



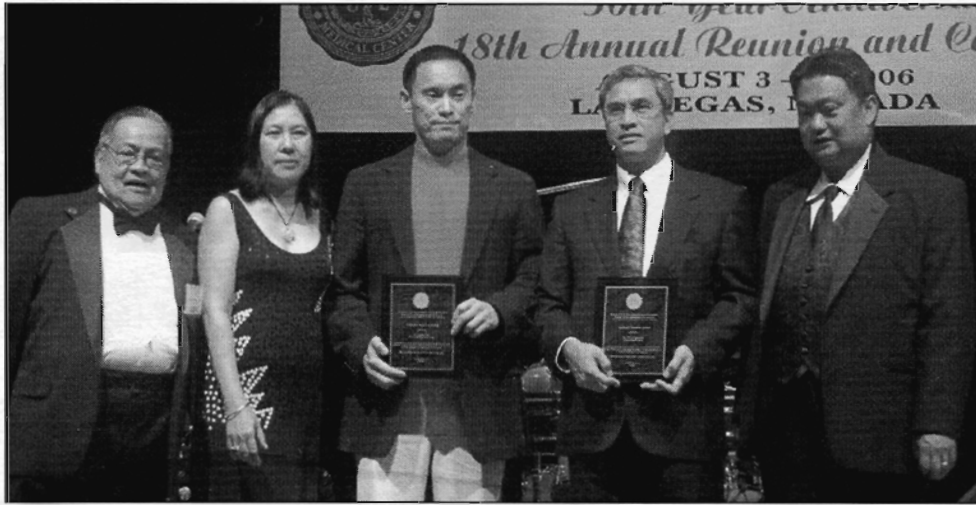
the Alumni Newsletter

Post-Convention Issue

Marshfield, Wisconsin

February 2007

Alumni + Las Vegas = A Winning Combination



Honorary Alumnus awards were bestowed on Mr. Lucio Tan and PO Domingo. Presenting the plaques were ex- Association president Manny Blas and Dean Georgina Paredes (first and second from left) and President Edgar Banez (far right). Representing the awardees were Dr Lucio Tan Jr and Mr. Wilson Young (middle).

Your Alumni Association struck gold as it commemorated its 18th Annual Convention/Reunion and Fiftieth Anniversary Celebration at the JW Marriott Las Vegas, August 3 to 6, 2006

Casting the dice was the Southern California chapter led by Dr Freddy Dial, '72, under the aegis of convention chairman Dr Susan Suntay-Perez, '77. 24 golfers teed off at the famed Angel Park Course on Wednesday, 30 played the TPC Canyons the next day. In the evening, 280 people showed up for the Welcome and Fellowship Dinner/Dance, hosted by the SoCal chapter. It was "celebrity" night with prizes awarded to the most convincing look-alikes. Emcees were Florante Lozano and Urduja Yoro-Trinidad (both class '68) with performances by Marti G Menez, '78 and Alfred Fernandez, '76. Music was provided by Dan Balthazar and his DeeBee Impressions. Raul Calvo's son was awarded the Golf trophy.

Day Two

Friday, August 4 was a feast for the mind, as well as the soul- beginning with the CME lectures in the a.m. and culminating with the Jubilarian Night Dinner/Dance. 218 registered for the lectures delivered by prominent authorities (and some distinguished alumni): Drs Rene Querubin

(Surgical Advances in Seizure Disorders), Pamela Rama-De Padua (Women and Cardiology), Ernie Chua (Advances in Preventive Cardiology), Rena Magno-Nora (Management of Pathologic Gambling), Benjie Rigor (The American Healthcare Worker Deficit), Henry Wojtczak (Seasonal Flu Prevention), Corazon Oca (Pertussis Epidemiology) and featured silver jubilarians Peter Siao (Clinical Electromyography), and Lynette Anarna-Carungcong (Acute and Chronic Pain). The Jose M. Cuyegkeng Memorial Lecture, dedicated to the long-time Dean and later President of the Center, was delivered by Dr Rolando Puno, '78, recounting his experiences as an innovator of spinal surgical devices. 150 celebrants clad in Las Vegas "flare" (casual, yet refined) gathered for Jubilarian Night featuring get-togethers by Class '61 (Sapphire, 45 years), '66 (Ruby, 40 years), '71 (Jade, 35 years), '76 (Pearl, 30 years) and '81 (Silver, 25 years).



Dr. R. Puno

Day Three

Elections were the order of the day, Saturday. Dr Irene Ibanez-Manlapaz, '75 will be the incoming President, edging out Eliezer R. de Leon, '73 in what must have been the most spirited (albeit, hassle-free) campaign in

our history. Other officers are: Neda Ballon-Reyes, '67, vice-president; Estrella Aguinaldo, '81, secretary; Sharon P Bravo, '81, assistant secretary; Irene Roman-Igual, treasurer; Ma. Teresa G. Pastor, assistant treasurer. The new Executive Director, superdynamo Sonia Rico-Todd, rounds out the first all-estrogen crew in the organization's annals.

The festivities climaxed with the Gala Night Programme, starting 7 pm in the Grand Ballroom of the resort. Master of Ceremonies Joseph Rastrollo welcomed the 648 guests and kept the affair rolling smoothly. Dr Manny Blas, outgoing President, delivered an eloquent valedictory, and then the new officers were inducted by Mr. Wilson Young (representating the University administration). The inimitable Dr. Ed Banez then delivered a rousing inaugural address, followed by a cotillion-dance performed by members of the original graduating Class '61. Also on the schedule: a song by Class '82, and a UERM video slideshow complemented by Dr Lerdo M. Cocal's vocals. A solemn candlelit ceremony staged by Silver Jubilarian Class '81 (accompanied by their family) capped off the night's revelry. A lively 10 piece band kept the dance floor jam-packed till the wee hours of the night.

Upcoming Events

The 2007 Reunion/Convention is slated for August 2-5 at the Washington DC Marriott, just steps away from the White House. The host chapter MarvaDC promises an exciting, entertaining and enlightening weekend- check for details on their website: www.uermmarvadc.org and elsewhere in this newsletter. From one scorcher to another- we'll see ya in the Nation's Capital this summer!

In this Issue:

- 2nd Opinion, page 2
- Vegas Pix, page 3
- Hail to the Chief, page 4
- Director/Treasurer Report, page 5
- Komix, page 6
- Alliance/Letters, page 7
- State of the COM, page 8
- Official Business, page 10
- DC Notes & Forms, page 14
- MD/RNs, page 18
- Progress/Chapter Notes, page 19
- December in Manila, page 20

Second Opinion

By Senen V. Siasoco, M.D.



The holidays have come and gone and once again, and this issue of your friendly neighborhood alumni newsletter is coming to you a few months delayed- why must this column always begin with an apology? Must be because yours truly was born under the Gemini sign- artistic, *si*, but prompt and timely, uh uh.

A new reign is upon us with the onset of the **Banez Biennial**. We have known **Pareng Ed** from our Sta Mesa Escapade Days, and are sure that he will continue the progress the Association has strived for since its founding. Please give him all the support he will surely need. (and check out his address/column on page 4).

The Medical Center celebrated its Golden Anniversary last year and to commemorate the event, a 137 page yearbook was distributed to Las Vegas Reunion attendees by Your Association (copies may still be available, contact the Exec Director). The book will be an outstanding addition to your memorabilia. An even thicker tome was published in Manila by the College, replete with photos/commentary and accompanying CD (professionally graphic designed, *pa*). This one may be procured only from the Med School (but well worth the trip!). I borrowed the Larry Alcala Sta Mesa Quad Scene (on page 6) from that album- can you just sense the nostalgia oozing through?

Dean Georgina Paredes' State of the Medical School report (page 8) was delivered in PowerPoint fashion at the Reunion. You're reading it as a Word Doc (and grayscale) so it lost a lot of its impact in the translation. My interpretation is "We're doing OK, but we could be doing MUCH, MUCH better. We sure could use your support!"

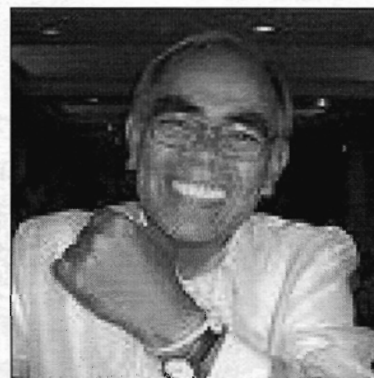
This story caught my eye:
<http://www.jsonline.com/story/index.aspx?id=552528>. A Milwaukee physician-couple (non-UERM grads) brought over a 19 year old *Bicolana* to serve as their *katulong* 20 years ago. The story reminded me of Manang Onsang, my surrogate mom/nanny, who practically reared me and my sibs as my folks were eking out a living. Manang was family, a respected elder. Manang's son, Totoy, was my playmate and when Totoy had his own family, I

became *kumpare*, godfather to his son. This brings me back to the Milwaukee Bicolana Story. The couple will serve four years in a federal penitentiary, the first ever to be convicted for Forced Labor. If they had only nurtured this young lady as one of them, *as family*- none of this tragedy would have befallen them.

Another phenomenon unique to the Filipino Diaspora is the MD->RN dilemma (a couple of stories are on pages 12-14). This was all too evident at the Gala Dance as the Silver Jubilarians were introduced- a sizable number of the celebrants were practicing RNs! The Filipino economic situation is deteriorating so rapidly that even physicians who've been practicing *successfully* for many years (*Regg, Emy*, I hear ya) are swallowing their "pride" and taking crash courses at diploma mills (UERM exempted, the nursing school refuses to admit MDs, per Dean Carmelita Divine). Instead of sneering and belittling or taking pity on them, I challenge you guys to give them a hand- the SoCal chapter is holding MLE review classes, and assisting in residency placement. Recall the old adage "there but for the grace of God, go I."

As we go to press (February 8 and 9), some alumni will be in Manila, conducting the annual Medical Mission to the Medical Center. More on this in the next issue.

Mark your calendars for the 2007 Reunion in Washington DC- the one, the only, **The Dr. Joven Cuanang**; he of homunculus fame will be the featured Cuyegkeng keynote speaker. His topic will be "The Current State of Healthcare in the Philippines. Are we ready for Medical Tourism?" Check out the chapter website: www.uermmarvadc.org for details.



Dr. Joven Cuanang

Scenes from the Gala Dinner-Dance



Mr **Wilson Young** (far left) administered the Oath of Office to: (left to right) incoming President **Edgar C Banez**, President-elect **Irene Ibanez-Manlapaz**, Vice-president **Neda Ballon-Reyes**, Secretary **Estrella Aguinaldo** and Treasurer **Irene Roman-Igual**.



All those ballroom dance lessons were paying off!



Members of **Silver Jubilarian Class '81** were bestowed commemorative medallions in a solemn candlelit ceremony, witnessed by friends and family.



Dr. **Edgar Banez**, the new Association President delivered a stirring motivational speech.



It was a vigorous, highly contested electoral campaign, as represented by these "Vote for Me! Buttons"



Dr. **Banez** personally manned the ballot box, as Dr. **Gwen Canarias-Fuentes** cast her vote.

Chairman P.O. Domingo, Members of the Board of Trustees, President Romeo Divinagracia, Dean Georgina Paredes, Dean Carmelita Divinagracia, Alumni Assoc. President Antonio Anastacio, the Silver Jubilarians of Class 81 and other celebrating classes, fellow Alumni, friends, ladies and gentlemen, Good Evening!

It is with great honor to celebrate with all of you the Golden Anniversary of the College of Medicine. I would like to thank the Organizing committee for the opportunity to represent the National Alumni Association in America.

Our Association's mission of helping our Alma Mater is eternal. We will work hand in hand with the Philippine Alumni Association and the Administration and the Medical Staff in the achievement of our common goals in helping UERMMMCM meet the challenges of the next 50 years and beyond.

The passing rate in the Medical Board examinations is our growing concern. We need to cooperate with one another, work harmoniously and find solutions and implement them in a unified manner.

We are trying to help by providing scholarships to deserving students. We will provide additional funds for the Professorial Chairs as requested by Dean Paredes. Awards for the Best Teachers in the Basic and Clinical Sciences will be increased. The Southern California Chapter is donating \$10,000 for the renovation of the Hospital operating room as requested by Dr. Borromeo. Other Chapters are trying to do the same. We will try to fill the Dean's Wish yearly. We will do our very best.

We are constantly recruiting new Alumni members, asking for generous donations for we know our Alma Mater cannot survive without them. We can only do these things if we can instill loyalty from our students and future colleagues. If we can show them as soon as they enter our Institution that they belong, that we really care, then we can be successful. As Vice Chairman Wilson Young said, if an Alumnus can say "I am a good Doctor because of UERM and not "I am a good Doctor because I am really good" then we know that we have done our part.

President's Report

By Edgar C. Banez, M.D.



Delivered at the 36th Alumni homecoming, December 21, 2006, at the EDSA Shangrila

I challenge each and every Alumnus, both young and old, individually or as a Class to give something back. We should forget our unpleasant experiences during our Clerkships. We should learn to forgive. Let us try to eliminate cruel and unjust punishments in our teaching methods. Let us try to treat each and every student as our future brothers and sisters in the Medical profession. We must also remember that for whatever we have become today, we owe a lot from UERM.

Lastly, my family and I, and the US Alumni Association wish you all and your loved ones a joyous Holiday Season and may God's blessings be upon us all. Thank you so very much.

It was a five minute speech but it has the core of this Administration's plan in helping our Alma Mater. Other projects include the creation of different committees that will have specific functions in helping our members and graduates. Example is the Post-Graduate Educational Committee that will provide help and necessary information to our future graduates even before they leave the Philippines and seek further training here in the US. The Sunshine Committee which will be in charge of providing compassion and support to members or their families in times of unexpected loss and periods of grief. The Speakers Bureau which will be in charge of getting all Alumni who are experts in their own fields of specializations and will serve as future CME providers in our future conventions. Medical missions and charitable donations will be official functions of the Alumni Association. Proper policies and guidelines will be established as well as policies on Guest accommodations and travel expenses. Every current Alumni member will be tapped to recruit more members from all over the US, Canada, Europe, Australia and all corners of the world, specially the younger Alumni, who are the future leaders of our Association.

This Administration seeks active participation and cooperation from all Chapter Presidents and members and encourage unselfish donations to help in the achievement of our goal of making a better UERM. We have a lot of work ahead, the Washington Convention is less than seven months away and as your President I am begging for your help..

Executive Director's Corner

By Sonia Rico-Todd, M.D.



The Las Vegas Convention was a great success, and we learned a lot of lessons, too. The election went on smoothly, and, the amendments to our constitution were ratified by a majority vote of members in attendance. Soon after, we had set the motion to apply for a 501 C3 status, which is in the process currently. As we began the 2006 Administration of Dr. Ed Banez, we have set out to abide by the Constitution and made it a priority to promulgate the purposes of the Association, as stated in our purpose as an organization. In view of this, we have increased our budget for *charitable donations* to \$10,000.00, and the *Medical/Surgical Missions* to \$5,000.00. Furthermore, we have also set up several Ad Hoc Committees: the *Education* Committee, which will serve as the liaison with Alumni who want to further their training in the US; the *Medical/Surgical Mission* Committee will coordinate the missions the Association will sponsor, in the US and abroad; the *Sunshine* Committee on the other hand will handle Alumni relations pertaining to, but not limited to uplifting spirits of alumni and families (e.g., departed alumni, grieving families, etc.). Dr. Banez has also outlined policies for the Medical/Surgical mission, as well as policies on inviting guests from the Philippines during our annual convention.

In the wake of the typhoon devastation of the Southern Luzon area last year, we donated \$5,000.00 to the Red Cross, through the Philippine Embassy

here in the US. We have also donated \$5,000.00 to the Pink Project of the Southern Nevada Immunization Coalition through our Alumna Dr. Tess Lu-Melocoton of Las Vegas, Nevada. On the mission side, we coordinated with Dr. Andy Borromeo, Philippine Alumni President, to hold a one and a half day Surgical Mission at the UERM Hospital, capped by a lecture in the Auditorium, by the missionaries. Dr. Irene Manlapaz is also doing a Medical Mission in the Southern Luzon area this February 2007. The Alumni Association also donated \$12,500.00 to the Dean's fund, out of the proceeds from the Manila CME and the Golden Souvenir Journal, to which many of you donated to last year, an effort spearheaded by Dr. Irene Manlapaz. We also communicated with the Dean, on how we can best serve the needs of our scholars.

For our upcoming conventions, Dr. Susan Suntay has already negotiated for the 2007 Washington DC Convention, to be held on the first week of August, 2007, and has started the negotiations for the 2008 San Francisco Convention, which was scheduled on the first week of July, 2008. So, we are looking forward to the success of both these conventions, as a testament to the unwavering support of all the alumni members and we can all glorify our Alma Mater. *Mabuhay ang UERMMMC!*

Convention Treasurer Fund Report

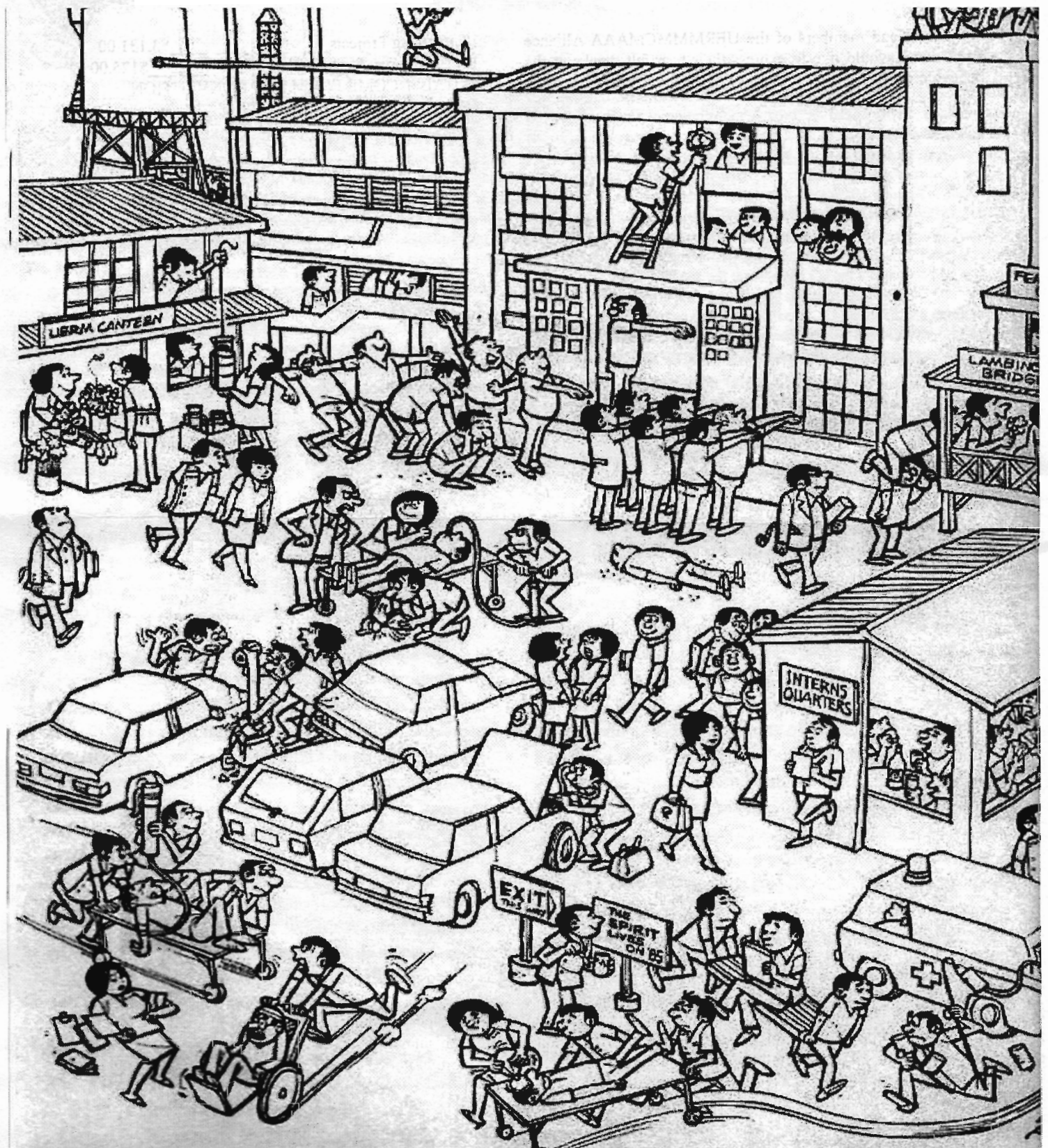
A. INCOME			
1. Membership Fee		\$ 24,900.00	
LTM	\$ 6,000.00		
Prev PLTM	\$ 750.00		
New PLTM	\$ 1,400.00		
Annual	\$ 16,750.00		
2. Registration			
a. Package		\$ 65,950.00	\$ 266,590.00
LTM	\$ 17,650.00		
Annual	\$ 21,700.00		
Retired	\$ 13,550.00		
Residents/Non-Practicing	\$ 6,750.00		
Non US Residents	\$ 6,300.00		
b. Individual		\$ 200,640.00	
Breakfast	\$ 1,370.00		
Cuyegkeng Lunch	\$ 2,945.00		
Thursday Dinner	\$ 10,585.00		
Friday Dinner	\$ 10,750.00		
Gala	\$ 77,650.00		
Youth	\$ 140.00		
CME	\$ 28,200.00		
Golf (Wed)	\$ 3,600.00		
Golf(Thurs)	\$ 5,400.00		
3. Ads & Sponsors			\$ 41,695.00
General	\$ 39,925.00		
Golf	\$ 1,770.00		
5. DAP		\$ 150.00	
6. Scholarship		\$ 100.00	
7. Alumni Foundation Lunch payment		\$ 2,721.08	
8. Class '72		\$ 300.00	
9. Hotel Refund		\$ 3,824.21	
TOTAL INCOME			\$ 315,380.29

B. EXPENSE			
1. Hotel		\$ 125,863.33	\$ 138,553.86
a. Banquet Charges			
Welcome Night	\$ 20,218.98		
CME Breakfast	\$ 4,854.50		
Cuyegkeng Lunch	\$ 9,709.00		
Jubilarian Night	\$ 14,052.50		
Gen. Assembly Brkfst	\$ 4,854.50		
Gala Night	\$ 71,684.97		
Dance Floor/Svc. Charge	\$ 2,443.52		
AF Lunch	\$ 1,520.23		
Lunch	\$ 491.62		
Exhibit tables	\$ 525.00		
Table Rental	\$ 175.00		
Class '72	\$ 283.61		
Credits	\$ (4,950.10)		
b. Audio Visual		\$ 3,355.95	
Registration	\$ 38.33		
AF Meeting	\$ 1,200.85		
Welcome Night	\$ 376.86		
CME	\$ 351.31		
Jubilarian Night	\$ 376.86		
Gen. Assembly Mtg	\$ 887.86		
Association Meeting	\$ 63.88		
Gala Night	\$ 383.29		
Credit	\$ (323.25)		

c. Room/Tax/Incidentals		\$ 2,348.81	
Credits	\$ 2,954.85		
Credits	\$ (606.04)		
Credits	\$ (2,272.65)		
d. Business Center		\$ 6.46	
e. Piano Tune & Move		\$ 280.00	
f. Shipping & Handling		\$ 120.00	
g. Misc		\$ 289.31	
h. Golf		\$ 6,294.00	
Wednesday	\$ 1,850.00		
Thursday	\$ 4,444.00		
Trophies		\$ 300.94	
2. Registration		\$ 3,633.13	
Mailing/Printing/Stamps/Supplies	\$ 2,873.49		
Staffing (LVCVA)	\$ 759.64		
3. CME		\$ 29,311.12	
Speaker	\$ 500.00		
Accreditation	\$ 500.00		
Syllabus (So. Cal)	\$ 1,681.12		
Computer Tech	\$ 250.00		
4. Jubilarian Medallions		\$ 985.00	
5. Convention Awards		\$ 851.45	
6. DJ/Photo/Video		\$ 1,300.00	
7. Convention Commission		\$ 268.00	
8. Dessert (Thurs & Sat)		\$ 4,275.00	
9. Refunds		\$ 1,762.55	
10. Bank Charges		\$ 358.48	
So. Cal Expenses			
11. Mailing		\$ 1,329.73	
12. Souvenir Program		\$ 5,223.06	
13. Party Supplies (Candles, Balloons)		\$ 396.97	
14. Band		\$ 3,800.00	
15. Welcome Banners		\$ 269.37	
16. Flowers		\$ 2,515.97	
TOTAL EXPENSES			\$ 202,124.40
BALANCE			\$ 113,255.89
DISTRIBUTION			
Membership		\$ 24,900.00	
DAP		\$ 50,000.00	
National alumni Operational Budget		\$ 15,000.00	
		\$ 89,900.00	
NET INCOME			\$ 23,355.89
So. Cal Share (80%)		\$ 18,684.71	
National Alumni Share (20%)		\$ 4,671.18	

Sta Mesa Quad Campus Life, circa late 80's

By Larry Alcalá



Alliance Report

By Esther N. Querubin



The officers and members of the UERMMMCMAAA Alliance and Friends would like to express their heartfelt thanks to the benevolent donors who gave and donated items for our Silent Auction Fundraising. In addition, we are sincerely grateful to the general membership of the UERMMMCMAAA, Inc. and the UERMMMC Alumni Foundation, USA for responding to the sale of the Raffle Tickets that we sent out prior to the reunion/convention. Although the amount collected was not as much as expected, we were still able to raise enough money to pay the ticket winners. We will be sponsoring the Silent Auction and the Raffle Ticket fundraising annually, and in the forthcoming 2007 Washington DC convention, we are hoping to get greater participation from the alumni, family and their friends. The beneficiary of our efforts is the UERMMMC Alumni Foundation USA so the more money we raise, the bigger is the amount we can give to the worthy causes sponsored by the Foundation.

Roger Saplan, a very active and longstanding member of the Board of Trustees of our Association lost his beloved wife, Dr. Un Hun Ang Saplan, Class 1967, last July 15, 2006. We will miss Dra Un's presence at the annual reunion. Flowers and condolences were sent to the Saplan Family.

The following are the winners of the Raffle ticket drawing last August 5, 2006 -
First Prize: \$500, Dr. Melita Sybing, Grove City, Pennsylvania. Dr. Sybing donated the \$500 to the UERMMMC Alumni Foundation USA.

Second Prize: \$300, Dr. Ruena Zarate-Paraso, California.

Third Prize: \$200, Dr. Amelia Jacang, Hawaii.

The Financial Statement from the checking account of our treasurer, Violeta Rigor is as follows:

Income from membership dues _____ \$525.00

Fundraising Projects	\$3,131.00
Unused money from mailing tickets	\$125.00
TOTAL INCOME FROM THE CONVENTION	\$3,781.00
BALANCE FROM PREVIOUS YEAR	\$8,771.00
TOTAL BANK DEPOSITS (as of 8/8/06)	\$12,552.00
DISBURSEMNTS (outstanding checks issued during convention)	

Donation to the UERMMMC	
Medical Alumni Foundation	\$3,000.00
Reimbursement to Esther Querubin for Dr Un Hun Saplan Funeral flowers/printing of official report	\$130.00
Raffle winning prizes	\$1,000.00
Total amount disbursed	\$4,130.00

Note: Dr Irene Manlapaz gave our treasurer a check for \$1,800.00 from her fundraising of Cabo San Lucas vacation package. For her donation to get a tax exemption, Lety sent the amount to Dr. Elmer Gilo, treasurer of the Alumni Foundation.

As of September 21, 2006, the balance in the checking account of the Alliance and Friends is: \$8,512.00

The following are the elected officers for 2006-2008.

President: Dr. Penny Miranda

Vice -President: Naomi Rastrollo

President—Elect: Lisa Banez

Treasurer: Violeta Rigor

Auditor: Shirley Ong

Executive Director: Fely Bangayan, Past President

Immediate Past President: Lourdes Blas

Members of the board of Trustees: Nieva Elizaga, Catherine Dona, Marie Elma, Lynne Meneses, Ernie Suguitan, Cely Ann Escay, Kit Manzanero

Letters

September 18, 2006

Dear Dr. Siasoco,

It is highly commendable that you exercised your editorial leadership in publishing the definitive and final installment or resolution of our beloved medical schools's "unfinished alumni business". Because of the essay, several of m Midwest classmates and I are planning to register for future USA Alumni Conventions/Reunions. Our class has probably the least number of registrants compared to the first 13 graduating classes. The reason is quite obvious. The published essay resolved the "Unfinished business" once and for all, and helped us proceed in the direction of alumni participation. We are also thinking of independently contributing to our alumni financial campaigns, and gather our children and grandchildren for our class reunions. Doctor Dulay was absolutely right in the following three areas:

There will never be total closure

Dean Valdellon's 'apology' was the ultimate modus vivendi that most of us can possibly expect, and accept.

We must confidently look forward to the next 50 years.

We wish the alumni newsletter will have more quality writings to make the paper more interesting, and highly readable. As the editor, you are reasonable in suggesting the merger of the Association's and Foundation's newsletters. Clearly, there are overwhelming redundancies in content of both publications. With the merger, we can have more issue for less money and can make us all anxiously await forthcoming alumni items of interest.

Sincerely,

UERM Midwest Alumna and friends

The College of Medicine, Now and in the Future

By Dean Georgina T Paredes

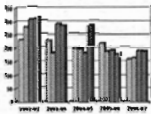
MISSION

The UERMMMC College of Medicine, an internationally recognized center of excellence in medical education, shall commit itself:

- To provide high quality education through a dynamic, innovative curriculum (INSTRUCTION)
- To provide an environment conducive to the intellectual, emotional and economic growth of the faculty, students and support staff. (STUDENT – PERSONNEL SERVICES)
- To pursue relevant medical research of international standards. (RESEARCH)
- To produce competent, compassionate, ethical and socially responsible physicians with a holistic approach to health care. (COMMUNITY SERVICE)

The UERMMMC College of Medicine further commits itself to utilize its resources effectively, efficiently and equitably.

PROMOTION & RETENTION TREND



Community Program & Services

- Community based health programs
- Primary Health Care Learning Center
- Alternative Health Care
- Linkage with alumni immersion tutor/mentoring



Total amount donated to UERM College of Medicine as of Dec. 2005

Balance from 2004	\$ 3,563.72
Unclaimed grants	2,100.00
2005 grants	42,884.70
TOTAL	\$ 48,548.42

Thank you very much for your generosity!! God bless you !!

Physical Plant Improvement & Resource Augmentation

- Lecture room, laboratory refurbishing & make-over
- Skills laboratory manikins and models acquisition
- Replacement of old equipments
- Computer units for a testing center

Student Development Program

- Scholarship grants for academic excellence
- Research support
- Exchange student programs
- Linkages with hospitals and institutions for wider, global perspectives
- Participation in curriculum planning & evaluation
- Improvement of board review courses

Curriculum Enrichment

- MEU development
 - Testing center
 - Medical education research
 - Educational resource production
 - Training, professional enrichment program
 - Curriculum reform/ enrichment

*need alumni support

Human Resource Capability Development

Goal – Competent, committed facilitators of learning

Indicators:

- % of faculty with postgraduate degrees, teacher training
- Performance rating
- Tasks & work environment satisfaction
- professorial chairs

5 Year Development Plan

- Medical curricular reforms and enrichment, monitoring and evaluation
- Human resource capability development
- Student recruitment and development
- Physical plant & resource augmentation
- Community program & services enrichment
- Alumni relations strengthening

*need support

(continued on page 9)

The College of Medicine, Now and in the Future

(continued from page 8)

By Dean Georgina T Paredes

Resources

- 5 large lecture rooms >100 seats **
- 24 tutorial rooms
- 3 laboratory rooms
- Cyber library with 35 computer units
- Equipments . 35 units YS 100 Nikon microscopes* in Anatomy, 150 circa 1970 units in Anatomy & Pathology, spectrophotometers, PCR unit*
- LCD projectors, projection microscope
- Skills Laboratory anatomic models***

* alumni donations ***Class 1973
 ** in need of face-lifting

FACULTY PROFILE

N=224

	Basic	Clinical
Qualifications:		
Masters degree	11	9
Doctorate (PhD)	2	0

* All clinical faculty members are Fellows/Diplomates in their specialty

Schools of Origin of UERM Freshmen

- University of the Philippines (Manila, Los Banos, Diliman, Visayas)30%
- Ateneo de Manila, de Naga, Davao & Zamboanga 15%
- Dela Salle University 15%
- UST 30%
- UE and other schools 10%

* 3 students with latin honors

Faculty Incentives (funded by the UERMAFUSA)

- Graduate school partial scholarships
- Post graduate teacher training workshops travel grants to Univ. of HK for 4 faculty members in 2004, 2 in 2006
- Travel grant for 2 to the AMEA conf. in Korea – Presented MED EDUC research paper.
- Travel grant for 2 faculty members (Anatomy & in Surgery) to the USA

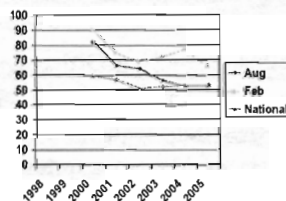
Other Grants :

- Financial need-based (UERMMCAFUSAInc.)
 Partial grant 15 slots
 Book grant 30 slots
- Grant-in-Aid (equivalent to 15 full grants)
- North Texas Assoc. of Phil. Physicians
- PMA of Greater St. Louis

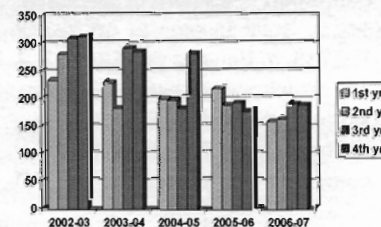
Licensure Exam Performance, Aug 05 (18th Place :Ma. Theresa Rabena, UERM)

School	No. of Examinees	% Passing
UP	147	97%
CIM	107	88
PLM & UST	75 377	84
WV S U	86	80
Ateneo Z & CSU	46 18	67
St. Louis U	90	84
MSU	22	62
FEU & SLCM	229 60	60
Cebu Doctors	52	54
UERMMMC	256	53
National Passing		51%

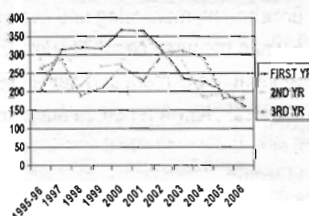
Licensure Exam Passing %



5 YEAR ENROLLMENT TREND ALL YEAR LEVELS



STUDENTS' PROFILE TEN-YEAR ENROLLMENT TREND



COM is 50 years old!! (1956-2006)

- Monthly activities from January to June
- Anniversary month of June highlights
- Culminating activity Alumni Homecoming on Dec. 19-21 2006

Thank you so much for your support!

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting

By DeKiam Ong, M.D., Secretary

Date: August 5, 2006

Place: JW Marriott Las Vegas Resort and Spa

Present: Officers of both organizations, Trustees (foundation) and Guests—see attached lists

I. Call to Order

Alumni Association president Dr. Manuel Blas called the meeting to order at 1440. The minutes of the Association executive committee pre-convention meeting at the Chicago Hyatt Regency Hotel (at O'Hare) on May 13, 2006 was read by the secretary Dr. DeKiam Ong. It was moved to accept by Dr. Benjamin Rigor and approved unanimously.

II. Dr. Irene Manlapaz, the Association's executive director, reported progress of the alumni web site. She will coordinate with the web master especially with regards to content security issues. Hopefully the web site will be up and running by the next convention.

III. Dr. Susan Suntay informed the group about the progress of the change of tax status of the alumni association from that of a 501 (c)(6) to that of a 501 (c)(3) which is not-for-profit organization status. Dr. Rene Querubin, the vice-chairman of the Alumni Foundation, pointed out that in his experience, it will be better for the alumni association to apply fresh for a 501 (c)(3) status rather than changing the existing one to a new status. Dr. Suntay said that was the approach adopted by the association as advised by the lawyer.

IV. Dr. Sonia Rico-Todd, the association's treasurer, gave a detailed report of the financial status. Full report elsewhere in this issue. The important items were as follows: 1. Total income as of 7/27/06 was \$97,000 plus, 2. Expense was \$10,788, 3. Balance was \$86,613, 4. Life time membership fund of \$73,141 which was invested with a maturity on 3/20/07, 5. Income of \$10,000 from the 50th year book project, and 6. Income of \$2500 generated from the CME held in Manila in February 06. The last two incomes will be donated to the "Dean's Scholarship Fund"

V. Chapter Associations' Reports

Dr. Fely Quines, the president of the Northeast Chapter, reported the chapter's 'Balik-doctor project' that was conducted yearly though not in UERM until recently with the volunteers from different medical centers. She asked for more participants from the UERM alumni, especially for the upcoming mission in Banawe.

Dr. Freddie Dial, president of the Southern California Chapter 2004-2006, thanked for the support from all the alumni.

MARVA-DC Chapter

Dr. Ric Flores, the chapter president, talked about the chapter that will

host the 2007 convention in Washington DC's JW Marriott Hotel. Also the chapter was planning a fund raising activity in November 5, 2006 in Baltimore. The chapter's web site is up and running and he hopes that it can be linked to the national web site in the near future.

There were no reports from the other chapters.

VI. UERMMMC-MAAA Inc. Newsletter Editor's Report

Dr. Senen Siasoco reported that the funding for the newsletter seems to be adequate for now. He spent an average of 3 weeks time editing each issue of the newsletter. Comments about the small FONT were raised but now the size is quite readable.

VII. Alliance and Friends of the Alumni Association's Report

President Mrs. Odette Blas reported that their organization had a meeting on August 4th and that new presidents were elected to succeed her. Mrs. Penny Miranda for 2006-2008 and Mrs. Lisa Banez for 2008-2010. The silent auction raised about \$5000 and from it \$3000 was to be donated to the alumni foundation. A check of \$3000 was then given from her to Dr. Benjamin Rigor, the new chairman of the alumni foundation.

VIII. Alumni Foundation

Dr. Isabelita Casibang, the new president, requested a projection of the expenses of the association from the treasurer in addition to the preliminary allocation of \$50,000 for the DAP/Indigent Fund and expense for Dean Paredes. She also informed the alumni that the foundation will start fund raising in 2007. Dr. Rene Querubin informed the alumni that each trustee of the foundation was required to donate \$1000 in cash or in kind each year starting in 2005.

Introduction of the New Officers of the Alumni Association

Dr. Blas introduced Dr. Ed Banez as the new president for 2006-2008, Dr. Sonia Rico-Todd is the new executive director appointed by Dr. Banez, Dr. Irene Manlapaz, president-elect; Dr. Estrella Aguinaldo, secretary; Dr. Irene Igual, treasurer; and Dr. Susan Suntay as the convention commissioner. Dr. Blas encouraged the newly elected officers to work hard for the association and the alma mater.

X. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 1600 by Dr. Blas.

Submitted by: DeKiam Ong, M.D.

Secretary 2004-2006

Minutes of the General Assembly Meeting

By DeKiam Ong, M.D., Secretary

Date: August 5, 2006

Place: JW Marriott Las Vegas Resort and Spa

Present: General members, Guests from the Philippines

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by the president Dr. Manuel Blas at 0910. He welcomed all the attending alumni and thanked them for coming to Las Vegas to attend the annual alumni convention/reunion. He compared today's attendance to that of 2002's convention when he was elected as president-elect. Then there were about 80 plus who attended the election whereas today the number of pre-registered alumni were over 350.

II. Election of Officers

Dr. Jeff Rastrollo gave a brief history of the policy of the Nomination and Election Committee that he currently chairs. The Policy had been amended several times, the latest one was the rule of the 30 days prior to the election day being the cut off date for voting eligibility of the alumni members who had paid their annual membership dues. The 30 day period motion was made by Dr. Benjamin Rigor and seconded and voted for unanimously by the attending alumni during the annual convention held at Houston, TX in 2005.

B. Introduction of the candidates.

For the president position – Drs Eliezer de Leon and Irene Manlapaz were introduced and both were given the opportunity to address the members of their plans and goals.

For the positions of vice-president, secretary and treasurer, since there was only one candidate for each position, the three candidates were proclaimed winners by acclamation.

III. Introduction of Guests from the Philippines

Several guests were introduced. Besides the Dean of the College of Medicine Dr. Georgina Paredes, the other guests were Mr. Wilson Young from the UERMMM Board of Trustees, Dr. Erlinda Valdellon-Ex-Dean of the UERMMM College of Medicine, Dr. Andy Borromeo-UERMMM Chief of the Department of Surgery, and two familiar alumni Drs. Henry Yanez and Tony Ligot.

IV. Address by Dean Paredes

Dean Paredes gave a detailed report that touched on many topics. The most important ones are the following:

50th golden anniversary of the college of medicine (1956-2006) celebration activities that took place this year at the Medical Center from January 2006 on to her departure for the USA trip. Some of these were previously addressed by her during the 2005 US alumni convention held in Houston, TX.

50th golden anniversary of the UERM Memorial Medical Center activities to take place in 2007

She reiterated the vision and mission of the Medical Center. For the former, it was the enrichment and reform of the curriculum. The College of Medicine was the only Medical School to pass the PAASCU accreditation. For the latter, the Center concentrates on research and community service.

V. Report of the Status of the Medical Center

Dr. Romeo Divinagracia, the president of the UERMMM, could not attend the convention. In his place Dr. Andy Borromeo gave the report. He showed several latest Departmental pictures of the Center and also announced the upcoming alumni reunion date as the last weekend of December 2006 and the scheduled events in December 2007 for the celebration of the Center's 50th

Golden Anniversary.

VI. Request for Funding Session

Dr. Benjamin Rigor chaired the session. He presented eleven requests for funding of equipment and teaching materials for the different departments of the Center. All eleven requests were pledged by generous alumni either singly or in combined efforts. Dr. Rigor praised the 100% success rate of the funding and thanked the alumni donors. Reminders of individual donation and funding will be sent out by Dr. DeKiam Ong who will coordinate via internet with Dean Paredes and the alumni foundation treasurer Dr. Elmer Gilo who will be receiving the donation checks, and then transferred them to Dean Paredes.

VII. Open Forum

Dr. Debbie Bobila (class 73A) from the Northeast Chapter Association informed the alumni that the convention hosted by the chapter and held in NYC in 2003 did generate a sizable income that was donated to the DAP/Indigent Fund.

Dr. Eden Suguitan (class 67) asked about the funding of professorial chairs. The Dean reported that a two year funding of two \$2000 per year to be given upon the approval of the project by the medical center. Funding for the infrastructural improvements of the center was asked by Dr. Nely Recano (class 64) from the Northeast

Chapter. According to the Dean, the funding for such improvements always comes from the medical center. An exception was the recent renovation of an operating room for indigent patients was funded by the combined efforts of the Midwest and the two

California chapters. Dr. Bayani Elma, the immediate past chairman of the alumni foundation, informed the alumni the amount of available funding from the foundation to the medical center. Asked about types of tuition scholarship, the Dean clarified the silver scholarship for academic excellence of \$1000 per year and the subsequent years' award will depend upon the academic grades set up by the college of medicine.

VIII. Results of the Election of Officers

Under the watchful eyes of Dr. Ed Banez (president 2006-2008), Dr. Freddie Dial (president of the Southern California Chapter Alumni Association 2004-2006), Dr. Sonia Rico-Todd (treasurer 2004-2006) and two alumni observers, the ballots were inspected and counted. The new officers of the National Association are as follows:

President-elect – Dr. Irene Manlapaz (163 votes)

Vice-president – Dr. Neda Ballon-Reyes

Secretary – Dr. Estrella Aguinaldo

Treasurer – Dr. Irene Igual

Statistics given by Dr. Banez for this convention:

Pre-registered alumni – 346 (eleven new life time members)

Life time members as of August 2006 – 176

Eligible voters – 522

Number of Voters – 263

For the referendum that was included in the ballot

Approved votes – 163

Disapproved votes – 51

Abstained votes – 44

VIII. There being no new business to be presented the meeting was adjourned at 1210 by Dr. Blas.

Submitted by: Dr. DeKiam Ong
Secretary, 2004-2006

Physicians Toiling as Nurses

By Adam Geller, AP National writer

The hospital lobby is a blur of surgical scrubs as shift-change approaches. But when Elmer Jacinto slips in early in pressed whites and sneakers, he draws barely a glance from the guard behind the security desk. It's 2:15 p.m. and soon he'll begin preparing IV drips and checking temperatures, tasks assigned to an entry-level nurse. "So much to learn," says the self-deprecating bachelor with the lilting accent. Except for the fact that he's one of only two male nurses on the floor at St. Vincent's Midtown Hospital, he's just one of the girls, co-workers say. Well, here anyway. But a world away, in his native Philippines, Jacinto remains at the center of a roiling controversy—a sellout to his critics, a paragon of hard work and admirable ambition to his supporters. Once upon a time, Elmer Jacinto was

his nation's most promising young doctor. But doctors in the Philippines are not well paid, and so he boarded a plane to America. To make more money. To become...a nurse. It hasn't worked out exactly as he had expected. Life in New York has proved exhausting and full of unforeseen pitfalls. And back home, many of his countrymen still find his choice a difficult one to accept, because the parable of Elmer Jacinto raises grim doubts about their future." Jacinto encapsulates perfectly the country's fundamental question today," one Filipino newspaper columnist opined. "Namely, why should anyone want to stay in it?"

When Elmer Jacinto graduated high school, the island of Basilan offered limited choices. On Basilan, where dusty farming towns press up against thick tropical jungle, electricity is a sometimes event. Telephone lines deposit calls at dead-ends. Both problems are blamed on the Abu Sayyaf, a Muslim extremist group with an outsized reputation for violence. So when Jacinto sat down with his father, a school teacher, on a spring night eight years ago to parse his prospects in the glow of kerosene, they set aside talk of dreams to examine reality." There is money in nursing," the older man counseled. Jacinto finished at the top of a nursing school class of 250, and found work at the local hospital before leaving for a better-paying job in the city. In hindsight, the move seemed fated. Not long after, Abu Sayyaf guerrillas stormed the hospital, taking nurses as hostages. One of Jacinto's former co-workers was killed during a shootout with Filipino soldiers. But in Manila, Jacinto pushed ahead, soon enrolling in medical school. For the second time, he rose to the top of his class, then joined 1,800 other aspiring doctors from around the country to take the national medical exam. When the scores were released, Our Lady of Fatima University proudly hung a banner over its doorway to herald the results. Its valedictorian, Elmer Jacinto, was the No. 1 young doctor in the nation. Jacinto, though, was already making other plans. His parents deserved more than even a doctor could give them. In a world where jobs and workers are shifted back and forth across borders like game pieces, he would play his hand—setting aside the



Elmer Jacinto, 28, right, had the highest score on the Philippines medical board exam but plans to work temporarily as a nurse in the United States, where he could earn 10 times as much as a doctor in the Philippines.

(Ellen Nakashima -- The Washington Post)

goal of becoming a neurologist to work as a nurse in America for far greater pay.

His choice should not have been a surprise. Nearly a million Filipinos take jobs abroad each year, making them some of the world's most mobile workers. Some of the most successful are nurses, drawn to the U.S. and other wealthy nations with a ravenous demand for health care and not enough skilled labor to meet it. But now the Philippines was bleeding doctors. "Before, we just branded it as a brain drain. But I label it now as a brain hemorrhage," says Dr. Jaime Galvez Tan, a former minister of health. He estimates that in the last five years, 9,000 Filipino doctors—out of about 56,000—have retrained as nurses, and 5,000 have since gone abroad. The result? Some rural hospitals have few,

if any, doctors and nurses. And care suffers. Doctors leave because of political unrest and economic malaise, but money is a major factor. A nurse in the Philippines makes \$150 to \$250 a month; doctors make \$300 to \$800. But the average registered nurse in the U.S. earns \$4,000 a month. Is it any wonder a doctor might leave? The decision, though, remains intensely personal and sometimes embarrassing, and as an issue, it had generated limited attention—that is, until Jacinto made his choice and set out to explain himself to a nation of 84 million people.

In early 2004, Jacinto quietly began telling others of his plans. "Even before he announced his decision, we already felt it was coming," says Reynaldo Olazo, dean of medicine at Fatima. "It was I who brought it up because I could see his embarrassed smile." But Jacinto's decision drew little notice until a friend suggested he talk with a reporter at one of the country's largest newspapers. Jacinto, now 31, seems an unlikely candidate to stir controversy. With a toothy grin and somewhat large head, he has a boyish air. In conversation, he is reluctant to tout himself. "Mister is fine," asked how he prefers to be addressed. "Here I am not a doctor." Jacinto says the newspaper made him the face of an issue—the doctor-topnotcher—who ignored the nation's interests for his own. But he acknowledges wanting to draw attention to the shaky economic status of health care workers as an issue policymakers had too long ignored. "Patriotism is a two-way process," he recalls thinking. "It's not only you as a citizen. It's also about the government that should also give you work, or something for yourself, to be able to live a dignified life." His decision struck a nerve—and it was raw. Jacinto's story "was like a slap in the face," Tan says. "Even ordinary people that I would meet, it was like, 'Hey, what has happened to our country?'" The front-page story in the Philippine Daily Inquirer drew a torrent of letters. On the radio—the main source of news for many rural

Continued from Page 12

Filipinos—talk-show hosts picked over his decision. "Deplorable

Continued on Page 13

ambition," one newspaper proclaimed. "Is our government partly to blame for this exodus?" the Philippine Journal of Internal Medicine asked. By the time Jacinto stepped to a podium two weeks later to take the doctor's oath, his private decision was public property. "We cannot begrudge you, but only appeal to you to stay," a leading politician, Sen. Aquilino Pimentel Jr. said in a speech to Jacinto and nearly 950 other new doctors. A fellow doctor, Willie Ong, got to thinking. Ong had been studying a story from the Old Testament. "To your descendants I have given this land," the passage read, recounting the promise made between God and the Israelites. Ong was inspired. He wrote a "doctor's covenant," then convinced 1,800 physicians at a national convention to sign it, pledging to remain in the country for three years. But another 2,200 turned him down. So last year, Ong started the Movement of Idealistic and Nationalistic Doctors, or MIND, campaigning at medical schools to convince doctors to stay even before they became doctors. Filipino lawmakers, too, found their way to the issue. "There are dark consequences if we do not do something to mitigate a crisis," the president of the Philippine Nurses Association told lawmakers who called a hearing on health worker migration in the fall of 2004. Lawmakers proposed requiring all new nurses to serve in the Philippines for two to three years before being allowed to work overseas. But critics say it will penalize poor families counting on money their children could earn as nurses abroad. The question now is whether changes embraced by U.S. lawmakers will speed the exodus. When the Senate approved an immigration overhaul last summer, it included a measure allowing an unlimited number of foreign nurses to enter the country. If that change becomes law, "the Philippine health care system will bleed to death," Tan says. Either way, the debate comes too late to sway Jacinto. By the time U.S. lawmakers took up the issue, he'd already arrived.

On a Friday night in November 2005, a China Airlines jet touched down at New York's John F. Kennedy International Airport after an 18-hour journey. Twenty newly minted nurses including one Elmer Reyes Jacinto walked down the gangway, and a recruiter from a chain of nursing homes stepped forward to meet them. Jacinto and seven others were sent to Avalon Gardens, a facility in Smithtown, N.Y., a leafy Long Island suburb about 50 miles from Manhattan. "Nursing is a Team Effort," cheers a sign hanging outside that pictures stick figures hand-in-hand atop a globe. For Jacinto, this new world was exciting, but alien. The air was sharp, the ground was brittle. He and his roommates were the only people who seemed to walk anywhere in a land where most everyone moved by car. The nurses felt drivers staring at them as they walked along Route 25 carrying groceries. But the jarring adjustment was minor compared with problems that over time became increasingly troubling, he and other nurses allege. Their account is strongly disputed by the nursing home operator and its sister recruitment agency, which have accused the nurses of abandoning patients who require constant care. The new employer, which had promised two months free housing, assigned eight nurses to a small, dingy home a tight fit with three bedrooms and a single bathroom that did not always work. Jacinto and another man slept on pullout couches in the living room. The home a one-story bungalow large enough for a small family still houses newly arrived nurses and their families. On a recent visit by a reporter, it was home to eight people, including three children, after two nurses had moved out. The kitchen sink was clogged shut and was draining out the window. Lights in the kitchen did not work. A rat scurried across the driveway. After a few weeks of doing clerical work, Jacinto and the other nurses say they were assigned to nursing duties but paid less than promised. Some say they were shortchanged in other ways, including not being paid for night work or given promised insurance.

By early spring, the nurses had had enough. Their employer, who contends they were always treated fairly, says many nurses walked out without giving notice, endangering patients. What's clear is that on April 7, Jacinto and 10 others together tendered resignation letters. In all, 26 nurses quit, including five trained as doctors. Not even five months had passed since Jacinto, briefly the most famous doctor in the Philippines, had arrived in the United States. Now he was anonymous and out of a job.

This fall, Jacinto's face returned to front pages at home, the central character in a revised morality tale about a trap set by naive expectations. "The grass outside the Philippines is not always greener," the Inquirer reported, detailing charges and countercharges between the nurses and the nursing home recruiter. Jacinto and the other nurses are out of work and running out of money, Filipino newspaper readers were told. Worse, they are living in abandoned, leaking houses, at the end of dark city alleys, stories said. "They have found out for themselves that the honeyed words they had relied upon were laced with large doses of bitter circumstances when they disembarked on the shores of the Promised Land," Pimentel told fellow lawmakers in a speech on the floor of the Filipino Senate. But Jacinto, himself, is missing from the discussion. He has grown weary of explaining himself. On a recent afternoon, he leads the way through the streets of New York's Elmhurst neighborhood to a table at the Fay Dah Chinese bakery, where one counter serves bubble tea and another advertises international money transfers in Mandarin, Malay and Tagalog. "I feel I belong here," he says, gesturing to sidewalks filled with people pulling laundry carts and talking on cell phones. "Look, Asians. Lots of

Asians." It took just weeks for the rebellious nurses to find work, he says, thanks to an insatiable health care labor market. He and three others nurses have settled into a spare, but spotless walk-up apartment a few blocks away, a plastic American flag planted next to the bushes out front. The nurses share meals under a print of "The Last Supper" and watch Filipino news on a big-screen TV. And once a month, Jacinto walks to the bakery and wires \$500 to his parents back in Basilan. Jacinto does not pretend everything has gone smoothly. He is uneasy that his hospital treats people with AIDS; in the Philippines, they would be quarantined to a few hospitals, he says. He finds it jarring that after months of taking the subway to work in Manhattan "a jungle of buildings" he never sees anyone but strangers. And, after the struggles of the past year, he is so tired that he now thinks he may remain a nurse rather than pursue his dream of becoming a doctor in the United States. He may soon be looking for a job again.

New York's drive to cut health care costs has targeted his hospital for closing. Still, Jacinto says he is finding a place for himself and a sense of peace. Back home, the expectation is "that you should become the model Filipino, doing it for your country. I want something for myself," Jacinto says. "I want to move on." He knows some in his homeland still judge him. Well, he says, let them talk.

AP Staff Writer Oliver Teves in Manila contributed to this report. Copyright ©Monday, January 15, 2007 The Associated Press. All rights reserved. The information contained in the AP News report may not be published, broadcast, rewritten or redistributed without the prior written authority of The Associated Press.

Ed. Note: this story was picked up by a lot of media, including USA Today, the Washington Post, MSNBC, CNN- I witnessed it on our lil ol' local news channel and was besieged by my co-workers next day at work. I hope AP will forgive me for publishing it sans permission.



UERMMMC-MAAA, INC. & AFUSA, INC.
19TH ANNUAL REUNION AND CONVENTION
JW MARRIOTT HOTEL ON PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE
1331 PENNSYLVANIA AVE., N.W. WASHINGTON, DC 20004
TEL. (202) 393-2000 / (800) 228-9290

AUGUST 2 – 5, 2007

Co-Hosted by: UERMMMC-MAAA, INC. – MARVA DC CHAPTER

SOUVENIR PROGRAM ORDER FORM

Print Name or Company (as you would like it to appear in the program): _____

Address: _____ Tel. No. _____
 Fax: _____ Email: _____

- BACK COVER** _____ \$ 1,500.00
 FRONT INSIDE COVER _____ \$ 1,200.00
 BACK INSIDE COVER _____ \$ 1,000.00
 GOLD SPONSOR PAGE LIST _____ \$ 500.00
 SILVER SPONSOR PAGE LIST _____ \$ 250.00
 BRONZE SPONSOR PAGE LIST _____ \$ 100.00
 ANGEL SPONSOR PAGE LIST _____ \$ 50.00
 FULL PAGE AD _____ \$ 200.00
 HALF PAGE AD _____ \$ 100.00
 ONE-FOURTH PAGE AD _____ \$ 75.00

- Enclosed is my camera ready AD/message (please enclose business card).
 Design an AD/message for me (Please add \$25 for art/layout work).

In-Kind Donation of: _____ **Declared Value \$** _____
 * CONTACT DR.PENNY MIRANDA – (818) 762-4169 OR MRS.LISA BANEZ – (818) 366-0710

PAYMENT METHOD: (PLEASE MAIL OR FAX THIS FORM WITH PAYMENT).

* VISA MC Card # _____ Expiration: _____

Print Name: _____ Position _____

Signature: _____ Date Signed: _____
 (As it appears on the card)

*For Check Payment : Make check payable to: **UERMMMC-MAAA, INC.**
C/O DR. ALBERT COO, TREASURER
MARVADC CHAPTER
263 S. PICKETT STREET # 401, ALEXANDRIA, VA
22304

Tel. (H) 703-751-4389/(W)703-823-9570

Your donation may be tax deductible (please consult your accountant).

The UERMMMC-MAAA, Inc. Taxpayer ID # is 52 -1745846.

For more info Dr Ric Flores, Convention Chairman (410) 518-6683 / Email: ricflores@comcast.net

(Note: Convention Information & Forms also available at : [http:// www.uermmarvad.org](http://www.uermmarvad.org))

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION IS JULY 1, 2007



UERMMMC-MAAA, Inc. and Alumni Foundation USA, Inc
19th Annual Reunion and Convention & 50th Year Anniversary
Celebration of the UERM Medical Center

Co-Hosted by : UERMMMC-MAAA, Inc.-MARVA DC CHAPTER
JW Marriott Hotel – 1331 Pennsylvania Ave. NW Washington DC 20004
Tel. (800) 228 -9290 / (202) 393- 2000

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

August 2, 2007 - THURSDAY:

- 7 am – 4:00 pm **Golf Tournament** -----(6 :00 am –Assembly at Hotel Lobby)
 11 am – 5:00 pm **Registration** -----(Capitol Registration Desk – Ball Room Area)
 12 noon – 5 pm **UERMMMC-AFUSA Inc. Meeting** -----(Salon F)
 *The Foundation Meeting is open to the membership. Lunch tickets required.
 10 am – 5:00 pm **EXHIBITS & Alliance Silent Auction** -----(Salon E)
 6 pm - 12:01 am **WELCOME and FELLOWSHIP NIGHT** -----(Salon III & IV Ballroom)
Dinner/Dance & Fun (Dinner tickets required) ATTIRE – Nice Casuals

August 3, 2007 - FRIDAY:

- 7 am - 1:00 pm **LAST DAY OF REGISTRATION** -----(Capitol Registration Desk)
 7 am - 4:00 pm **EXHIBITS & Alliance Silent Auction** -----(Ballroom Foyer & Salon E)
 7 am - 9:00 am **Continental Breakfast (For CME Attendees – tickets required)** ----- (Salon II)
 8 am - 4:30 pm **CME – Category I** -----(Salon II)
 12 noon - 1 pm **Dr. Cuyegkeng Memorial Luncheon** -----(Salon I)
 Guest Speaker Dr Joven Cuanang '62 -"Is the Philippines Ready for Medical Tourism?"
 6 pm– 12:01 am **"JUBILARIANS NITE" Hosted by Class'77** -----(Salon III & IV Ballroom)
 (Celebrating Jubilarians Class '62, '67, '72, '77, & '82)
ALL CLASSES WELCOME (Pre-registration / Reservations Required)
DINNER/DANCE & FUN (Dinner Tickets required)
 ATTIRE: "Roaring 20s"

August 4, 2007 - SATURDAY:

- 7 am- 8:30 am **Continental Breakfast** -----(Salon II)
 8 am-12:01 pm **EXHIBITS and Alliance Auction** -----(Ballroom Foyer & Salon E)
 8 am-11:30 am **GENERAL MEETING** -----(Salon II)
 *ALL Registered Alumni Members requested to attend.
 11 am-12 noon **Medical School Updates & Open Forum - Dean College of Medicine** ----- (Salon II)
 12 noon - 6 pm **Lunch (on your own) / FREE TIME**
 12 05–1:30pm **"Legacy Keepers" Founders Luncheon** ----- (Salon I)
 2 pm - 4:00 pm **UERMMMC-MAAA, Inc. Executive Council Meeting** ----- (Salon F)
 6 pm -12:01 am **GALA DINNER/DANCE** -----(Grand Ballroom ABCD & E)
 Pre-registration Tickets required
 ATTIRE: FORMAL BARONG/ BLACK TIE (Optional)

August 5, 2007 - SUNDAY:

- 9 am-10:00 am **Sunday Mass** -----(Salon G Ballroom)
 12 Noon - **CHECK-OUT TIME (THANKS & God bless your trips!)**
Note: Please plan to attend the 20th Annual Convention & Reunion (July 3-6, 2008) at Marriott San Francisco Hotel – 55 Fourth Street, San Francisco, CA 94103(Group Rate - \$139/night).

For more information : Dr.Susan Suntay'77, National Convention Commissioner:spsuntaymd@gmail.com / (312) 523-6824
 or Dr. Ric Flores '79, Convention Chairman: ricflores@comcast.net / (410) 608 – 4681
 For more convention information go to: [http:// www.uermmarvad.org](http://www.uermmarvad.org)



**UNIVERSITY OF THE EAST RAMON MAGSAYSAY MEMORIAL MEDICAL CENTER
MEDICAL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA, INC.**

Incorporated on September 03, 1991 with Taxpayer I.D. Number: 52-1745846

UERMMMC-MAAA, Inc. and Alumni Foundation USA, Inc.

19th Annual Reunion and Convention

JW Marriott Hotel on Pennsylvania Avenue

1331 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W Washington, DC 20004

Tel: (800) 228-9290 / (202) 393-2000

AUGUST 2 – 5, 2007

Co- Hosted by: The UERMMMC-MAAA, Inc.- MARVA DC CHAPTER

Hotel Reservation: Group Code – UERM Group Rate: \$169/ night (single/double)

Suites at group rate – Contact Dr Susan Suntay (312) 523-6824

Group room rates are honored 2 days before and after the event dates.

Call: 1-(800) 228-9290 / (202) 393-2000

On-Line www.ucruera&app=resvlink then click on convention dates.

Deadline for Hotel Group Rate: July 09, 2007 (No Extension)

REGISTRATION FEES: FULL PACKAGE FEES Includes CME, Registration & Membership Fees, Friday & Sat. Continental Breakfast, Dr. Jose Cuyegkeng Luncheon, Thursday, Friday and Saturday Gala (3)Dinner/Dance.

ALL PRICES ARE PER PERSON (CME + Package Rate). OnSite Registration up to Fri. 8/3/07 at 1 pm ONLY. OnSite Registration Fees – ADD \$100 for each event and category.

POSTMARKED BY: (7/1/07)	July 1/07	After July 1/07	On Site	
Lifetime Members	\$ 725	\$ 775	\$ 875	_____
Regular Members (2007 dues unpaid)	\$ 850	\$ 900	\$ 950	_____
Retired Alumni (65 years or older)	\$ 475	\$ 500	\$ 600	_____
Residents/ Fellows / Non-Practicing Physicians	\$ 475	\$ 500	\$ 600	_____
Philippines Resident Alumni(Passport required)	\$ 350	\$ 350	\$ 350	_____

***Note – All above Full Package Rates can not be altered.**

INDIVIDUAL FEES :

Continental Breakfast per day	\$ 35	\$ 50	\$ 135	_____
Dr Jose Cuyegkeng Luncheon	\$ 65	\$ 90	\$ 165	_____
Thursday or Friday Dinner/Dance	\$ 90 per night	\$ 140	\$ 190	_____
Saturday Gala (Per table of 10 gets \$5 off/person)	\$ 150 per person	\$ 200	\$ 300	_____
CME Certification	\$ 400 per person		\$ 500	_____
Kids Dinners (Under age 11)with Gala + 3 days = \$ 150 / 2 days = \$ 100 / 1 Gala=\$55				_____

ALUMNI MEMBERSHIP FEES :

LIFETIME - One time fee	\$ 500 per person (Optional)	_____
Annual Membership fee	\$ 50 per person (Required)	_____
REGISTRATION FEE	\$ 25 per person (Required)	_____

OPTIONAL FEES :

GOLF Tournament Aug. 2/07 GOLF Tournament (\$150.00)/golfer X _____ \$ _____
Contact: Rene' Suntay (937)631-6923 / Email: rjsuntay1@yahoo.com

GRAND TOTAL - _____

Please return this form with the Registration Form and Payment enclosed.

- Make check payable to: **UERMMMC-MAAA, Inc.**
Mail to: **Irene Igual, M.D.**
P.O. Box 2153, Bedford Park, IL 60499-2153
- For more information call, **Dr.Sonia Rico-Todd**, Executive Director- Tel.(574) 529-1205
Email: sricotodd77@yahoo.com or **Dr. Susan P Suntay**, National Convention Commissioner
Tel (312) 846-7543 or New Cell# (312) 523-6824 / Email: spsuntay@yahoo.com
Dr. Ric Flores, Convention Chairman Tel.# (410) 608-4681 Email: ricflores@comcast.net
- * UERMMMC-MAAA.INC. Taxpayer ID # 52-1745846. Consult with your accountant.
- * More Convention Information & Forms are available at: <http://www.uermmarvadc.org>



UERMMMCA-MAAA, Inc. and Alumni Foundation USA, Inc.

19th Annual Reunion and Convention
JW Marriott on Pennsylvania Avenue
1331 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W Washington, DC 20004
Tel: (800) 228-9290 / (202) 393-2000

AUGUST 2 – 5, 2007

Co-Hosted by : UERMMMCA-MAAA, Inc. –MARVA DC CHAPTER

REGISTRATION & PAYMENT FORM

REGISTRATION – (Early Registration Deadline: July 1, 2007).

ATTENDEE(S) INFORMATION: (Please print with blue or black ink)

Name: _____

Year of Graduation: _____ Last _____ First _____ Middle/Maiden Name _____
 Spouse's Year of Graduation: _____

Spouse's Name: _____ Business/Profession: _____

Home Address: _____ Zip Code: _____

Office Address: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: Daytime - _____ Evening: _____

Fax: _____ Email Address: _____

Specialty: _____ Chapter Membership: _____

Guest (s) and/or Children's Name(s) (for individual events):

GOLF Registration.

Name(s): _____ Handicap: _____

Golf questions? Please contact Rene J. Suntay at Tel. # (973) 631-6923 / Email. rjsuntay1@yahoo.com

PAYMENT METHOD:(For Registration Fees Only. See attached form for ADS & Exhibits payments).

Please make check payable to: UERMMMCA-MAAA, INC.

Mail or Fax this form to: UERMMMCA-MAAA, Inc.

c/o Irene R. Igual, M.D. - Treasurer

P.O. Box 2153, Bedford Park, IL 60499 – 2153

Note: Irene R. Igual, M.D., Treasurer Cell: (562) 569-3250 / Home: (562) 941-3153

Convention Fees Total: _____ Donation Amount : _____ = Grand Total : _____

Circle: Visa / Mastercard # _____ Exp. Date: _____ ID Code: _____

Print Name: _____ Cardholder's Name : _____

Signature: _____ Date Signed: _____

UERMMMCA-MAAA,INC. Taxpayer ID # 52-1745846 Check with your Accountant for your tax deductible donations.

CANCELLATION POLICY: No refunds after July 1, 2007 / (50% refunds for payments up to July 1, 2007 only)

For more information: Dr. Ric Flores, Convention Chairman – Tel.# (410) 608-4681 Email: ricflores@comcast.net

Dr. Sonia Rico-Todd, Exec. Dir.-Tel. # (574)529-1205 Email. srcicotodd77@yahoo.com, and /or

Dr. Susan P Suntay, Nat'l. Convention Commissioner Tel/Fax: (312) 846-7543/ Email: spsuntaymd@gmail.com

For more convention infos & forms go to : <http://www.uermmarvad.org>

MDs to RNs

By Philip S. Chua, M.D.

A remarkable phenomenon in healthcare provider education is going on in Asia today, more notably in the Philippines. Many physicians, dentists, pharmacists, nutritionists, etc. are enrolling in nursing schools to be registered nurses. A number of these doctors of medicine or professionals have been in practice or doing business in the Philippines for sometime. Some of them are medical leaders or educators, consultants, etc. These are not professionals in their 20s or 30s. Some of them are in their 50s and 60s. Obviously, the negative impact of our retarded and still dwindling national economy has pushed them to a corner, forcing them to make some bitter decisions in their career for the sake of the family. Today, the fastest way for them to get out of this dilemma is to take advantage of the severe shortage (126,000 now, expected to get to 500,000 by 2020) in, and demand for, registered nurses in the United States alone.

The extreme personal sacrifices many physicians and other professionals are doing to be able to go to the United States or to other countries expediently to savor the lure of "milk and honey" outside of our own country to save their family are, to me, unfortunate and sad but honorable and admirable. Primary on the mind of these sincerely motivated people is the welfare and future of their family. And what could be a nobler testament of love for the family?

It is not easy to humble oneself and accept a big "demotion" in professional standing that saps the ego. Only a person with a strong character and selfless virtues can do that. After being the leader of the medical pack, many times looked up to as the right hand of God, held in high esteem up there on top on a pedestal, the physician seeking for a better pasture is now at the bottom of the medical rank, taking orders instead of giving them, changing bed sheets and pillow cases, giving patients a bath, emptying and cleaning bed pans, etc., and subordinating himself to lot younger colleagues who could be half their age, medical interns, residents, consultants, who could be less experienced than they are.

It is not easy to humble oneself and accept a big "demotion" in professional standing that saps the ego. Only a person with a strong character and selfless virtues can do that.

Indeed, it is by no means easy on the ego. But when confronted with the harsh reality of life and pushed to the brink, a wise and responsible person, who loves and cares for his family, would tightly hold on even to a knife, if this was the best way to hang on and stay afloat and prevent a deadly plunge that will devastate his entire family.

Some people laugh at these professionals and criticize them for lowering themselves "for the love of the US dollar." Others with greater arrogance and misplaced pride consider it downright shameful or embarrassing. But what is there to be ashamed of, or to be embarrassed about, when you are sacrificing yourself and doing an honest job for your family's survival? This may be the hardest test of selfless love, humility, wisdom and character a person could ever face in his life. And, I say to those who look down upon these professionals that they, the detractors, are the ones who should be ashamed and embarrassed for

their lack of humanity and compassion.

Talangka Mentality

We learned that some universities with school of nursing refusing to admit physicians and other allied health specialists as nursing students, jealous of the lesser known schools of nursing whose graduates are bagging away top places in the nursing board examinations because of this "new breed" of students. This is ludicrous. Every Filipino has the constitutional right to seek any education he/she wishes. No institution can discriminate against anyone or any group of people based on the color of their skin, sex, religion, political inclination or affiliation, status in life or even past education or profession. If these universities are smart, they would welcome all these eligible applicants, and reap the harvest in future board examinations themselves. Filipino crab mentality, worse yet and more appropriately, talangka mentality, does not promote gratifying long term success.

The Exodus of Nurses

For survival of their loved ones, who depend on them, nurses (literally with tears in their eyes) reluctantly immigrate to countries like the United States for a better life. Although they realize the cultural shock and the sometimes hostile new environment that await them, they brave

the storm to provide their family in the Philippines a better future. I wish the conditions were different in our Lupang Hinirang. And I am not giving up hope, but I am not holding my breath, either.

Why the brain drain and mass exodus of nurses? The answer is plain economics, common sense and instinct for survival and success. The average starting salary of nurses in the Philippines is roughly about P 5000-8000 a month, as compared to the starting salary of a nurse in the United States, which ranges between \$1500 (P82,500) to \$2500 (P137,500) a month, at an exchange rate of 55 only. Yes, P82,500 to P137,500 a month, not a year, as compared to P5,000 – P8,000 a month. In less than two years a nurse in America could earn more than a million pesos (minus taxes, of course), literally becoming a millionaire fast. Those with longer tenure or have a Bachelor's degree are paid about twice to three times greater. So, who would not be tempted? Especially those in dire need, those unable to make both ends meet.

If similar opportunities were only available at home, these nurses, and physicians, etc., would obviously prefer to stay home in our beloved native land and practice their art and profession here, instead of leaving their family behind to plow new, strange terrain and uphill fields across the oceans. This is obvious. And so with the painful realities that drive many of our professionals away to foreign lands of opportunities.

Ed. Note, This article was published in the Philippine News Online edition November 15, 2006 and closely ties in with Dr Jacinto's story Dr Chua ia a retired CV surgeon from Indiana, an FEU grad (?), and current chief of the Cebu Heart Institute.

Progress Notes

Dr. **Benjamin Rigor** '62, was honored by the Jewish Hospital and St Mary's Healthcare Caritas Foundation of Louisville, Kentucky for "Excellence in Community Service" during its 11th Annual Doctors' Ball, October 21, 2006. He is the new president of the UERMMMCA Alumni Foundation USA Inc.

Romulo Villanueva, '72, was cited in the December 29, 2006 issue of the Cumberland (Maryland) Times-News for organizing a medical mission to the Calamba District Hospital, November 6-11 2006. He put together a group of surgeons, dentists and other physicians that performed 85 major surgeries and treated 3,250 patients. View the story at: http://www.times-news.com/local/local_story_363092444.html

Celestino Balinghasay, '88 was appointed director of the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Unit at St Joseph's Hospital, Marshfield, Wisconsin. He is an associate director of the Marshfield Clinic, the largest multi-specialty group in the state with over 700 doctors. The website is: http://www.marshfieldclinic.org/patients/pages/default.aspx?page=cat_tails_2005_novdec_newFaces

Dr. **Jose Ramirez**, former Dean and a longtime chairman of the Department of Surgery passed away in late 2006- his acerbic wit and erudition will be missed.

Chapter News

The Northeast Chapter recently elected a new set of officers for 2006-2008, Saturday, Dec. 16, 2006. They are:

President- Amie Malihan ('76): AMalihan@aol.com
 Vice-Pres- Boni Sanchez ('66): Bonsanz@aol.com
 Secretary- Amy Aban-Antonio ('73): depamiroge@aol.com
 Asst. Sec- Jo V Lim ('77): JoVL619@aol.com
 Treasurer- Jun Caguiat ('73) -: LIdanan@aol.com
 Asst Treas- Elsa P Corpuz ('75)

Northern CA also held their elections on Dec.3, 2006: President Clementina Pamintuan-Manio '75

Vice-Pres. Carmelo Roco '80
 Secretary Agnes Alikpala '67
 Treasurer Eva Sylvia Padilla, '86

Other chapter officers with their addresses:

Southern CA Chapter:

President Freddie Dial '67 (fpdial@earthlink.net)
 Secretary Benilda Ramos-de Asis '76
 (uermcalsecretary@aol.com)

Midwest Chapter:

President Greg Carpio '73 (o1rog@hotmail.com)
 Secretary Mary Rosales '79 (mtr@uic.edu)

Michigan Chapter:

President Eli de Leon '73 (erdmd@msn.com)

MarVaDC Chapter:

President Nanette Pasatiempo '82 (apasatie@aol.com)

December Festivities in Manila

Continued from Page 20

who pioneered renal excellence at UERM.

Elections followed, the Chairman was my wedding sponsor, Dr. Rene-Edgar Mendoza. It was quick and over in no time at all. There were 7 nominees, they needed 7 board members. Dr. Andy Borromeo was elected President of the Alumni Association.

Dec. 21st, Thursday, was the grand finale. The EDSA Shangrila Hotel was the venue, beautiful gowns, barongs and black suits were fitting for the night celebrating 50 years of College's existence. The Chairman of the Board Mr. P.O. Domingo was in attendance escorted by the two of the loveliest guests in the person of Atty. Rochelle Dacanay-Galano and Dr. Maribel Co-Hidalgo. Vice Chairman Wilson Young and PAL President Jimmy Bautista and Dr. Conrado Banzon representing the Magsaysay family were present; the whole board was practically there. Dr. Borromeo was inducted as President of the Alumni Association. Dr. Vickie Casibang was present, as was

Dr. Neda Ballon-Reyes, our own association's Vice President and Dr. Estrella Aguinaldo, our Secretary and class 81 member. All are Ilocanos except Henry, the solid North is at the helm.

A dance number by class 2006 was superb by any standard. The band was live, they are better than ours here in America. There was dancing all night, multiple classes were represented, Class '81 have 92 attendees, 21 coming from U.S., and Class '76 had two tables; they were second to class '81 in attendance. It was a night to remember, after all it was golden.

2007 is another year of celebrations. The Medical Center turns 50. The kick off festivities was January 10 and Vice Chairman Wilson Young was the inspirational speaker. Jubilarian Class '62 was given a tour of the hospital by Dr. Borromeo, highlighted by rest and refreshment stops on every floor. The longest stop was on the fourth floor (lotsa huffin and puffin!). Monthly activities are scheduled, everyone is invited, let us show our support to our Alma Mater

December Festivities in Manila

By Edgar Banez, M.D.

It was grand and well attended but most of all memorable. Three days of celebration just before Christmas reminded everyone that the College of Medicine is now 50 years old. There were exhibits, class pictures of yesteryears, some were familiar, others belong to the pages of history book. The hospital is the same, the quadrangle different with new trees growing in the middle. Some old faces, many more are new. Classmates never changed? Professors have come and gone. It was sad, it was exciting. The holiday spirit is in the air, after all it's Christmas.

On Dec. 19th, Tuesday, a bunch of class 81 and their families including me and my family arrived at Ninoy Aquino International Airport at 4:05 in the morning. They all proceeded to their destinations. My brother brought me to Valley Golf and Country Club in Antipolo where they had the fund raising golf tournament. 7am was the tee off time and first off the tee is Dr. Ben Lumicao from Chicago. Of the 50 participants, only Manong Ben and I were U.S. based.

In the evening, at the old gymnasium, a welcome reception

was held. Alumni from the colleges of Medicine, Nursing and Physical Therapy were treated to a sumptuous dinner, dance and song numbers by pretty and young alumni and students from the three colleges. Speeches from the Deans and President were inevitable.

Dec. 20th, Wednesday, started with a mass at the quadrangle officiated by UERM chaplain Reverend Sunny Abraham-Padinjaredath. The mass was followed by the inspirational talk by former UERM Dean and current Medical Director of St Luke's Hospital Dr. Joven Cuanang. A convocation followed where about 70 members of class 81 received Silver Commemorative Medallions. Lunch followed but Dr. Henry Yanez and I went down to the UERM parking lot, where we devoured countless sticks of pork BBQ and Coke light.

The Dr. Potenciano Baccay Memorial lecture followed. This was delivered by Dr. Lynn Almazan-Gomez. The topic was Renal Failure, Early Diagnosis and Management in the Primary Care Setting- so appropriate for the occasion honoring a man

Continued on Page 19

*****AULTO**MIXED AADC 530
SAMUEL & NENA FLOR FIGA MD
P106 TREEHOUSE LN
FLAND TX 75025-7709
0000

Presorted Standard
US Postage
PAID
Permit #1
Marshfield, WI

the Alumni Newsletter
1414 N. Broadway • Marshfield, WI 54449
Email: vernalumnnewsletter@yahoo.com

