as the Maniac, Joseph dela Cruz, Richard de Guzman, Jethro Tenorio, Jesus Joseph Ignacio, and Paolo Apagalang who played the police authorities, and Missy Maramara who, alternating with Ma. Carissa Alejandro, took on the role of a sensuous, sharp-shooting newspaper reporter.

Anarkista has opened the Loyola Schools theater year with a bang. The play is now on an extended run with shows at the Irwin Theater and SM Centerpoint to accommodate students from nearby areas. Shows in Baguio are scheduled in November, while an English version of the play is being organized for a run in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia this December.

For more information on TA, please contact Immaculate Ching at gem_star12@yahoo.com.

Ateneo Art Awards 2006 OUTBOUND

2006 Ateneo Art Awards winners announced

The Ateneo Art Gallery has announced the winners of the 2006 Ateneo Art Awards. Poklong Anading, Mideo Cruz, and Maya Muñoz were proclaimed winners on August 8, 2006 in a formal ceremony at the Rockwell Tent. The Awards were conferred to the three young Filipino visual artists for their outstanding contribution to the definition and development of modern and contemporary Philippine art.



Winners of the Ateneo Art Awards 2006 (l-r): Mideo Cruz, Maya Muñoz, Poklong Anading

Anading won for the show "Anonymity" held at the Finale Art Gallery, and was also given the 2006 Ateneo Art Gallery Sydney Studio Residency Grant which will provide him with roundtrip airfare, allowance, accommodation, and a work studio for three weeks, as well as an invitation to exhibit at The Cross Art Projects, a leading alternative art space. Cruz won for the show "Banquet" held at the Bulwagang Fernando Amorsolo, Cultural Center of the Philippines and at the Substation gallery in Singapore. Muñoz won for the show "Closer" held at the Hiraya Gallery.

The other artists short-listed for the Awards were Yason Banal, Lena Cobangbang, Marina Cruz, Anton del Castillo, Bembol dela Cruz, Wawi Navarroza, Rodel Tapaya, Jay Ticar, and Jevijoe Vitug.

Navarroza took home the first ever Art Smart Texter's Choice Award for her exhibition "Polysaccharide: The Dollhouse Drama." Muñoz and del Castillo received the second and third highest number of SMS votes respectively.

"Outbound," the theme of this year's Awards exhibition, was in-

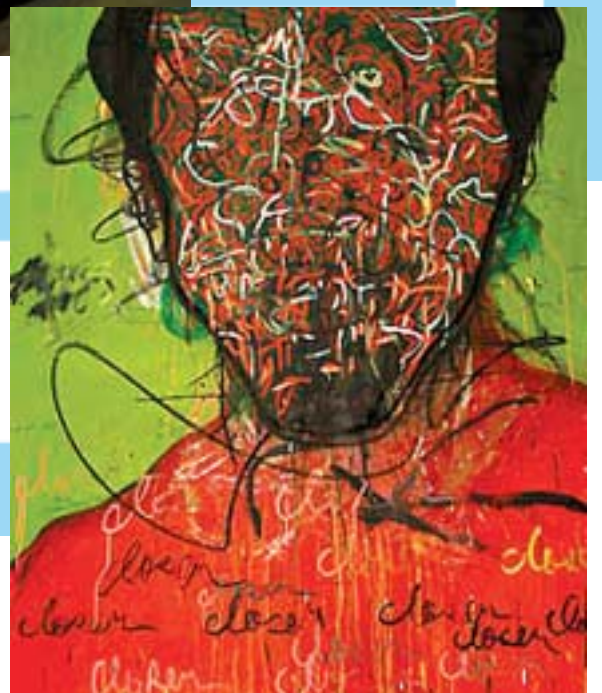
spired by the winning and short-listed artists' tendency to eschew conservative acceptance as they work beyond society's comfort zones—challenging the status quo, reflecting, responding and, indeed, underscoring the Filipino's experiences and reactions to the vicissitudes of the everyday.



Anonymity
Poklong Anading



Banquet
Mideo Cruz



Closer
Maya Muñoz

A night of bonding human

Held on July 7, 2006 at Katips Bar and Grillery, the School of Humanities Launch was a joint project of the Sanggunian SOH School Board and the SOH. Aside from being a venue to announce all the important SOH activities for the year, the launch fostered a sense of community among administrators, students, teachers, organizations, and publications by bringing them together for one night of fun. The launch also served as a way to welcome the freshmen and to introduce them to their SOH *Ates* and *Kuyas*, teachers, and future organizations.

The launch was packed with performances by the Jewelmer Jazz band, Saranggola ni Pepe, The Fruits, Hymn of Siren, Stonefree, Mojofly, and the stand-up comedy of Trian Lauang and Tim Tayag. Hosts Missy Maramara of the English Department, Ariel Diccion of the *Kagawaran ng Filipino*, and Cabrei Cabreira, III ABIS, Sanggunian SOH CB Rep, kept things lively by giving away prizes like French lessons from Alliance Française, CDs from AMP, backpacks from Jansport, and a P20,000 pearl pendant from Jewelmer.



Entablado takes the stage

bingo, and even speed dating, kept things lively and gave everybody the chance to mix and mingle not only with SOH people, but with whoever decided to join the party. After all, the

Humanities is all about being one with your fellow humans!

The SOH Launch was made possible by the Sanggunian SOH School Board and by Dr. Leovino Garcia, Dean of the School of Humanities, Ms. Angelli Tugado, Assistant to the Dean, and by all the Department and Program Chairs. *mluz*

For more pictures of the event, please visit www.schoolofhumanities.multiply.com or www.jctaruc.multiply.com.



SOH administrators and faculty join in the fun

The organizations were out in full force with Psyche, Ateneo Lex, Entablado, Heights, AMP, Samahan sa Pilosopiya, Katipunan, Celadon, Loyola Film Circle (LFC), Company of Ateneo Dancers (CADs), Ateneo Lingua Arts Cultura (ALAC), and Tanghalang Ateneo (TA) taking part by performing, promoting activities, and giving away freebies.

Games such as on-the-spot portrait sketching contests, human

3-peat boys get championship rings



Members of the 3-peat UAAP champions the Ateneo Men's Football Team and their coaching and managing staff, pose with Fr. Bienvenido Nebres SJ and other University administrators following the Ring Ceremony held on July 7, 2006, at the Ateneo Sports Hall of Fame at the Moro Lorenzo Sports Center.

University Traditions



July 27
Loyola Schools' mass in honor of the feast of St. Ignatius of Loyola

photos by Bj A. Patiño



July 28
Golden jubilee celebration of Bienvenido F. Nebres, SJ

photos by Cocoy Sarmenta



September 8
Living rosary

photos courtesy of CMO



New PhD program

The Department of English offers a new program leading to a Doctorate in Philosophy in English Language and Literature. Starting in the second semester of SY 2006-2007, the PhD program aims to advance the understanding of the role of English language and literature in society, with particular attention to its implications for multilingual and multi-cultural settings.

The 42-unit PhD ELL program has four core courses: scholarly methods, interdisciplinary con-

cepts and procedures, description(s) of English, and literary and cultural theories. Among the cognate courses are researching language learning and pedagogy; program management and teacher development issues, language program planning and policy making, trends and issues in composition studies and pedagogy, literature and language teaching, narrative theory, narratives of nationalism, world fiction, ethnopoetics, social thought and Philippine literature, and constructs of identity in Asian literature.

we remember



Mang Johnny at the Biology lab, circa 1960s.

Juan del Valle, retired laboratory technician, who passed away on August 11, 2006 at the age of 84. Mang Johnny, as he was fondly called, served the Biology Department for decades, and is always remembered for his characteristic sporty get-up of white shorts, white shirt, and white rubber shoes. Mang Johnny is the father of Marie Jossie Lacson, administrative assistant of the English Department and vice president of the Ateneo Staff Association (ASA).

Eduardo M. Pattai, retired records officer of the College Registrar's Office, who passed away on September 2, 2006 at the age of 59.

Christopher Nicholes P. Castro, II AB PH (Pre-Divinity), who passed away on September 3, 2006 at the age of 19.

Erratum

The name of John Christopher A. Intal, V ABIS, was inadvertently left out of the Men's UAAP Basketball Team lineup printed in our July 2006 (vol. 2, no. 2) issue. We apologize for the error.



Rick Olivares

Since the Ateneo began active participation in collegiate varsity sports in the 1910s, the school has won a multitude of titles in basketball, football, track and field, volleyball, and baseball.

us and shake their heads at us. They couldn't believe that we had no uniforms to compete in. We went to meets on our own and had to bring our own food. The only support we got was from our parents."

Swimming, on the other hand... well, we competed, but it seems that the collective memories of swimming as a sport in Ateneo was that we had former Olympian Bana Sailani (who is from UST) as the grade school swim coach, and Ateneo Sports Hall of Fame athletes were a part of the swimming team—people like Chito Calvo, Pio Roa, and George York, Jr., to name a few.

Edward "Awad" Borja, who swam for both La Salle and UP, was watching the team during one UAAP tournament, and he too could not believe his eyes. "They had no uniforms. The coach was late. The swimmers didn't mingle with one another. They did stretching exercises apart from one another. And they finished dead last in a field of eight. I knew that there was something wrong when Adamson—which didn't even have a pool of its own—beat them."

It should please everyone to know, then, that there is nothing fishy about the rise of the Blue Tankers and of the Ateneo swimming program. But before we get to know who they are and where they are now, it's best to know where they're coming from.

The embarrassing finish put into motion a series of events that would eventually pull the team up from the cesspool.

It's a familiar story. Sport has insufficient funding. Little interest is shown in the team and in the sport. Team feels slighted and disrespected. It is not a case of sink or swim. It would seem that the Blue Tankers were sunk from the start.

Bemedalled national swimmer Eric Buhain was invited to become the Swimming Program Head. The high profile recruitment of Buhain generated some excitement and attention for the program. However, before he could get his feet wet, he was offered the seat of Commissioner of the Philippine Sports Commission.

As a former swimmer, who asked to remain anonymous, recalls, "teams from the other schools would pity

Borja, with his impressive credentials as national coach and swimmer in



The Ateneo Blue Tankers

Men's team

- Pancho Alvarez, II AB POS
- Kevin Joseph Barrios III, II BS MGT
- Jan Michael Chiu, II BS LM
- Jan Formalejo, I BS BIO
- Chico Gueco, I BSM AMF
- Jedd Ryan Go, III BS ME
- Marc Paolo Nevado, II BS MATH
- Hans Gerard C. Ong, II BS LM
- Jaime Carlos Paraiso III BS MGT
- Raem Puno, III AB IS
- Jonas Isaac Ramos, II AB MECO (Team Captain)
- Bruce Sing, I BS CH-MSE
- Aldo Selig Tong, II BS AMF
- Evan Uy, I BS MIS

Men's training team

- Niel Anthony Borja, IV AB POS

Women's team

- Ma. Hiyas Karidad Adviento, IV BS PSY
- Lyllian Grace Banzon, II BS HSc (Team Captain)
- Cristina Blardony, II AB PSY
- Claudine Chiongbian, I BFA ID
- Courtney Cotingting, I AB PSY
- Miriam Catherine Dantes, I BS BIO
- Vanessa de Veyra, I BS LM
- Karissa May Decena, I BS BIO
- Keshia Emmaline Fule, II AB COMM
- Mariel Jaime Lao Diya, IV BS AMF
- Heidi Gem Ong, I AB MECO
- Maia Isabel Pescayo, II BS HSc
- Nicole SherylInne Santiago, III AB MECO
- Rozelle Louise Sarmiento, II AB COMM
- Jenina Claire Tan, I BS MGT
- Kathleen Tan, I BS COMMTECH
- Karen Angela Tiambeng, IV BS ECCE
- Biance Elinor Uy, II BS CoE

Head Coach: Edward Borja

ASEAN and SEA Games as well as the *Palarong Pambansa*, saw this as his opportunity to get into UAAP coaching. "Ateneo wasn't my first choice to coach," admits the bespectacled coach with a smile. "While it may have been a little more glamorous to coach the traditional swimming powers in UST, DLSU and UP, there's nothing like turning a program around from last to first place." He laughs, "by the way, we haven't won a championship yet, but we're getting there." Not even the daunting task of coming up with a program where there had been none and the pessimism of naysayers could dampen Borja's enthusiasm: "As the saying goes, the only way to go when you're down is up."

Under the guidance of the University Athletics Office, a program was drafted. Incorporated in the program was a grassroots component that would allow the school to breed champions. "Too common a problem we have with recruits from the outside is that they have difficulty coping with the school's rigorous academic standards," observes Ricardo "Ricky" Palou, the former Blue Eagle *tapal* king who has overseen the development of the university's sports program in the last few years together with the indefatigable Jose "Jun-Jun" Capistrano, Jr.. "Developing our athletes in the grade school level will acclimate them to the educational system and also develop team chemistry even if swimming competitions are mostly singles competition."

That was a start, but there were many more things that needed to be addressed: athletic scholarships, a regular training facility, equipment, and funds. "We all knew that the program would take several years before we started to see the fruits of our collective labor," remarks Borja. "Time we had. Money we didn't."

Enter Cecilio K. Pedro, President of the Lamoiyan Corporation. Together with businessmen Manuel V

Pangilinan, Eugenio Lopez III, Arben Santos and other prominent Ateneo alumni, Pedro had helped bring back the excitement and championship to Blue Eagle basketball. But a little known fact about Pedro was that he was a member of the Ateneo swimming team in his college days.

"He asked us what we needed to give the team a chance to win a championship," relates Borja. "We provided him with a long shopping list, but he came through with perhaps the biggest item of all."

The cutting edge Loyola Schools Swimming Pool is the practice facility Ateneo swimming teams never had, until now. Teams would practice in the grade school pool, a situation which brought its own set of problems. When the grade school had no classes, the Blue Tankers couldn't practice. When there were holidays, the facility was also closed.

A Php 5 million donation helped cover the cost of the state-of-the-art facility that now gives the Ateneo swimming teams an immeasurable boost. "The pool is a fulfillment of my dream to give back to the school," says Pedro who knows what it is like not to have the facilities and the funds to compete. "And having swam for the school, I know what it is like not to have support."

The effect of the newly inaugurated 28-meter, 8-lane, roofed, no-wave swimming pool on the team has been tremendous. As men's team captain Jonas Ramos affirms, "now we can compete on even terms."

Borja extols the advantages of the new facility. "A no-wave pool means that there is less water resistance from a deep pool. When you swim in the outer lanes, you get everyone's wash and it bounces back into the lanes. Other schools have visited the new facility and have verbally agreed to hold a tournament here after the UAAP. The no-wave pool will mean that we will see some faster times from all."

Last season, the men's and women's teams respectively finished third and fourth in the standings. Despite losing some key faces, morale is high

and both teams figure to better Season 68's finishes.

"We've got some new swimmers to complement the comebacking veterans like Raem Puno and Jan Michael Chiu," reveals Ramos. "We have Evan Uy, Bruce Sing, Chico Gueco, and Jan Formalejo who should make an immediate impact."

Team Captain Ramos incidentally is only a sophomore. Says Borja of Ramos' appointment, "I don't believe in seniority. It's who goes out there every day to do the job."

Ironically, it was the Lady Tankers who got the job done first. Previously, no Atenean—male or female—had ever landed a gold medal in either NCAA or UAAP seniors swimming competitions. The best ever Ateneo swimming finish was a silver in 1991.

In 2003, Karen Tiambeng won gold in the 400-meter individual medley while teammate Hiyas Adviento garnered a silver and bronze. In 2004, Nikki Santiago swam away with six gold medals, with three of those UAAP records. That same year, the women's team also won two relay competitions that were also both UAAP records.

This year, they figure to add more medals to the over-all tally count when Southeast Asian Games bronze medalist Nikki Santiago returns to the pool (she missed the whole of last season while training in China). Lyllian Banzon, another super sophomore who likewise captains the team, last season's rookie of the year Claudine Chiongbian, Heidi Ong, Bianca Uy, Rozelle Sarmiento, and Hiyas Adviento will also be on hand for a podium run.

"I think that we've come a long, long way from those days when each player had only Php50 in taxi fare to go to the meets at the Rizal Memorial Coliseum," smiles Borja as his swimmers mill about Manang's on a hot Saturday noon. "But then, we still have quite a bit to go." From the looks of things, it's a length that'll be easy to swim. As men's captain Jonas Ramos puts it, they're here on even terms. *rolivares*

Last Flight and a New Hope

Rick Olivares

A few years ago, the Blue Eagles lost Larry Fonacier to a season-ending injury early in the first round. Instead of collapsing, the team which still had more than enough talent to buck the King Eagle's absence swept the first round before ultimately crashing down in flames towards the end of the second round all the way to the play-offs.

For this year's edition of the Lady Eagles, losing eight members from last year's championship team seemed too huge a loss to recover from more so even make it back to the Final Four. But nobody told the team that they couldn't make it back to the Promised Land. Led by holdovers Kat Quimpo, AJ Barracoso, Cassie Tioseco, Cheryll Ngo, and Kariz Javier plus key pick-ups, the Lady Eagles defied the odds to stay ahead of the field almost all season long.

"Our outlook from the start of the season was *we weren't the defending champs*," explained mentor John Flores. "We're really not. It's almost an entirely new team. We've got eight rookies after all." Added Tioseco, one of this year's tri-captains, "Where we – Kat, Cheryll, and me – used to be 'the babies' of the team, we're suddenly the team's senior citizens (laughs)."

Without the steady stream of points provided by the graduated Pipay Villanueva, Tin Chua, and Danica Caynap among many others, the Lady Eagles turned to their

pillars of strength in their pair of wondrous forward-centers in Cassie Tioseco and AJ Barracoso. The duo was a nightmare of a challenge for opposing teams. If one was double teamed down low, the ball was swung to the weak side where the other would barge in for a bank shot off the window. And on defense, they forced teams to change their shot. The twin tower threat was particularly fascinating for John Flores for it allowed newly promoted Treena Limengco (from Team B) to reprise Pipay Villanueva. "It used to be Pipay and Tin who used to cut towards the basket," observed the coach. "And they did that so well. But we're not losing that dimension because Turbo Treena – as we've nicknamed her does that just as well for us."

With the backcourt of Quimpo and Ngo plus promising back-ups in rookies Mariana Lopa, Helena Indigne, Krizanne Ty and Ronna Co with emerging outside threat Maggie Magdangal, the team was primed and loaded for another run and for the years to come.

But the future seemed now as the Lady Eagles with the "non-defending champions" mindset instilled by their tough loving coach, played inspired team ball sans the pressure to finish the first round with a 5-1 record. Their only loss was inflicted by the resurgent UST Lady Tigresses who were led by Marichu Bacaro who was supposed to suit up for Ateneo but was let



SCOTT KHO

go towards the España-based squad after an admission deficiency.

"Not bad," nodded one ardent Lady Eagles supporter as the team marched towards another improbable finish.

"We've still got a long way to go," cautioned third year player AJ Barracoso. "Even with out La Salle, this is a tough field we have to play in. We just can't take anyone for granted."

At 8-1, disaster struck. Kat Quimpo who had ably filled in the starting point guard role vacated by Danica Caynap broke three bones in her hand. In practice no less. "It was a freak injury as she fell on her hand," recalled Flores as he tried to hide his concern. "But we'll cope."

The ball, the backcourt, and the Lady Eagles' continued drive towards a play-off berth now hinged on the quarterbacking of Ngo and Lopa. "We went from the mindset that we weren't the defending champs to *'let's take it one game at a time'*," said Tioseco as the team prepared to face the dangerous FEU Lady Tams and first round tormentor UST in succession. But the loss of Quimpo was telling for the Loyola cagebelle found it hard to set up their offense going much less bring down the ball. The loss to UST a second time around clearly showed the opposition on how to beat the Lady Eagles sans Quimpo – press Ateneo and there was no way the twin towers would hurt you.

After two successive losses, the Lady Eagles pummeled UE to finish at 9-3 to close out the elimination round. "Well, we achieved our

goal of making it to the Final Four," said an elated Flores after the UE game. "Now it's all about that crucial twice-to-beat advantage."

Tied with FEU, the two teams squared off in a play-off for the 2nd seed (UST by virtue of the win-over-the-other rule finished at the top of the standings). All seemed well as the Lady Eagles were comfortably ahead after some 25 minutes of basketball when suddenly not only couldn't they buy a shot, but they couldn't get the ball across the half-court line. Even so, the Lady Eagles still had a chance to pull out with the win, but missed charities, turnovers and a suddenly porous defense (unclogged because the Lady Tams were hitting all their outside shots) spelled the difference. With the game on the line, they still couldn't buy a break as the Lady Tams hit a game winning shot off an offensive rebound to snatch the twice-to-beat advantage.

As the Lady Tams celebrated their entry into the Final Four as the number two seed, quite a few Lady Eagles buried their faces into their towels to hide their tears. But Flores would have none of it as he refused to throw in his towel. Pulling his two remaining playing captains together, he offered terse encouragement, "Babawi tayo."

Reports that the Lady Eagles' campaign was dead were grossly exaggerated. Displaying championship pride, the Lady Eagles called on a familiar staple of its success in the post game of Cassie Tioseco and a new weapon in Treena Limengco to get back at the Morayta-based team. Bucking the press and the odds, Ateneo cruised to a 63-53 victory to set up a win-or-go-home knockout affair.

In a tightly contested match, the game bore striking resemblance to the play-off match of two games ago. With Treena Limengco firing on all cylinders, the Lady Eagles found themselves tied with FEU at 44-all time down to a two-possession ball game. But the Lady Tams' Irine Rivera, for the second time in three games, hit the game winning shot over the outstretched hand of Ateneo's frontline to exact a measure of revenge for her alma mater whose men's senior basketball team earned the dubious distinction of being the first defending champion not to make the final four as it was ousted by the Ateneo Blue Eagles late in the second round.

As Coach John Flores wrapped his arms around his players who wept unabashedly, he once more offered a terse encouragement to his captains. "Babawi tayo next year."

Post Script:

The Lady Eagles much like their brother teams the Blue Eagles and Blue Eaglets were not picked by preseason prognosticators to win their respective cage crowns. Other teams were tagged on the premise of intact line-ups and star recruits. But all three teams have played well above the norm to lead the way for much of the season if not the whole season.

Despite falling short, the Lady Eagles have shown their mettle and a bright outlook for future campaigns. And at the end of it all, they played the way defending champions should.

Animo Lady Eagles!
Animo Ateneo!



MIGUEL DE LEON



SCOTT KHO

Eagles Barge into UAAP Season 69 Finals (from page 16)

due to questionable officiating. As the teams came back from the halftime break, Ateneo regained part of its composure and began playing through what at times were very difficult to swallow calls.

"We were able to overcome the bad calls of the referees by sticking together," says three-point specialist Christopher John Tiu.

As the game went down the wire, it became glaringly obvious that neither team was going to give up easily.

However, *"We really prepared for our games [against Adamson],"* says Eagle Roel Aurelio Escueta, adding, *"We knew that they are a really strong team, and they execute really well."*

And the Eagles definitely looked well-prepared for MVP candidate and Adamson big man Bono, who began making big shots in the 4th quarter — Ateneo answered with amazing shots of their own. In a game that saw action up to the last second, the Eagles prevailed 76-73 and bid adieu to the tenacious Falcons



and their high hopes of extending their Final Four run and perhaps reaching the Finals.

The Boys from Loyola will now face the winner of the Final Four match-up between the University of the East Warriors and the University of Santo Tomas Tigers.

"Judging from the game last Sunday (against Adamson), games will be a lot tougher. We really have to step up to another level," says Co-captain Escalona. Specifically, *"Rabeh (Al-Hussaini) has to get those rebounds and Chris (Tiu) needs to connect more [from the three-point area] so we can really get into the game, and the second five needs to step up as well,"* adds Co-captain Intal. *"And as team captain, I need to keep on reminding the team and coach to play through even the worst calls, it's useless to complain."*

"Given the choice, I want to play UE," says Intal, *"but we will be ready either way."* Tiu and Escueta agree: it does not matter which team Ateneo will play in the Finals. *"We*

will adjust our game accordingly," says Tiu with a smile. *"But it is always one game at a time,"* adds Intal.

"[I am] very excited about the Finals, I have never played in a Finals game before," says Tiu, who along with majority of his teammates was not part of Ateneo's much-storied 2002 Championship Team. *"People had doubts about our team initially but now we are here,"* adds the Management Engineering Senior.

"Of course, I'm really excited," says Co-captain and MVP candidate Intal, *"but the pressure right now is something else, grabe,"* he states. The three captains were all in their rookie year in 2002. *"When we were rookies, there was very little pressure, but now... We just really need to win,"* he says with a nervous laugh. *"Doug (Kramer), Macky (Escalona), and I are where Enrico Villanueva and the others were, and the pressure is really intense."*

Focus will inevitably be on the three co-captains and how they will play during the Finals. *"We*

have known each other since freshman year," says Intal, and this translates extremely well on the court. *"We know how each one will play; we know our roles — we have the others' backs on court."*

What of their multi-titled head coach, Norman Black? *"I have full confidence and trust in Coach Norman, after all, he IS Norman Black,"* says Intal matter-of-factly about the man he fondly calls his Mentor.

And what does he have to say to the Blue and White Nation? *"They've really come out this year, during the game against Adamson, so many people watched, the Araneta was almost full. I really want to thank them for all the support; I think they all know how thankful we really are. Hopefully, we get the championship this year,"* says the gracious co-captain optimistically.

The Finals stage has been set, and the Eagles are ready and waiting. **ONE BIG FIGHT! ANIMO ATENEIO!**

Lady Eagles Bow Out of Title Contention (from page 16)



able to score in the third quarter. Ateneo was down by 5, 32-37, at the end of the quarter.

At the start of the fourth quarter, Ateneo still made a number of errors but rookies Limgenco and Lopa were able to recover for Ateneo. As the game entered the last two minutes, Limgenco tied the game at 49 all. A minute later, Lopa fired a three-pointer that sent the crowd to a frenzy. But FEU fired one of their own that tied the game at 43 all with 45

seconds left. Lopa split her charities to give Ateneo a one point lead. But it's not the year for a back to back crown for Ateneo. FEU gave one final push to get the lead back and eventually win the game, 44-46.

Season 69 was a long and arduous journey for the rookie-laden team of Ateneo. But for a team whose neophytes outnumber the veterans, Ateneo was able to go the extra mile and enter the Final Four.

Tears flowed as the Ateneo gallery bravely sang the Song for Mary. But the Lady Eagles showed that there is nothing to be ashamed of. They proudly raised their fists and joined the Blue and White faithful in singing.

As the Lady Eagles bow out of UAAP Season 69, the Ateneo community thanks them for having the heart to fight until the last second — a true mark of a champion.



A look back

As we go to press, the Blue Eagles have just absorbed a heartbreaking championship loss to the UST Growling Tigers. It was a season full of heart and furious to the finish. Join us as we look back at the basketball teams' Season 69—the drama, the heroics, the spirit, the ONE BIG FIGHT.

Eagles Barge into UAAP Season 69 Finals

Maria Ceres A. Lina
Athletica

It is official. The Ateneo de Manila Blue Eagles have soared into the UAAP Season 69 Men's Basketball Finals after beating the Adamson Falcons, 76-73. It will be Ateneo's first Finals appearance since battling the Far Eastern University Tamaraws in 2003. "We can't believe we're here," say Co-captains John Christopher Intal and Douglas Kramer.

After sweeping the first round of eliminations (see related article), the Eagles buckled down to business against Kenneth Bono and the dangerous Adamson University Falcons Squad. Ateneo barely squeezed past the Falcons, but prevailed in nail-biting fashion at 66-65. Next up for the Eagles were the neighbors from down the street, the University of the Philippines Fighting Maroons. The game proved almost identical to Ateneo's first round win, as they once again trounced the Marvin Cruz-led boys from Diliman, 98-88.

The next game saw a lax Ateneo Five go up against the eager University of Santo Tomas Growling Tigers, who were still hurting from a first round massacre at the hands of the Eagles. When the smoke cleared at the final buzzer, the Espana-based squad was jubilant, as the scoreboard read 80-88 and signaled the end of Ateneo's winning streak. On their next assignment, the Eagles bounced right back into the win column by ripping the National University Bulldogs apart, 106-76.

The Hail Mary Squad's subsequent opponents were the defending champions, the Far Eastern University Tamaraws. A heart-stopping 70-68 win by the Eagles crushed the Tamaraws' hopes of defending their title, as the Eagles definitively shut the door on FEU's prospects of reaching even just the Final Four stage of the competition.

The last game of the second round was against the University of the East Red Warriors, just two days after the grueling match-up against FEU. The tired-looking Eagles played catch-up to the Warriors for most of the game and were down by as much as 23 points. A late run sparked by second half heroics by Co-captain Intal pulled the Eagles within a solitary point. However, the run had started too late, and the Eagles ran out of time, but not without scaring the living day-lights out of the Warriors. The game ended at 75-78, and it was on to the Final Four stage for the Hail Mary Squad and the team from Recto.

The top-ranked Blue Eagles then faced the fourth-ranked team, the Adamson University Falcons, last September 17, 2006 at the Araneta Coliseum. The Eagles' clean 8-season winning streak against Adamson looked threatened at times, in a highly emotional game that saw even usually cool-headed Coach Norman Black lose his temper



NONOFELIFE

Lady Eagles Bow Out of Title Contention

Maria Paz Katrina K. Alejo
Athletica

September 17 marked the end of the road for the Ateneo Lady Eagles as they dropped the rubber match against the Far Eastern University Lady Tamaraws, 44-46, in the Big Dome.

and even their defense went awry. The Lady Tams forced the Lady Eagles to take shots from the perimeter. Only Barracoso and Ma. Caterina Cristina R. Lopa (I AB DS) were

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Last Flight and a New Hope
more on page 14

The Lady Eagles were able to execute good offense in the first quarter with the starters combining for 13 points. Nearing the end of the first 10 minutes of action, the Ateneo crowd went wild as Coach John Flores pulled Katrina A. Quimpo (IV BS Mgt) off the bench. Quimpo, Ateneo's finest pointguard, played for the first time since her injury and she was tagged for an offensive foul in her first minute of play. The quarter ended with Ateneo on top, 13-8.

FEU was able to catch up with the Lady Eagles at the start of the second quarter, tying the game at 13 all. But Marie Anjelica C. Barracoso (III AB DS) made back to back baskets that put Ateneo back on top. Trenea Anne Therese T. Limgenco (III BS MCT) pitched in seven points to Ateneo's cause in the second quarter. But FEU made a run that gave them a solitary point lead at the half, 26-27.

As with their other games, the third quarter seemed to be Ateneo's weakest quarter. Their shots could not find the basket



SCOTT KHO

UAAP Cheerdancing Competition

Blue Babble

places fifth in cheering competition

Maria Paz Katrina K. Alejo
Athletica

No, it was not an Ateneo-La Salle showdown. But it was still a jam-packed Araneta Coliseum last September 10 as students of the seven schools participating in this year's UAAP tournaments cheered on their respective Pep Squad for the 2006 UAAP Cheerdancing Competition.

UAAP Sports Anchor Boom Gonzales hosted the festivities, with help from the Courtside Reporters of the different schools, including Ateneo's Lia Cruz. Each school was given six minutes to perform their routine.

The University of the East Pep Squad performed first followed by the National University Pep Squad, the University of the Philippines Pep Squad, the University of Santo Tomas Salinggawi Dance Troupe, the Ateneo Blue Babble Battalion, the Far Eastern University Pep Squad, and the Adamson University Pep Squad was the last to perform.

After months of conceptualization, preparations, and trainings, the Babble showed the whole Araneta what they got. The performance of the Blue Babble Battalion was an improvement from last year's routine,

where they placed seventh. This year, they incorporated rhythmic gymnastics and some *Grease*-inspired steps to their routine. One of the changes they made was the inclusion of the lifters in the whole routine. This year, the guys did more than just lifting the girls in the air; they also danced the whole routine through.

This year's crowd turnout was also the biggest so far. The Ateneans cheered on their favorite cheerdancers and lifters. The event gave the Ateneans a venue to cheer on the cheerleaders who have rooted for the different varsity teams of Ateneo. This time, the spotlight was on the Blue Babble Battalion.

The winners of the competition received a trophy and cash prizes: 60 thousand pesos for the second runner-up, which went to the University of the Philippines; 90 thousand pesos for the first runner-up, the Far Eastern University Pep Squad; and 150 thousand pesos for the Champion, the University of Santo Tomas Salinggawi Dance Troupe.

The Blue Babble Battalion placed fifth over-all, after the Adamson University Pep Squad.