

PRESIDENT'S REPORT
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2006-2012 UERMAFUSA

It has been a quiet year for everyone that at times I think I long for the excitement of a previous year, but in a way it is exciting too for me that it would be my last year as president of this illustrious organization,. a very challenging position in the Foundation. As always as the president it is pretty much a routine work for me this last year. After last Convention meeting, the following were done:

- Followed up with the different Standing Committe Chairmen the acknowledgment of their grantees, inquiring whether they have received such documentations on time or not.
- Informed and communicated with the Chairman of the Board about such information and the problems or the difficulties the different committee chairpersons are encountering.
- Asked the different chairperson how to solve such delayed acknowledgment for which the former Chairman of SFAC, Dr. Gotardo, prepared an internet letter of acknowledgement to be sent to all grantees who would then accomplish such form two weeks after the release of funding by the AFUSA treasurer. This internet acknowledgment must be sent, aside from the accomplished long form downloaded from the website, to the concerned standing committee chair and the treasurer.
- It was also unanimously recommended that the AFUSA policy of withholding the next year's grant from those who do not submit acknowledgment on time be enforced.
- Communicated with the AFUSA treasurer about the grants, inquired about status of grant monies, different investments, and the economic health of the Foundation's treasury.
- Communicated with the Chairpersons of the Fund Raising Committee on what their project(s) would be for this year and asked them to emphasize the promotion of the Dr. Wilmer Heceta Fund (formerly 333 Fund) since this is more of a general fund whenever a certain target amount is reached in the future.
- Communicated with the GIK Chairman and Co-chair about the status of the sent machines and requested them to update everyone about any development as to documentations, etc.
- Communicated with Dr. Estherbelle Heceta the Foundation's condolences and made announcements on former Chairman Dr. Wilmer Heceta's death.
- Requested the Chairman of the Board to schedule a teleconference to discuss several topics that needed to be taken up prior to this convention and spoke with him about the topics that must be communicated and emphasized, even reiterated to the officials in the Philippines (UERMMMCI) about the requirements of the New York state agency overseeing 501(c)3's.
- Started making announcements to the members of the Board, officers, as well as Community Volunteers about the upcoming convention, stating the deadline of submission of their reports
- Communicated with Dr. Sam Piga, the Foundation Newsletter about the upgrades and/or changes he is doing for our Foundation websites. Important decision-making were given him with the proviso that the office of the president be advised on major developments concerning the web site.
- Communicated with Dr. Susan Suntay about our needs for this year's meeting, including the details on meals, room and arrangements.
- Communicated several times with the MAAAI president and our Newsletter Editor about the needs of the MAAAI on their Newsletter as well as announcements. All arrangements decided upon between them must be reported to the office of the president.

-Accepted the resignation of one of the Standing Committee chair, accepted also letters from a few BOT of their desire not to run for reelection to give way to new and younger group of Trustees.

-Sent several invitations to Community Volunteers to join the ranks of the BOTs.

-Asked BOTs for their recommendations on who the office of the president would invite to be a BOT.

-Constantly communicated with the Foundation's secretary about agenda and minutes of recent and past meetings. Requested the secretary to write some reports, prepare agenda for the tele-conference and this year's annual conference, send RSVPs for the Heceta Memorial and Annual Meeting and to communicate with the officials from the Philippines regarding their attendance and reports that we needed.

-Communicated and answered a few problematic situation concerning one of our standing committee chair and offered guidance on how to address such problem.

-Drew this year's agenda as well as the Dr. W. Heceta's Memorial Program for lunch, invited several members of the BOT to be part of the program as speaker or otherwise.

-Communicated with Dr. Estherbelle Heceta about this Memorial Programme and informed her also of the FRC's needs that she had given them.

The office of the president has been very busy this year. It never sleeps. It has been very challenging. It would not have been a very successful two terms were it not for the undying support of friends, colleagues, and fellow Board Members, I will not mention their names. They know who they are. And Community Volunteers too. I would also want to thank the Dean of the College of Medicine, Dr. Tan-Reyes for her support and for serving yet another term and working with us. I would like to include here Dr. Borrromeo who is always at hand to offer help to those who have visited the college on behalf of AFUSA. I would be remiss if I will not thank those members of the Board who gave me a hard time when I was elected, I don't have to mention names. Because of them the parson who took the office of the president became a fighter and a tougher officer. I would say that they played a part in my two successful terms of administration. Lastly the two advisers, Dr. Elma and Dr. Castro. Without them I would have given up on the Foundation.

In closing I would like to quote a poem by Edgar Allan Poe:

***Of lofty contemplation left to Time
By buried centuries of pomp and power!
At length- at length- after so many days
Of weary pilgrimage and burning thirst,
(Thirst for the springs of lore that in thee lie,
I kneel, an altered and a humble man,
Amid thy shadows, and so drink within
My very soul thy grandeur, gloom, and glory!***

Thank you.