



UERMMMCA MEDICAL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION ALUMNEWS

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ALUMNI ELECTS NEW OFFICERS

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The new set of officers for the UERMMMCA Medical Alumni Association was inducted last December 16, 2005 during the 35th Annual Fellowship Night at Mandarin Oriental Manila:

President: **Dr. Antonio L. Anastacio '80**
 Vice President: **Dr. Andres D. Borromeo '73**
 Secretary: **Dr. Disraeli V. Europa '77**
 Treasurer: **Dr. Alfredo L. Tan '79**
 PRO: **Dr. Luis E. Abola '84**
 Members: **Dr. Henry A. Yanez '73**
Dr. Stephen E. Medel '77



Homecoming toasts Class '80

Seventy members of the Silver Jubilarian Class '80 attended the 35th homecoming activities on December 14-16, 2005. The week began with a grand alumni welcome party at the UERM gymnasium where the Nursing and Physical Therapy alumni joined the medical graduates for an evening of camaraderie, food and entertainment rendered by the Nonoy Lopez Band. The next day, December 15, a convocation was held at the College Auditorium where the Jubilarians in their academic gowns and hoods received their commemorative medallions from President Romeo A. Divinagracia, assisted by Dean Georgina T. Paredes and the President of the Medical Alumni, Dr. Susan P. Lazaga. The assembly listened to the inspirational talk of Dr. Joven R. Cuanang. Dr. Carmencita A. Agcaoili of the celebrating class delivered the Dr. Potenciano D. Baccay Memorial Lecture. An hour-long business meeting was moderated by Dr. Manuel M. Ramos where the president's and treasurer's report were given,



followed by the election of a new set of officers who were to be sworn in at the alumni fellowship gala. The Silver Jubilarians held their class party at the residence of Dr. Mario R. Ver where everybody had a grand time reminiscing from their school days up to graduation and beyond. At the gala on December 16th at Mandarin Oriental Manila, the Jubilarians were at their best, having pictures taken by groups or with their old buddies. It went from the solemn mood of the candle lighting ceremony to the all night dancing, reminiscing, picture taking, etc. It ended with the traditional Silver Jubilarian class family outing at Indang, Cavite. **



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

ANTONIO L. ANASTACIO, M.D.

The 2006 Board of Directors of the UERMMMCM Medical Alumni Association Incorporated has embarked on the following thrusts for this year:

Adopt a Project Program

We believe there are many alumni who are supportive of our beloved alma mater. They just do not know the process of how to go about it. We have to make it easy for them to do something for the Medical Center. Each unit in the Medical Center has available plans for priority projects. The association will collate these projects and disseminate information about them so that any medical graduate or any group or, on a larger scale, the batch can choose a project which suits them. The association will encourage adoption of projects and assist them in their implementation.

Build up the Association

Last year we had regional assemblies for Central Luzon, Western Visayas and Southern Mindanao. The idea of forming chapters was accepted positively by many members. So, this year, we hope to be able to organize and establish chapters in Central Luzon, Baguio City, Cagayan De Oro-Iligan City, Bacolod City and Cebu City. Plans for regional assemblies in Baguio (April), Cagayan De Oro (June) and Iloilo/Bacolod (October) are being finalized. These will be spearheaded by Dr. Andres D. Borromeo.

Coordinators for hospitals where we have graduates practicing in Metro Manila have been appointed with the objective of organizing our members by hospital. Dr. Disraeli V. Europa and Dr. Stephen E. Medel will lead us in this undertaking.

It has been noted that some batches are not organized although there is a class coordinator. So efforts will be made to initiate organizing all batches and encourage them to have a "batch night" every year.

The Board has set up an Alumni Endowment Fund. Henceforth, all lifetime membership payments will go to this account. Only the interest earnings of this fund can be disbursed. This will go a long way in building up the association funds and eventually make it more stable financially.

Communication

More members have to be informed about our Mission/Vision. They have to be aware of what is happening in the Medical Center and the activities of the association. Communication is the key in drumming up support and active participation. Communication will be enhanced by establishing a website which is now being developed. Henceforth, our newsletter will be called 'UERMMMCM Medical Alumnews'. Batch correspondents have been appointed to contribute features in the batch news section. Dr. Rene-Edgar R. Mendoza is our Editor-in-Chief. The circulation of our alumnews will be increased.

Directory

Our directory has to be updated. We still have to trace and reach out to our members. This will enable us to communicate with more members and hopefully get more to participate actively.

Enhancement of regular activities

Aside from participating in the yearlong activities in celebration of the UERMMMCM Golden Jubilee year of the College of Medicine, the association will exert extra effort to enhance its regular activities in this momentous milestone of our alma mater.

Let us support and participate in all the goings on of our association whose primary purpose is to serve our alma mater and alumni! **

*Support your
Alumni
Association*

**Be a Lifetime
Member**

**Please remit
your
membership
dues to**

Ida G. Tabuzo

Rm. 117,

College of

Medicine

Bldg., 62

Aurora Blvd.,

QC

Tel/Fax:

716-0771

To all lifetime members: Please send/ email your 1X1 ID picture for the Alumni membership card

Our Association is Strong...

VISION:

We envision:

- A robust network of highly organized and linked alumni at the global, national and local levels
- A strong partnership between the alumni and the Alma Mater
- Alumni who are committed to giving back and paying forward for the love of their Alma Mater

VALUES:

- Generosity and of selfless sharing for love of Alma Mater
- A home where we nurture a sense of belonging and goodwill
- Loyalty and gratitude
- Spirit of Bayanihan (Willingness to participate in joint endeavors for a common cause)

MISSION:

Promote:

- Sense of pride in and belonging to Alma Mater
- Strengthening of the College of Medicine Professional growth
- Advancement of the medical profession Adherence to Hippocratic oath
- Establish more meaningful and greater linkage, greater social interaction and bonding among Alumni and between the medical center and Alumni
- Build UERMMMCM as the Medical Community of excellence, compassion, harmony and respect



*Alumni Board during the regular Board Meeting
From left: Drs. Henry Yanez, Alfred Tan, Antonio Anastacio,
Disraeli Europa, Stephen Medel & Andres Borromeo (not in picture) - Dr. Luis Abola*

Projects & Activities:

Build a Doctor Drive

Alumni Endowment Fund Drive

Adopt a Project Program

Class Organization

Chapter Formation

Alumnews

Testimonial Dinner - Graduating Class of 2006

Alumni Regional Assembly (Baguio, Cagayan de Oro & Iloilo)

Alumni Get-Together

Lucio Tan Invitational Golf Cup (June)

36th Medical Alumni Homecoming (Fellowship Night,
Dec. 21, 2006, Edsa Shangri-La Hotel)

Directory Update

Alumni ID Card

Benefits:

- Free use of library
- Ten percent (10%) discount of hospital room and board charges
- Privileges to admit patient subject to compliance with rules of

Testimonial for Graduating Class of 2006

To give meaning to the membership pledge of the graduating class to the Medical Alumni Association, we will be holding testimonial to the graduating class of medicine on April 22, 2006, at AFP-COC, Camp Aguinaldo Quezon City.

Regional Assemblies and Scientific Meeting:

Three Regional Assemblies will be held this year to keep up with our Association's reaching out to all our graduates. They will be headed by Dr. Andres D. Borrromeo with the first assembly to be held in **Baguio City on April 29**. The next assemblies will be in **Cagayan de Oro City on June 24** and **Iloilo on October 28**. Once again, Drs. Romeo A. Divinagracia, President, UERMMMC, and Dr. Georgina T. Paredes, Dean, College of Medicine will grace these affairs. The assemblies are meant to create a chapter in their regions. The chapter to be organized must fulfill the following requirements:

1. *Must have at least fifteen (15) members*
2. *Adopt the constitution of the Association*
3. *File formal request for the organization of chapter with the Board of Directors of the Association*

Help "Build a Doctor Drive Program"

Please send scholarship donations to:
UERMMMC Medical Alumni Association, Inc.,
Peso account # 293-529335-1,
PNB-NFA Branch, E. Rodriguez Ave., QC.
Dollar account # 0404-0150-36,
BPI Broadway Branch, Aurora Blvd., QC

Watch out for list of generous donors next issue!!

Alumni Association Newsletter

Official Publication of UERMMMC Medical Alumni Association, Inc. Phil. Published quarterly.
<<help support our newsletter! Ads space available! for inquiries, call us at 02-7160771>>

EDITORIAL BOARD:

Chairman: Antonio L. Anastacio, M.D.

Members: Andres D. Borrromeo, M.D.

Disraeli V. Europa, M.D.

Alfredo L. Tan, M.D.

Luis E. Abola, M.D.

Henry A. Yanez, M.D.

Stephen E. Medel, M.D.

Editor-in-Chief: Rene-Edgar R. Mendoza, M.D.

Editorial Assistants: Emiliano M. Bernardo, III, M.D.

Florinda G. Tabuzo

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Manuel M. Ramos Jr., M.D.

Adrian C. Peña, M.D.

Ignacio V. Rivera, M.D.

Raissa Faye O. Ocaya

We are on the Web!!

We welcome suggestions that you feel should be undertaken by our Alumni Association.

Give your views online at

uermmmcmedalumni.org

Hospital Coordinators

Capitol Medical Center

Dr. Edgardo N. Clemente

Delos Santos Medical Center

Dr. Zenaida F. Carino-Madarcos

Medical City

Dr. Sylvia C. Ramirez-Calingo

NKI Dr. Florencio J. Pine

Philippine General Hospital

Dr. Mayvelyn D. Gose-De Dios

Philippine Orthopedic Center

Dr. Lauro M. Abrahan, Jr.

Victor Potenciano Medical Center

Dr. Susan G. Pilapil-Lazaga

St. Luke's Medical Center

Dr. Antonio S. Sibulo, Jr.

Manila Doctors:

Dr. Arnel V. Malaya

East Avenue Medical Center:

Dr. Samuel G. Vincent Yrastorza

STANDING COMMITTEES

Amendments and Medical Ethics:

Chairman: Dr. Henry A. Yanez

Vice Chairman: Dr. Romeo G. Encanto

Members: Dr. Vicente V. Tanseco, Dr. Manuel M. Ramos, Jr.

Continuing Medical Education (CME) & Regional Assembly:

Chairman: Dr. Andres D. Borromeo

Vice Chairman: Dr. Albert T. Chua

Members: Dr. Alfredo L. Tan, Dr. Benalexander A. Pedro

Liaison:

Chairman: Dr. Disraeli V. Europa

Vice Chairman: Dr. Stephen E. Medel

Members: Dr. Susan G. Pilapil-Lazaga

Dr. Reynaldo J. Lesaca, Jr.

Citation and Awards:

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Vice Chairman: Dr. Raul M. Quillamor

Members: Dr. Rosalina R. Patricio-Anastacio

Dr. Grace R. Battad

Ways & Means:

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Members: Dr. Mario R. Ver, Dr. Eric Y. Chua Yap

Dr. Stan C. Yao, Dr. Norbert Lingling D. Uy

Socials:

Chairman: Dr. Susan G. Pilapil-Lazaga

Members: Dr. Raul Quillamor, Dr. Grace R. Battad

Dr. Rosalina R. Patricio-Anastacio

Organizing (Homecoming):

Chairman: Dr. Romarico M. Tongos

Vice Chairman: Dr. Andres D. Borromeo

Student Support:

Chairman: Dr. Erlinda V. Valdellon

Sports Committee:

Chairman: Dr. Paul Anthony L. Sunga

Vice Chairman: Dr. Ignacio V. Rivera

Member: Dr. Samuel Vincent G. Yrastorza

Community Service Committee:

Chairman: Dr. Benida A. Fontanilla

We are in the process of updating our Alumni Directory. Please fill-up and mail, fax or e-mail it to the Alumni Office.

Name: _____

Year Graduated: _____

Lifetime Member: yes/no

Home Address: _____

Tel. No. (Res.): _____

Tel. No. (Office/Celphone): _____

Office Address/Hospital: _____

Specialty: _____ Board Cert: yes/no

Sub-Specialty: _____ Board Cert: yes/no

E-mail Address: _____

Birthday: _____ Organization: _____

Outstanding Alumni 2005

Raquel B. del Rosario-Fortun, M.D., Most Outstanding Alumnus

Ignacio V. Rivera, M.D. '83

Chairman, Awards Committee

The UERM Medical Alumni Association is pleased to announce the 2005 Most Outstanding Alumnus in the person of Dra. Racquel B. del Rosario-Fortun, F.P.S.P. This award is a most prestigious distinction and provides an example that UERM College of Medicine graduates are most capable of being excellent and world-class leaders in their chosen specialties. The Medical Alumni Association is very proud to give this award to Dra. Fortun, a 1987 graduate.

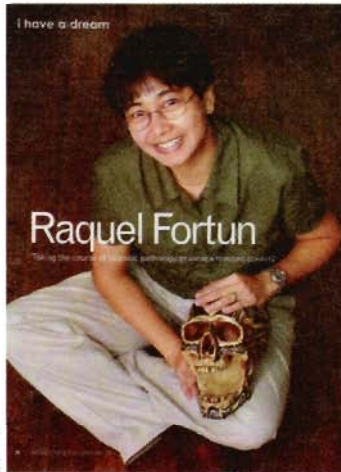
She started her primary education at the Univerplete high school and college at the Diliman majoring in Psychology, achieving College Medicine degree here in UERM, she completed went to UP-PGH and completed Residency in 1992. Dra. Fortun later specialized in Forenunder Dr. Donald Reay of the King County Exchange Scientist in Legal Medicine, Kobe Uni-Yoshitsugu Tatsuno. She has furthered her rensic and Legal Medicine abroad.

The product of this intensive training and hard Pathologist, our very own version of "Dr. began realizing the caliber and depth of this the Ozone disco fire. She volunteered to assist

remains of mostly young teen-age victims in March 1996. We saw her then, singly poring over the burned out disco, inspecting, examining and helping provide answers to the hundreds of grieving relatives as to who the remains are. This was just the beginning of her career as the premier forensic pathologist of the country. Her work has carried her to many countries functioning as consultant forensic pathologist or as medical examiner in various crimes, air crashes or other man-made disasters like the Asian Spirit crash in December 1999, the Payatas Disaster in July 2000 and in East Timor. Her expertise is highly regarded and sought after, and she has delivered many a talk and lecture here and abroad.

Her first major award was in 1996 given by the UP Alumni Association, the UP College of Medicine, and the Quezon City government for her assistance in the Ozone Disco fire investigation. That same year, she was given the honor of "Pathologist of the Year Award" by her peers, the Philippine Society of Pathologists. Through the following years, many such awards and citations came to recognize her continuing effort and in 2002, she was given the prestigious "The Outstanding Young Men" (TOYM) Award and the Gerry Roxas Foundation Medal by the Philippine Jaycees, Inc. In 2004, she was given the "The Outstanding Women in the Nation's Sevice (TOWNS)" Award in Medicine. No less than President GMA herself handed over the TOYM and TOWNS awards in Malacañang in both occasions. She has reaped more awards and citations than anyone can remember, but has remained diligently committed to doing more service quietly without fanfare or fancy publicity unlike our headline-grabbing politicians.

So you see, fellow alumni, we are honored by the prestige and distinction that Dra. Racquel Fortun has rightfully earned for herself and for the medical school she graduated from. It is just right that we reciprocate and recognize her valiant efforts in assisting the downtrodden, the victims of crimes and disasters (often man-made), and in her role as Forensic Pathologist par excellence. This award may pale in comparison to the scale of national and international citations she has received, but this is our way of saying that we in UERM are very proud that she's one of us. **



sity of the Philippines and continued to com-campus, with a Bachelor in Science degree, Scholar status. After attaining her Doctor of her Post-Internship also at UERM. She then Training in Anatomic and Clinical Pathology sic Pathology in Seattle, Washington, USA Medical Examiner's office, and later, as an versity School of Medicine under Professor training by attending various courses in Fo-

work is of course, a multi-awarded Forensic Quincy " and "CSI" combined. The public young lady's capabilities in the aftermath of in the identification of the grisly burned re-



Jonathan C. Amante, MD



Pedro A. Bañas, MD

Adrian C. Peña, MD



The Fellowship program gave recognition to the outstanding alumni for 2005: Drs. Jonathan C. Amante '81 in medical education; Pedro A. Bañas '80 in community service; Adrian C. Pena '75 in leadership award and the top plum of most outstanding alumna to Raquel Del Rosario-Fortun '87. Chairman of the award committee was Dr. Ignacio Rivera. **

The Golden Jubilee Convocation: An Answered Call

Raissa Faye O. Ocaya

The word convocation comes from the Latin words *con* and *voke*, literally meaning *to call*. Last January 18, 2006, a great number of educators, health administrators, public leaders, doctors, and medical students answered the call and gathered for the Golden Jubilee Convocation of the College of Medicine.

The College Auditorium where the convocation was held was a veritable sea of College of Medicine proteges, past and present, old and young, clad either in Filipiniana finery or in the austere yet equally grand white coats of the medical profession. In keeping with the joyous event, an atmosphere of conviviality was present during the occasion with guests renewing old friendships, laughing over remembered jokes, or sharing memories of the College of Medicine of their youth.

The event started with Dr. Luis Esguerra's prayer of thanks and hope for the College of Medicine's five-decade existence and its continuity in the future. This was followed by the singing of the National Anthem which was led by the UERMMMC Medicine Choir. Dean Georgina T. Paredes then officially opened the ceremony, warmly welcoming all guests as she recalled the distinguished record of the College of Medicine and outlined the future challenges faced by the institution.

Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer, Mr. P.O. Domingo unveiled the logo of the 50th Jubilee to collective applause. The Jubilee logo with the words "UERMMMC Medicine @ 50, 1956/ 2006", fashioned into a sun-like blue and gold emblem, is the winning creation of 2nd-year Medicine student, Mr. Jayson Ligot. Mr. Ligot had bested numerous other entries in a contest recently held by the College of Medicine for the creation of the said logo.

The jovial Dr. Raul M. Quillamor steered the program skillfully as the master of ceremonies, making it a point to recognize the presence of guests, especially old faculty members who had once graced the halls of UERMMMC. Retired College of Medicine teaching luminaries such as Dr. Clarita Zaballero, Dr. Presentacion-Peralta and Dr. Rolinda Alcazaren were acknowledged, much to the delight of current faculty members who had once been their students.

Further contributing to the nostalgic mood of the guests, a video montage created by College of Medicine second year students, took guests on a trip down memory lane, through the corridors of the Center, and the highs and lows of student life.

Perhaps infected by the congenial mood of the affair, the honorable guest speaker, Senator Ramon B. Magsaysay Jr.--ably introduced by College Secretary Dr. Milagros B. Rabe - decided to do away with his prepared speech. The distinguished Senator, who is also a leader in business, instead gave the audience insights from a businessman's perspective on how to transform the crisis besetting the medical profession into a golden opportunity. He was awarded a plaque of appreciation by Mr. P.O. Domingo, President Romeo A. Divinagracia and Dean Georgina T. Paredes.

President and Chief Academic Officer Dr. Romeo A. Divinagracia closed the ceremony with words of thanks for all participants especially the working committees for the Convocation - the departments of Anatomy and Biochemistry-- led by Dr. Adelia M. Quijano and Dr. Floro B. Madarcos, respectively. The Golden Jubilee Celebration ended most fittingly with the singing of the UERMMMC Hymn.**

COLLEGE OF MEDICINE JUBILEE CELEBRATION

April 10, 2006:

International Scientific Session & Post Graduate Course in Cardio Vascular

April 23, 2006:

Golden Year Graduation – Honoring the graduates of 2006, Plenary Hall, PICC

May 2006:

Faculty Workshop

June 9, 2006:

Thanksgiving Mass
Unveiling of 50th Jubilee Marker
Students, Faculty, Alumni & Friends
Variety Show
Students' activities

July 10, 2006:

Gala Dinner and Recognition Night – Alumni, Faculty and staff members of the College of Medicine.
Launching activity / event for the Golden Anniversary of the UERMMMC Foundation

December 18-22:

Alumni Homecoming:

Fellowship Night

December 21,
Edsa Shangri-La Hotel,
Mandaluyong City

Cheers to our Donor!!

Dr. Setsuo O. Ogawa '80 donated thru the *UERM Medical Alumni Association* a Ventilator and Heart Monitor to be used by the Department of Medicine.

BATCH NEWS

“If You Build It, They Will Come...”

Cristina C. Bernido-Fabella, M.D. '80

The threat that the batch '80 reunion would never get off the ground was, up to the very last minute, a haunting nightmare. Dramatically and miraculously, though, the affair turned out to be a success. The fact was that most of our batchmates were just on the fence. Now they've jumped in to join. And we did reconnect, re-acquaint, and rediscover each other after not having seen or spoken for 25 years.

It was so nice to hear from everyone at the reunion. But that was only “catching up a bit.” The bridge is just halfway done. There are more things we want to know about each other, about what is going on with our lives. Not to mention finding people who are still in the missing list, which is a gargantuan task indeed. Suddenly, there is this strong need to sustain the connection, to search for other familiar faces to follow up, to build a stronger bridge, something more solid.



The UERMMMCMed80.com is now Batch '80's communications hub after *The Caduceus*, a milestone of technology apart. The site is now Batch '80's interactive tool to keep connected and stay in touch, inputting thoughts and ideas and more. It has made it possible for those who could not make it to the homecoming to hear of the events, making them feel like they were part of the festivities. Thus far, it has served as an effective contact builder, updating and entering profiles online. Additionally, it serves as a “batchmate search service,” where anyone can browse the Med 80 class directory online. Joining requires no special skill. And a word to the computer-challenged: Be not afraid that

it is too difficult, for it is ironclad guaranteed to be 100% dummy-proof as long as you can do clicking on buttons.

Getting the rest of the batchmates to join, though, is yet a big challenge. We still need to get the rest to find out about the site, encourage them to join and get this web family growing. Those who have joined can say, at the least, that the website is viral or contagious in nature. But we still need to spread this virus (yeah, right!) some more.

Building a solid connection among the group will make everyone look forward to the next reunion, hopefully not after 25 years, but soon. “If you build it they will come,” will as much aptly be Batch '80's motto as Kevin Costner's in his *Field of Dreams*. **



BATCH NEWS

Alumni CME Conference

Adrian C. Peña. M.D. '75

The UERMMMCA Medical Alumni Association, Inc, UERMMMCAA Inc, and the PMA in Chicago held a Post-Graduate Medical Management Update last February 17, 2006 which was held at the Crowne Plaza Galleria Manila Hotel. The objectives of the conference was as follows: 1. Learn new modes of therapy in the management of cardiovascular diseases including infective endocarditis and hypertension; 2. Recognize patterns of different skin diseases and their new medical and surgical treatments; 3. Learn cost effective work-up of persistent headache; 4. Learn updates on new modes of treatment for inflammatory bowel disease; and 5. Achieve a better understanding of how to avoid human errors in medical care.

The Course Faculty and their topics were the following: Dr. Eden A. Suguitan, Associate Clinical Professor, Hershey Medical Center, Hershey PA, "Inflammatory bowel disease: What is new?"; Dr. Adrian C. Pena, Associate Professor and Infectious Disease Section Head, Medicine Department, UERMMMCA Quezon City, Infective endocarditis and update on the 2005 American Association guidelines"; Dr. Ernesto L. Chua, Deputy Chief, Cardiology Division, Southwest Medical Associates Las Vegas, Nevada and Assistant Clinical Professor, University of California School of Medicine at Davis, California, "Cardiology Update 2006: Focus on atrial fibrillation, oral anticoagulants, dyslipidemia, cv biomarkers and antioxidants"; Dr. Ida M. Tiongco, Clinical Associate Professor of Dermatology, Weill Medical College of Cornell University, New York, "Dermatological medical surgical management in the new millennium 2000-2006"; Dr. Joven R. Cuanang, Medical Director, St. Luke's Medical Center, Quezon City, "Cost-effective work-up of persistent headache"; and Dr. Benjamin M. Rigor, Emeritus Professor and Chairman, Dept. of Anesthesiology, School of Medicine, University of Louisville Health Sciences Center, "Human errors in medicine/medical care".

Dr. Antonio S. Sibulo, Jr., Director of St. Luke's Medical Center Heart Institute gave a lunch symposium lecture on "Hypertension of in the elderly". Dr. Romeo A. Divinagracia, President and Chief Academic Officer of UERMMMCA closes the conference with a talk on "Successful cardiovascular therapy: Blood pressure control and beyond".

Dr. Antonio S. Sibulo, Jr., and Dr. Irene G. Ibañez-Manlapaz, Chairman of the Department of Pathology of the Christus St. Francis Cabrini Hospital in Alexandria Louisiana, the Course Directors of the post-graduate course, announced that the program met the criteria for 8 hours in Category I of the Physicians Recognition Award of the American Medical Association. **



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Some of the lecturers:
(from left): Drs. Joven R.
Cuanang, Irene I.
Manlapaz & Ida M.
Tiongco w/ Romeo A.
Divinagracia & Dean

BATCH NEWS

MEDICINE CLASS 1965 DONATES TO COMMUNITY MEDICINE

Manuel M. Ramos, Jr., M.D.

The members of UERMMMCM Medicine Class 1965, during their recent 40th Anniversary and Ruby Celebration last Feb 8-10, 2006 agreed to continue supporting (1) the Dr Alejandra Paz-Garcia Professorial Chair and (2) the Community Project of the College of Medicine at Bagong Nayon, Antipolo City. The Dr Alejandra Paz-Garcia Professorial Chair was established by Class '65 during their 25th Year and Silver Anniversary Celebration in 1990. The first awardee was Dr. Georgina Paredes of the Department of Preventive and Community Medicine, who is now the Dean of the College of Medicine.

Dr Josefina Garcia-Sidiq, a member of Class '65 and daughter of Dr. Alejandra Paz-Garcia, recently donated one 6 cu ft 2-door Condura refrigerator, one Nikon oven toaster, one Hanabishi 2-burner gas stove, one Hanna 8-liter rice cooker and one chopping board for the intern's use at the Staff House of the Community Project in Antipolo City. In addition, she also gave a one thousand dollar (\$1,000.00) check to help pay the tax arrears of the Antipolo property. The check and appliance donations were received by Dr. Edith Magos-Regalado, a faculty member of the Department of Preventive and Community Medicine and also a member of Medicine Class '65. **

Class '65 - A Reunion And A Journey Through Time

Rene-Edgar R. Mendoza, M.D.

When one is committed, along with that commitment comes excellence, and if, it is mixed with excellence in service with no regard to seek power, a lot of things can happen good things, nice things that will be remembered as the years go by. That is exactly what will occur. But, it takes a gut feeling of choosing the right person to lead us to that which we want to accomplish. But when you have to bring together people from different parts of the globe, all the more that things become difficult unless one is focused. Our class was very fortunate to have those kinds of individuals that one could lean on with a bond that was strengthened and nurtured from our student days up to this time.

Thus, our two class coordinators working together to turn the wheels of this reunion—our ever energetic Joe Tandoc, from the US side, and Manny Ramos, from the Philippines side. Interestingly, our two coordinators were friends during our school days and, during our graduation, found out that their parents were also friends during their school years. This made it all the better that both were involved in our activities. What more could you ask for, but success at the very outset?

Technology made all the communication easier through E-mail, text messaging, and cell phones aside from the ever reliable use of the telephone. Ah, the wonders of science. This is not to brush aside the bond created by those who have attended previous alumni gatherings through the years and who have invited through relentless calling those who have not been seen attending the past reunions. When everybody wanted to touch base with each other—considering that everyone has started to grow “younger”, having undergone through the process of taking a lot of vitamins aside from taking hypertensive drugs, anti-diabetic drugs, and so forth, with some extreme “measures” like having to contend with the use of pacemakers, knee metals, heart bypasses—cooperation was the order of the day.

Thus, the very successful staging of our 40th or Ruby Reunion, started early last year, 2005, culminating in the largest ever gathering of a graduating class in Houston, Texas during the UERMMMCM Annual Homecoming. Our classmates were so carried away by that momentous occasion that they vowed to meet again as time dictates because the burden of the years have somehow, already weighed down on the brains, heart, lungs, knees, and so forth. After all, how long shall we still be here, in this planet of ours?

And, with that, Manny Ramos and company, especially with the help of his angels—Abelsenia Alcantara-Noche, Monina Alcantara-Macam, and Edith Magos-Regalado—went into high-gear action. The three of them were so persistent in getting through to you that they won't let go until they get an answer, whether a yes or a no, but more often than not, a YES answer, though uncertain. On the sidelines providing sporadic support were Boy David, Ric Tuason, Pitong Uy, Bonnie Butaran-Pagaduan, and Rene-Edgar Mendoza. And so, the die was cast.

Registration started at the Crowne Plaza on February 8. Wednesday, at 8:00 A.M. Amidst our noise and laughter, 32 registrants signed up and, finally, all were off to UERM.

The first set of activities consisted of courtesy calls to UERMMMC President Romeo A. Divinagracia and then, to Dr. Geogina T. Paredes, Dean of the College of Medicine. A tour of the school campus and the hospital grounds followed. Lunch was served at the Student's Lounge just outside the Alumni Office.

Everything was set for the evening program at the ballroom of Crowne Plaza. The program started at around 7:30 pm. It was a Bing Gempesaw show, our "Master Showman", with Boy Sion interjecting from time to time.

Generally, the program went well with President Romy Divinagracia delivering the message for the Medical Center. Then, it was the band's turn to show their stuff. Those with dancing feet did their thing very well. Enjoying themselves immensely were Luis Ylagan and partner, Miyagi (Ronnie de la Vega), Mike Ollada, and partners. Rudy Canos was seen dancing with his wife, most of the evening, even with his bad knees. But, the "dancingest" feet of all were Alice's who asked her DI partner: "Can you keep up with me?" Hurray for Alice. But, as with good things, there is always an end. The evening ended at midnight with the party going up to Mike Ollada's room, complete with more drinks this time, and tête-à-tête about our yesteryears up to the wee hours of the morning.



February 9, Thursday, dawned bright. Most were gathered around laughing at old jokes, or just making small talk. Finally, we left for Tagaytay City reaching that scenic city just before one in the afternoon.

After we ate, we continued our tête-à-tête. Before we knew it, the program organizers, Monina, Abel, and Edith started the ball rolling by assigning classmates to enter the games which they planned. Seeing our classmates join in the fun games with such gusto made you think that they were back in the 1960s. The child in each was shown in the way they moved and acted. Of course, there were prizes presented to the winners, courtesy of the trio. All in all, it was a very good day.



Another exciting day awaited us Saturday. We checked out after having a sumptuous breakfast. Once again we were on the road, this time going to the Bee Farm of Mr. Magsaysay where we were given a lecture on the benefits of honey.

Lunchtime was at Viewsite Restaurant, overlooking Taal Lake. Buffet lunch was really delicious. Then back to Manila, this time to the house of Joven Cuanang in Antipolo. Finally, we arrived in the hilly Mansion of Joven at 4:30 pm, where he welcomed us. It was eating time again from thereon until night time.

Before we broke up, we had a general meeting. Class '65 decided on four (4) things: Joven Cuanang was adopted as an Honorary Member of Class'65; we pledged to continue supporting the Dra. Alejandra Paz-Garcia Professorial Chair which was established during our 25th Anniversary; we will continue to support the Community Medicine Project of the UERMMMC College of Medicine; and, lastly, we will continue the publication of the revised/improved Class '65 40th Yearbook.



And , I quote: "Though nothing can bring back the hour of splendor in the grass, glory in the flower, grieve not; rather find strength in what remains behind..." **

HOME COMING

36th Reunion to honor Batch '81

You are warmly invited to the 36th UERMMMCM Medical Alumni Homecoming on December 18-22, 2006 and receive the well wishes and honor from your fellow alumni. Come, reconnect with your classmates, former teachers, and school and enjoy the company of old and new friends.

The 5-days event will feature welcome party and golf tournament of the Silver Jubilarians - Class '81, scientific symposium, business meeting and election of association officers and jubilarians outing and farewell party.

About 500 graduates are expected to this golden jubilee alumni homecoming:

Schedule of Activities:

December 18: 7:00 p.m. - Welcome Party of Class '81

December 19: 7:00 a.m. - Golf Tournament; 5:00 p.m. - Tour at the Center & Welcome Party of three Colleges (Nursing, Medicine & P.T.)

December 20: 8:00 a.m. - Convocation Ceremonies; 12:00 nn - Scientific Symposium; 2:00 p.m. - Business Meeting (election of officers)

December 21: 6:00 p.m. - Grand Alumni Fellowship Night,

Eclsa Shangri-La Hotel, Mandaluyong City

December 22: Class '81 Outing

Start spreading the news!

Classes '61, '66, '71, '76, '81, '86, '91, '96, 2001 & 2006... Please contact your class coordinators and the alumni office for details and plans: Tel. No. 716-0771 / 0920-6748830 or email us at: uermmaa@i-next.net / uerm_alumni@yahoo.com.



The Alumnews

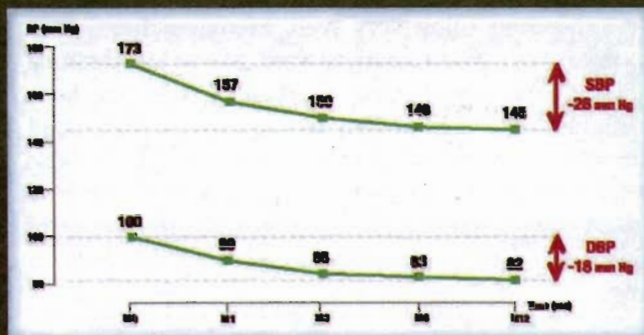
UERMMMCM Medical Alumni Association, Inc., Rm. 117, College of Medicine Bldg., UERMMMCM, 62 Aurora Blvd., Quezon City, Tel/Fax: 716-0771/715-0861 loc. 319/ 0920-6748830

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Cardiovascular mortality ↓ 24%⁴

PREAMI

Death, heart failure, cardiac remodeling ↓ 38%⁵

¹ Speirs C et al. Br J Clin Pharmacol. 1998;46:363-370.

² EUROPA Investigators. Efficacy of perindopril in reduction of cardiovascular events among patients with stable coronary artery disease (The EUROPA study). Lancet. 2003;362:782-788.

³ PROGRESS Collaborative group. Lancet. 2001; 358:1033-1041

⁴ Dahlöf B, Sever P, Poulter N, et al. Prevention of cardiovascular events with amlodipine + perindopril strategy compared with atenolol + thiazide strategy.

⁵ Ferrari R. ESC 2005 Stockholm. Oral communication.

ANNOUNCEMENT

In this momentous Golden Jubilee Year of our dear Alma Mater, the UERMMMCM College of Medicine, our Association will recognize and honor all medical alumni who contribute to the good reputation of UERMMMCM through their achievements.

Kindly inform the Alumni Secretariat of your achievements like: National Presidency of Medical or Civic organizations, Chairman of Specialty Board, etc.