



# Aesculapius Ex

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Plano, Texas, U.S.A. Newsletter of the UERMMMCM Alumni Foundation USA, Foundation Year XXVI, July, 2007

## Rigor, Casibang are new leaders

### You are all invited to Washington, D.C.!

Less than 30 days remain before UERMMMCM medical alumni gather again at the J.W. Marriott Hotel in Washington D.C. for the 20th annual convention and reunion on August 2 to 4, honoring Classes '82, '77, '72, '67, and '62. So log on to [www.uermmarvadc.org](http://www.uermmarvadc.org) for details and register.

You are also invited to the day-long alumni foundation annual meeting on August 2nd at the same venue. See details at [www.uermafusa.com](http://www.uermafusa.com).

### Dr. Tan-Reyes named 12th dean

Dr. Alfaretta Luisa Tan-Reyes, '73, long serving professor of pharmacology, former Chair of the Department of Pharmacology and former Secretary of the College of Medicine, was appointed in April by the UERMMMCM Board of Trustees as the 12th Dean of the UERMMMCM College of Medicine succeeding classmate Dr. Georgina Tungol-Paredes who completed her three-year term on May 1st.

Dr. Tan-Reyes will be the third UERMMMCM alum to serve  
*Continued on page 7*



Dr. Benjamin Rigor, '62, a distinguished alumnus, Chairman Emeritus of the Department of Anesthesiology, University of Louisville School of Medicine at Kentucky and former president of the UERMMMCM Medical Alumni Association in America, Inc. was elected new Chairman of the Board at the alumni foundation's annual meeting in Las Vegas last August. This will be his first term as a trustee and an officer. He has long served as the foundation's chair of the Recycling for Charity Committee responsible for numerous donations of used or surplus equipment, materials and supplies to the medical center for several years. He brings to the board a wealth of experience in administrative and academic leadership. He is widely expected to add prestige and visibility to the foundation and bolster its fundraising efforts.

The trustees also elected Acting Secretary and Parliamentarian Dr. Isabelita B. Casibang, '71 President, the day-to-day manager of the foundation, the first alumna of UERMMMCM to hold such a position. She brings to the table an impressive background in physician advocacy, public policy and administration having served both with the Maryland State Medical Association and the Southern Medical Association. She has served the medical alumni association and the foundation almost from the time of both organization's inceptions. Her expertise is expected to buttress the alumni foundation's compliance with state and federal regulations and improve the foundation's operations in pursuing its philanthropic programs for UERM.

Re-elected along with them were Drs. Manuel Blas and Renato Raymond both of Class '67 who will be serving their third term. Dr. Samuel Dona, '73 who had served two previous terms in the past was the 5th trustee elected for the new three-year term of 2007-2009. He returns to the board after a two -

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The new officers of the UERMMMCM alumni foundation's Board of Trustees are sworn in at the joint AFUSA, Inc. - MARVADC Chapter Induction on March 3, 2007 at Washington D.C.'s JW Marriott Hotel.

## Rigor . . . Continued from page 1



*Dr. Pasatiempo*

year hiatus. The election of Dr. Ruby Reyes, '78 as new board secretary and Dr. Ana Maria G. Pasatiempo, '81, currently President of the UERMMCMCAA MarVaDC Chapter, as a non-trustee assistant board secretary, completed the reorganization of the Board of Trustees. Ex-officio trustees are the dean of the College of Medicine, president and president-elect of the UERMMCMCAA, Inc.

At the said meeting, the Board also approved the 2007 budget which allocated \$56,700 for the current project programs of the alumni foundation that continues to weigh heavily in favor of scholarships (see Treasurer's Report at [www.uermafusa.com](http://www.uermafusa.com) and [www.guidestar.com](http://www.guidestar.com)). This represents a slight increase over last fiscal year's budget of \$52,784. The body took note of the increased investment revenue of the foundation which now accounts for 48% of income. Forty percent is contribu-

## Ex-Officio Trustees



*Dr. Tan-Reyes*



*Dr. Banez*

ted by individual alumni donors (see donor page at [uermafusa.com](http://uermafusa.com)).

For the first time, the Board approved a bond coverage for the treasurer and liability insurance for trustees/officers.

The next board election will be on August 2nd at the annual meeting.

## Trustees for the 2004-2007 term



*Dr. Gilo*



*Dr. Manlapaz*



*Dr. Miranda*



*Dr. Ong*



*Dr. Reyes*

## Trustees for the 2005-2008 term



*Dr. Baldomero*



*Dr. Gotardo*



*Dr. O'Yek*



*Dr. Puno*



*Dr. Querubin*

## Trustees for the 2006-2009 term



*Dr. Rigor*



*Dr. Casibang*



*Dr. Dona*



*Dr. Blas*



*Dr. Raymundo*

# 2006-2007 budget

## PROJECTS

<b>Student Scholarship Awards</b>	
1. Partial Tuition Grant @ \$500 per recipient 15 awards, 5 for each 2nd, 3rd & 4th year medicine. To be awarded in the 2nd semester.	Total Costs \$ 7,500
2. Academic Excellence @ \$200 per recipient, 30 awards, 10 for each 2nd, 3rd, & 4th year medicine	\$ 6,000
3. Book Scholars @ \$250 per recipient, total of 30 recipients	\$ 7,500
4. Special Honors Award For 20 incoming freshmen with a GWA of 1.8-2.0 & high NMAT score @ \$365 per recipient	\$ 7,300
Management Fees	\$ 200
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>\$28,500</b>

<b>Faculty Development Program</b>	
1. Educational Grants For master's degrees in education	\$ 2,500

2. Travel Grants *	\$1,000
3. Dean Esperanza Lansang Basic Science Award Awarded to the Best Designed & Executed Modules.	\$ 500
4. Dean Joven Cuanang Clinical Science Award Awarded to the Best Designed & Executed Modules	\$ 500
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>\$4,500</b>

<b>Research &amp; Memorial Lectures</b>	
1. Dean Fernando Sanchez Research & Publication Awards	\$ 1,500
2. Romulo P. Guevara Memorial Lecture sponsored by the Department of Pharmacology *New	\$ 500

<b>Community Service Program</b>	
1. Community Service Award Awarded to a student, resident, faculty or department for exemplary community service as recognized by the government, community or the Medical Center	\$ 500

<b>Library</b>	
1. Main Library Donation for purchase of books, journals or other educational materials	\$1,000

<b>Recycling for Charity</b>	
1. Donation-In-Kind (Estimate)	\$5,000

<b>School of Physical Therapy</b>	
1. Scholarship	\$ 100
2. Books	\$ 100
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 200</b>

**Wish List**  
Please refer to the list submitted by Dean

**TOTAL FOR PROJECTS \$41,700**

## OPERATING AND ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

1. Mailing & Stamps	\$ 1,000	7. Office Supplies	\$1,000
2. Preparation of Annual Report	1,000	8. Bank Charges	1,000
3. Foundation Newsletter	2,000	9. Management Fees	1,000
4. Foundation Meeting Expenses	1,000	10. Other Professional Fees	1,000
5. Tax Preparation, New York State	1,000	11. Cash Reserves	5,000
6. Accounting Fee	500	<b>TOTAL O &amp; A EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$15,500</b>

**TOTAL PROPOSED EXPENDITURES FOR 2006-2007: \$57,200**

*Prepared by Bayani B. Elma, M.D., previous Chairman of the Board of Trustees, UERMMMC Alumni Foundation, USA, Inc. on July 12, 2006, approved by the Board at the Annual Meeting on August 4, 2005.*

## 88 alumni feted in golden jubilee festivities

The golden jubilee of the UERMMM reached its climax with two events this month honoring 88 notable medical alumni. Forty-five were given the "most outstanding alumni" award at a convocation at the UE Recto Theatre on Thursday, June 14th while 43 received the "alumni achiever" award at a gala at the Crown Plaza Hotel in the Ortigas Center on Friday, June 15th. Also, nine nursing alumni got the first award while 4 received the latter.

Four posthumous awards for alumni achiever were given to the late Drs. Jorge Peralta, '61, formerly of the Department of Pathology, Potenciano Baccay, Jr., '65, Department of Medicine, Norberto Agcaoili, '70, Department of Surgery, and Eunice Guerrero-Cucueco, '74, former governor of the subprovince of Aurora. The U.S.-based alumni honored were AFUSA trustees Drs. Rigor and Puno (most outstanding alumni), Drs. Querubin and Manlapaz along with Drs. Emmanuel Bravo, Ernesto Chua and Albert Gaw (alumni achievers).

The **most outstanding medical alumni** were: Drs. Regina Abraham, Jonathan Amante, Leonardo Astete, Noe Babilonia, Carmencita Banatin, Gerardo Bayugo, Jerry Bongcawil, Andres Borrromeo, Roemoe Contemplacion, Edgardo Cortez, Joven Cuanang, Muriel Danocop, Miles Francis De La Rosa, Romeo Divinagracia, Eduardo Firmalo, Raquel Fortun, Mayvelyn Gose, Elvira Henares, Parouk Hussin, Reynaldo Lesaca, Reynaldo Lopez, Antonio Ludovice, Gilbert Makabali, Arnel Malaya, Jaime Manila, John Mendoza, Consuelo Obillo, Remigio Olvedo, Jovencio Ordon, Metodio Palaypay, Reginaldo Pamugas,

Georgina Paredes, Randy Puno, Alfareta Tan-Reyes, Jose Albert III, Benjamin Rigor, Antonio Sibulo, Daniel Tan, Eric Tayag, Erlinda Valdellon, and Antonio Villalon.

**Alumni achievers** were: Drs. Lynn Almazan-Gomez, Leonardo Almeda, Antonio Anastacio, Abdias Aquino, Rosalinda Arandia, Eduardo Baltazar, Grace Battad, Josephine Bundoc, Josefina Cardona-Carlos, Primitivo Camayo, Noel Carilo, Albert Chua, Ernie Chua, William Chua, Ludivino de Guzman, Shirley Domingo, Betty Dy-Manacao, Cirilo Galindez, Albert Gaw, Irene Ibanez-Manlapaz, Bernardita Javier, Cecilia Ladines-Llave, Enrique Rodriguez, Linda Luntao-Milan, Floro Madarcos, Amelia Manzano-Manzon, Eric Nagtalon, Christia Padolina, Fidel Payawal, Susan Pelea-Nagtalon, Adrian Pena, Jonas Policarpio, Renato Querubin, Milagros Rabe, Ignacio Rivera, Sonia Rodriguez, Edgardo Salud, Amado San Luis, Rolando Sia, Edeard Tordesillas, Norbert Lingling Uy, Ma. Trinidad Vera, and Juliet Ver-Bareng.

## Professor Emeritus for Valdellon and Lopez

Former Dean Dr. Erlinda Valdellon, '63, of the Department of Medicine and Dr. Wilberto Lopez of the Department of Pediatrics were honored with the title of *Professor Emeritus* during the College of Medicine's opening ceremonies for the new academic year on Monday, June 4, 2007 at the gym. In an email response to the editor Dr. Valdellon said "It felt so nice to be given such an honor which I accepted wholeheartedly in behalf of the faculty, administration and the students who have supported me all these years! Many thanks to everybody."

## Rigor given humanitarian award

UERMMMCAFUSA, Inc. Chairman Dr. Benjamin Rigor was honored with the "Humanitarian Award of Excellence" by the Jewish and

Caritas Foundation of Louisville, Kentucky during its Doctors' Ball last October for his many years of work with the needy of the Louisville and Southern Indiana metropolitan areas.

## Northeast Chapter holds Copacabana fundraiser

The alumni association's Northeast Chapter led by Dr. Amy Malihan, '76, held a successful fundraiser celebrating the formation of its charitable arm UERM Medical Foundation, Inc., a 501 C (3) corporation, with a Copacabana outing last Saturday, April 28th. The event's proceeds have been earmarked for the chapter's surgical mission to the Philippines in February, 2008.

## MARVADC Chapter establishes travel grants for young grads

The alumni association's MarVaDC Chapter in early May announced a travel grant of \$500 for each of two young alumni graduates to make a brief presentation in his or her area of specialization at the alumni association's annual convention. The chapter's program is in line with its new charter as a 501 C(3) organization. Those interested in this program please visit the chapter's website [www.uermmarvadc.org](http://www.uermmarvadc.org) or contact Dr. Nathalie Bernabe-Quion ([natberg@gmail.com](mailto:natberg@gmail.com)), Chair of the Young Alumni Outreach Committee for details and for application.

## Alumni homecoming changed to February

The UERMMM Alumni Association (Philippines) through its President Dr. Andres Borrromeo, '73 announced in March that effective 2009, the Annual Alumni Homecoming Celebrations of the College of Medicine will be held in the first weekend of February.

*Continued next page*

For 2007 and 2008, the homecoming will be held in December. Class '83 will be the last to celebrate its silver jubilee in December in 2008 and Class '84 the first to observe it in February, 2009. All jubilarian classes (25th, 30th, 35th, 40th, 45th etc.) are advised to coordinate their schedules with the Philippine organization. The general schedule is: Thursday (sports, fellowship night), Friday (CME), and Saturday (gala). For further inquiries, please contact Dr. Borromeo at [aborromeomd@yahoo.com](mailto:aborromeomd@yahoo.com).

### Dr. Alikpala passes away

Dr. Simona Alikpala, former Chair of the Department of Pediatrics passed away last month. The news reached *Aesculapius Ex* through UERMMCMAAA President Dr. Ed Banez' open letter of condolence to Dr. Agnes Alikpala, '67, the late Dr. Alikpala's niece. In the same communique, Banez eulogized her as "one of the pillars of the College of Medicine" and "forever our hero" as he expressed the gratitude of all alumni: "Thank you Dr. Simona Alikpala for being a part of our lives."

### Drug Assistance Program implementation mullied

The alumni association through President-Elect Dr. Irene I. Manlapaz informed *Aesculapius Ex* last April that the association's signature fundraising project, the Drug Assistance Program, is almost ready for implementation pending final approval of the Memorandum of Agreement being worked out among the medical center, AFUSA and itself. Since the program's fund campaign began at the New York convention in 2003, the association has raised more than \$200,000 toward its goal of \$300,000.

Manlapaz, then its executive director, and former President Dr. Joseph Rastrollo envisioned DAP as both a public service and an educational program. It will provide supplemental funding for certain diagnostic tests, drugs and other medical expenses to be specified for charity patients at UERMMC's teaching hospital. Currently, medical student tuition fees and the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes pay most of the said patients' hospital expenses. The rest comes from whatever these patients can afford. The program hopes to increase the number of patients or so-called "clinical materials" in the charity floors to give medical students wider clinical experience and improve their performance in the Philippine board exams.

Details of the program will be published when final documents are approved by the above parties.

## What students say about their education



My wife and I sat down with 13 alumni scholars during our visit to UERM for the launch of [uermajusa.com](http://uermajusa.com) on July 5th together with Dean Reyes, College Secretary Brizuela, Surgery Department Head Dr. Borromeo and learned certain things that we hope will give us all a better insight into their needs.

*Aesculapius Ex (AE)*: Are you getting your money's worth at UERM? Answer: 12 out of 13 said yes.

*AE*: Is your particular alumni scholarship support sufficient? Answer: 11 out of 13 said they need more. One scholar wished for an emergency assistance fund that could be tapped in times of family emergencies.

*AE*: Are there things you want changed in your academic situation? Answers:

*"There is too much manual work like patient monitoring and not enough teaching in the wards . . . Consultants do not make rounds," said a junior intern.*

*"We have more than enough patients to work on but not enough study time," added another.*

*"Consultants do not make the time to teach us in patient-doctor," said a third year.*

*"PBL worked for us," said a junior. "Transition to traditional curriculum is the best of both worlds," added another.*

*"Dehumanizing remarks by a consultant bother me!" said another.*



# Thy Will Be Done

By Georgina Tungol-Paredes, M.D., M.P.H.  
Dean, UERMMMC College of Medicine  
January 1, 2004 to April 30, 2007



Time had passed so quickly. Three and one third years of deanship days have passed with about the equal number of gray hairs developed over these memorable times. Now, the good old carefree days are back. I look at my schedule for the day devoid of activities except for the usual routine.

I kept wondering about the story of this deanship. As I reflect on this, I couldn't help but praise the Almighty or such a wonderful gift. As I have related to my close associates, my only ambition in the academe was to become the head of a department. After my six-year stint as one, I got back to being a regular faculty and was looking forward to early retirement, adventure and travel world-wide together with my hubby.

Bit was it destiny that brought me to the deanship? And as a bonus it came at the most opportune time in the College of Medicine. Within my tenure came the golden jubilee years of the college in 2006 and that of the UERMMMC in 2007.

Not everyone is given the opportunity to hold the most coveted position of being the dean of the College of Medicine. And this means being dean of a prestigious school at that, my own *Alma Mater*. It was truly a blessing from above, a gift which I did not ask for. So who was I to reject His will? So I prayed to the Lord and reaffirmed that "Thy will be done!"

The last three and one third years were filled with surprises, challenges, and hard work. One could not imagine how heavily I sought guidance from mentors and most especially from above and from my favorite saint, St. Anthony, who have never failed to lend a hand in all endeavors.

Barely a few days after my assumption in office came the preparations for the Philippine Accrediting Association of Schools, Colleges and Universities (PAASCU) accreditation. Report and all exhibits had to be submitted within two weeks. Though a committee worked on this project, it did not happen without exerting

pressure and a seemingly lifetime stress on me. The PAASCU team came to visit the following month. Immediately after it came the preparations for the 2004 commencement, the general faculty meeting, year-end workshops and preparations for the coming school year, freshmen selection, the board review course which nobody wanted to handle, numerous opening remarks and obligatory attendance in all college activities, memorial lectures, symposia, and the endless responsibilities that followed one after another. In due time, heavy work became a routine. But we survived!

The first happy surprise was the August 2004 Physician Licensure exam topnotcher followed by other graduates garnering top twenty places in subsequent exams. These after a dry spell of the previous twenty years in our school's history! Then came the depressing events: unabated decline in the passing rate and the inevitable revamp of the curriculum. One could not imagine our anxiety in designing and implementing a new curriculum within a very short time. Modules were enhanced but were eventually replaced with discipline-based teaching. But we survived this again!

The drastic decline in the college enrollment became another problem. It meant being picked upon as inferior to the earnings of the College of Nursing whose enrollment rose exponentially. But in spite of this, the college managed to stay on the positive side barring salary increases for the faculty and rising operating costs.

Alternately came the sad and happy days to our relief. Glad tidings concerning the prospect of admitting Indian students which meant more revenues followed. But then we had to design another curriculum for this group. Thus was born the Bachelor of Medicine/Bachelor of Surgery

program in the college. Again, we survived this ordeal. Its implementation is another challenge that must be hurdled.

Fifty years of existence is a milestone that cannot be disregarded. So preparations and the difficult task of

The UERMMMC College of Medicine is now accepting applications for the first year class of the academic year 2008-2009 starting in June, 2008. Please contact the college as soon as possible for more information at 011-632-3315 or [www.uerm.ph](http://www.uerm.ph). Applications must be completed by January 15, 2008. In addition to academic and documentary requirements, applicants must take the NMAT (National Medical Admission Test) administered in Manila and Chicago. Foreign students are encouraged to apply early. The names of accepted applicants will be posted at the above website as they become available.

fundraising were upon shoulders again. Activities were held successfully from January, 2006 to December along with the medical alumni homecoming celebrations. To relive these memories, we published the Golden Jubilee Yearbook. All these we survived but not without problems and unforeseen shortcomings.

All along, a windfall from local and US-based alumni was experienced. Close to three million pesos a year were channeled to the college for various projects. New scholarship grants were opened, faculty development projects and resource acquisition supported. These are but a few of the recipients of donations from the UERMMMCA Alumni Association and Foundation in the U.S.A. On the whole, the college's relationship with both local and US-based alumni was strengthened and made more transparent.

Just as we started this deanship in 2004 with the successful PAASCU Level 2 accreditation, we close this term in 2007 with the same but longer PAASCU re-accreditation which will be effective for 5 years. We are very proud to be the first and only private medical school in the Philippines to be given the Federation of accrediting Associations of the Philippines (FAAP) and PAASCU Level 2 re-accreditation!

Indeed, three school years have passed. During this period, the first alumnus commencement speaker came to delight and inspire our 2005 graduates. We have institutionalized clinical clerkship with affiliated hospitals abroad. Curricular reforms were made to strengthen the problem-based learning approach the best feature of which is now incorporated in the new eclectic curriculum. Many more events and challenges transpired during these years, successfully hurdled because of the support of the students, the dean's and various working committees, coordinators, faculty and support staff, the administration especially from President Romeo Divinagracia and Chairman P.O. Domingo, and above all, the industrious and brilliant College Secretary Dr. Milagros B. Rabe.

The alumni groups here and abroad including members of Medicine Batch 1973, though not in the forefront, cannot be missed because they were behind in all the projects and activities, in spirit, financially and personally.

On a very personal note, I wish to acknowledge the support of my husband, Buddy, for the love he always extended and the numerous household responsibilities he assumed during these years, my children who have patiently waited for me to be "free again," my daughter Pam who gave me a special encouragement, my bosom friend Chit's long inspiring and therapeutic long distance calls, and to my parents who molded me to be what I am today.

Lastly, I extend my gratitude to you all for giving me the opportunity to serve my *Alma Mater*. I thank the Lord for His will has been done indeed!

## Dr. Tan-Reyes named 12th dean



*Continued from page 1*

as dean and the third from the basic science faculty in the last 10 years in such capacity.

In response to an email interview with the editor, Tan-Reyes graciously said "I am most thankful to all alumni local and abroad who have supported their *Alma Mater* and continue to do so in all endeavors. I hope they will continue in uplifting the College of Medicine in whatever way they can. Let us all put our acts together in an orchestrated effort to make UERM great again. Warm regards to all alumni!"

Upon taking over from former Dean Paredes on May 2nd, Dean Tan-Reyes has put on a hectic pace preparing the College of Medicine for the new school year opening on June 3, 2007. Her biggest task, she said, is the implementation of the "new" curriculum which has evolved into two parallel programs, one for Filipino and other overseas students, another for Indian students. The college reverted to a discipline-based curriculum from a problem-based one last year in what the Center's trustees hoped to improve the passing rate of UERM graduates in the physician licensure exams. PBL graduates' (Class 2002-2006) passing rate has ranged from 55% to 65%.

Tan-Reyes also reorganized the different college committees in response to the above challenges naming Drs. Gabriel Martinez, former chair of the Department of Surgery, in charge of the Curriculum Committee, Andres Borrromeo, current Department of Surgery head, the Faculty Development Committee, and Dr. Norie Balderrama as head of both the Medical Education Unit and its Training Committee. She appointed Dr. Grace Brizuela as the new College Secretary.

The Dean plans to build on the scholarship initiative of former Dean Paredes and enhance faculty development. She said "I would like to request from alumni more scholarships for students" as "I don't want to limit the SHA (Special Honors Awards) to graduates of UP, UST, DLSU, ADMU only because graduates of other schools are just as good." She feels that "we are losing these potential applicants to other schools." Dr. Borrromeo, in an overseas call to the editor in May, said that with alumni support, his committee's program aims to "produce the next Cuyegkeng, Icayan, or Tantengco." Dr. Reyes told the editor earlier this month that "my aim in accepting this job is to train the next academic leaders" of the UERMMMCA.

# Interim Board Resolutions

## Scholarship Committee Expanded

A resolution adding financial aid to the mandate of the Scholarship Committee was approved by the Board of Trustees in an online special meeting in May, 2007. The measure which passed by a 13-0-0 vote (aye-nay-abstain) would provide financial assistance to needy medical students who do not otherwise qualify for the alumni foundation's current scholarship program but recommended by the College of Medicine's Committee on Scholarship for such aid and have available donors.

The board action was taken in the wake of some cases where a medical student suddenly loses his or her current financial support and is in danger of not being able to continue his or her studies. It also provides a tax-advantaged way for a donor (s) to come to such a student's assistance. In an earlier special situation, the board was able to come to the financial rescue of a medical student with exactly the above problem through the generous response of a few alumni donors.

Henceforth, the said committee will be known as the Committee on Scholarship & Financial Aid.

## Special Scholarship Grant

In a precedent case of a medical student suddenly needing financial assistance referred to above, the Board on May 23, 2007 approved by a 7-3 online vote a special scholarship grant to Ms. Jacqueline Flores Barredo. The emergency expenditure was underwritten by alumni, mostly foundation trustees. Ms. Barredo made her plea for alumni help by email.

## Student Survey Request Denied

The Board of Trustees in January, 2007 at its first online meeting presided by new Chairman Dr. Benjamin Rigor turned down a measure giving funding to Dr. Grace Brizuela of the Department of Physiology, now the newly appointed Secretary of the College of Medicine, to track students and graduates of the college. The \$20,000 request was made shortly after the last annual meeting but had not been brought up for decision until earlier this year.

Dr. Rigor has put the issue for board reconsideration at the annual meeting on August 2, 2007 (see agenda for 2007 annual meeting at [www.uermafusa.com](http://www.uermafusa.com)).

## Election Notice

There are 5 seats in the Board of Trustees that are up for election on Thursday, August 2, 2007. Those interested in running must have attended at least one foundation meeting and submit their letters of intent and resumes to the President, Dr. Isabelita B. Casibang, 6303 West Vein Rd., Bowie, MD 20720 or email [Ibcasibang@aol.com](mailto:Ibcasibang@aol.com) before then.

## Website Primer

The [uermafusa.com](http://uermafusa.com) website consists of 8 pages (home, about us, reports, programs, news/links, donations, campus, and contact us). Each page when highlighted by the mouse brings up sections for the visitor to choose from. When a section is clicked, a page or pages will open up for browsing. Read through posted directions along the way for easy navigation.

You must have an Acrobat Reader to be able to read some reports and newsletters. You can download any material as you wish. You are encouraged to make donations online either by bank draft or credit card of your choice through the site's secure system.

When applying for a funding request, please use the forms from the program page, fill out properly and then submit with the necessary documents or supporting papers to the Secretary by email attachment, regular mail or courier service. You will then be similarly notified of the Board's action. If you receive funding, you will be asked to fill out an acknowledgement of the fund and, later, an evaluation form at the conclusion of your project.

We hope you have a pleasant visit and thank you for your support!

## Aesculapius Ex

Publication of the UERMMMC Alumni Foundation USA, Inc.  
published once a year online at [www.uermafusa.com](http://www.uermafusa.com)

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# Winning in the Future

by El B. Castro, M.D.  
Chairman Emeritus

The future will be different because rapid changes, increasing complexities of life and regulations, and stiff competition. The UERMMM ALUMNI FOUNDATION must promptly prepare and adopt to overcome obstacles not only to survive but to succeed in its mission, goals and objectives. WE MUST HAVE A SHARED RESPONSIBILITY IN THIS ENDEAVOR.

## WE HAVE SHARED RESPONSIBILITY TO DONORS AND PUBLIC

As a public non-profit organization we must put our donors and the public first. To provide superior advice, service and programs, we must always act with the highest level of integrity.

We have to align our activities with the Foundation's mission, goals and objectives. Activities must be congruent with the fiduciary and legal requirements of the government and watchdog agencies.

We have to deepen our relationship with the donors and public by listening and then aligning our goals with their objectives and aspirations.

## WE HAVE A SHARED RESPONSIBILITY WITH EACH OTHER

A public 501©3 organization like the UERMMM AFUSA should be governed by a group of dedicated people and not by a single individual regardless of title (s) in the organization.

We must accept diversity in knowledge and opinion. We must treat our teammates with respect.

We must provide the best opportunity for each member of the organization to realize his or her potential.

We should help each other develop a culture that values long term view, harnesses changes, takes risk, embraces mutual accountability and practices patience.

We must help each other make the organization succeed in its mission. By learning, innovation and teamwork, we can develop the best management practices.

We must deliver as a team but to do this we must have commitment and dedication.

## WE HAVE A SHARED RESPONSIBILITY TO THE ORGANIZATION

We must put the Foundation's long-term interest and survival ahead of short term ones.

We must provide superior results for the public, donors and the community we serve consistent with our fiduciary responsibilities.

We must take active roles in the Foundation in order to make it efficient and effective in its service to those in need.

We must learn the process and grow maturely. The power of growth is multiplied when executed by teams. Hence everyone must learn to conceptualize the future to make the organization grow successfully.

We must develop leaders who love learning, have a passion for building teams and a desire to grow and succeed.

We must honor those who came before us and leave a legacy for those who will come after us.

## WE HAVE A SHARED RESPONSIBILITY TO DEVELOP AS LEADERS

There is no organization without leaders. Successful organizations always have dynamic leaders. Regulations require everyone in the non-profit organization to learn to be leaders. Regulations require careful analysis of the organization before joining, orientation and continuing leadership training.

How does a leader fulfill his duty of obedience, care and loyalty? Is it enough to just understand its meaning? How does a leader know when he has reached his potential? The following has been a guide for many years ago:

### LEADERSHIP CHARACTERISTICS

- ❑ Character and Competence: Include moral character and background recorded in a curriculum vita. This will be the documentation in case of any legal challenges to the integrity and capacity of governance. *The DONOR BILL OF RIGHTS states: " Donors have the right to be informed of the identity of those serving on the organization's governing board, and to expect the board to exercise prudent judgment in its stewardship responsibilities."*
- ❑ Constitution, By-Laws and Regulations: A leader must be knowledgeable and aware of his/her fiduciary responsibilities. Otherwise, there will be chaos if the focus is on personality rather than organizational mission and objectives. It would be prudent for all officers, trustees, and committee members to study the pamphlet from the State of New York Attorney General Office titled: "RIGHT FROM THE START: Guidelines for Not-For-Profit Board Members."
- ❑ Concern and Caring: Concern focuses on achieving the goals of the Foundation. The caring is for the needs of the Medical Center, the communities and our fellowmen that the Foundation serves. *It is not concern and caring for our own personal honor and recognition. It is the individual sacrifice for the charitable purpose of the Foundation.*
- ❑ Commitment and Consciousness: Enthusiasm does not accomplish anything. What is important is the commitment to initiate and the consciousness to finish the project that results in an enduring achievement.
- ❑ Clarity and Continuing Quality Improvement: Clarity of our responsibility and continuous improvement are requisites for attaining our vision. The "vision of excellence" and "continuing quality improvement" are a journey not a destination.
- ❑ Communication Skills and Computer Literacy: Verbal and writing skills are important. Computer literacy and use of best available technology are important in managing charitable organizations. Generated records are easily accessible for review and evaluation. These will greatly enhance Board of Trustee decision-making.
- ❑ Cooperation: One person alone cannot accomplish the goals and objectives of the Foundation. All who participate in the endeavors of the Foundation must possess the spirit of cooperation and teamwork. It is in working together that we accomplish our purposes.
- ❑ Courage and Charity: There is a need for courage to go on despite adversities and difficulties. Above all one must possess charity. Success, happiness, and sense of accomplishment are not attained unless there is love.

# Dean Tan-Reyes' First Wish List

(Dean Alfareta Tan-Reyes submitted the following requests in time for the annual meeting and alumni reunion. These projects cost about \$74,774, \$42,800 (57%) of which will be for scholarships, \$27,250 (36%) for faculty development, the rest for skills laboratory. Noteworthy is its emphasis on faculty development (teacher training, seminars, meetings and scholarships). In student scholarship, she is establishing a new category called "Clinical Honor Roll" which she described to the editor as complimentary to the academic excellence award that has been the alumni foundation's signature scholarship program since its inception. She hopes that this will encourage students to better integrate their scientific knowledge with the art of medicine. Format has been edited. Editor)

## Office of the Dean

### SPECIAL PROJECTS

#### I. Programs to Strengthen the Faculty

During the recent Strategic Planning which the Dean's Office participated in, it was forwarded that programs to strengthen the capabilities of the students and the faculty will be prioritized. As such several workshops, seminars, symposia are in order. Though budget for most of this projects will be requested from the College of Medicine Funds, it cannot be denied that this will be competing with all the other priorities of the Center. The following projects are, therefore, being forwarded to the US Alumni Foundation for Funding consideration:

- Teacher Training Certificate Program for **New** Faculty; requirement for regularization (Total Budget for 5-day module, 40 participants = **\$1900**)
- Teacher Training Refresher Courses for **Old** Faculty (\$600/seminar \* 3 seminars for '07-08 Total Budget = **\$1,800**)
- Board and Lodging allowance for a Faculty Training Abroad (\$ 1000/mo allowance on a 6-month long program = **\$6,000**)
- 3 Day live out seminar/workshop on Self-Awareness for Faculty, **First** Batch October 2007 (Estimated Expense = \$6,650 for 20 participants inclusive of venue, food, and speaker's honorarium; requesting for at least 50% funding = **\$3,325**)
- 3 Day live out seminar/workshop on Self-Awareness for Faculty, **Second** Batch April 2008 (Estimated Expense = \$6,650 for 20 participants inclusive of venue, food, and speaker's honorarium; requesting for at least 50% funding = **\$3,325**)



Dean Alfareta Tan-Reyes (center) with College Secretary Dr. Grace Brizuela, the Editor, Dr. Andy Borromeo, student leaders and faculty at the *uermafusa.com* launch.

- Scholarship grant for a Faculty in Biochemistry for a PhD degree in Education Pls. see wish list of Department of Biochemistry (Amount requested = **\$6,000**)

#### II. Scholarships for Students

Total of **\$ 42,800** for various scholarships (Please see attached sheet for schedule)

#### III. Replacement of Educational Materials and Equipments at the Skills Laboratory

Total of **\$ 4,724** for various equipments. (Please see attached sheet)

#### IV. Travel Grants for Faculty

- A Faculty from the Department of Preventive and Community Medicine will be attending an Expert Meeting on Dengue Vector Targeted Intervention in La Havana Cuba on August 9-11, 2007 to present our Institution's very own research output in this Multicenter Study on Dengue Vectors. She will be representing not just UERM College of Medicine, but the country as well, as this meeting will be participated in by Institutions from 7 other countries (Venezuela, Myanmar, Mexico, Peru, Kenya, and Thailand). The objective of this Expert meeting is to collectively analyze results of each participating country to be able to come up with policies for effective Dengue Vector control. **Travel expenses is estimated at \$2,900.**
- Travel Assistance to 4 Faculty members who will participate in the Pacific Aids Education And Training Center (PAETC) at the USC in Los Angeles on October 15-26, 2007 (**Additional Grant of \$2,000**. Initial approved grant from the US Alumni of \$2000 is being requested for fund release)



*Dean Dr. Tan-Reyes, College Secretary Dr. Grace Brizuela, and Chief Surgeon Dr. Andres Borromeo with the alumni gold and silver scholars (not in order): Ivy Elline Afos, Leonides Bermejo, Ela Barcelon, Maria Claudia Chavez, Rozelle de Leon, Jason Ligot, Kenny Tablizo, Roberta Eimile de Joya, Gregggy Panga, Angela Beatriz Cruz, Christine Diane Nadal, Melanie Estolas, and Mildeanna de Guzman.*

UERMMMM COLLEGE OF MEDICINE  
Committee on Scholarship and Academic Honors

May 5, 2007

Dr. Carlos Gotardo  
Chairman, Scholarship Committee  
UERMMMM Alumni Foundation USA, Inc.

Dear Dr. Gotardo,

The Committee on Scholarship and Academic Honors is pleased to recommend the following **Incoming Fourth year, Third Year and Second Year Students** of School Year 2007 – 2008 through the **UERMMMM Medical Alumni Foundation of America, Inc.** Partial Scholarship grant (\$500), Book Scholarship grant (\$250), Aesculapius (Gold) Scholarship and Hippocrates (Silver) Scholarship

**A. Partial Scholarship Grant only (\$500)**

***Incoming 4th year (Junior Intern)***

1. Canlas, Sarrie Joyce C
2. Ching, Sheila
3. Torres, Donnie Rose SJ

***Incoming 3rd year***

- |                             |                                |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. De la Cruz, Milette P.   | 4. Pelayo, May Angela M.       |
| 2. Obmaces, Aileen Marie P. | 5. Sapinoso, Frances Alexandra |
| 3. Ortañez, Clive Kevin     | 6. Sodusta, Joyce P.           |

***Incoming 2nd Year***

1. Brioso, Karen Joy O.
2. Bruan, Martha Joy M.

**B. Book Scholarship only (\$250)**

***Incoming 3rd year***

- |                                       |                                |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. Carluen, Isabel F.                 | 8. Emar, Philene Luci G.       |
| 2. Castillo, Jennifer Anne            | 9. Garcia, Gwenalyn Gail C.    |
| 3. Darosan, Kristine                  | 10. King, Kathleen P.          |
| 4. De Asis, KevinR.                   | 11. Lorenzo, Cristina Maria S. |
| 5. De la Peña, Pamela – Di T.         | 12. Mosanto, Catherine A.      |
| 6. Del Carmen, Ma. Cecilia Corazon S. | 13. Segundo, Ronald B.         |
| 7. Diño – Lim, Mariejelle P.          | 14. Zantua, Jonathan Clark     |

***Incoming 2nd year***

1. Morales, Lerrylle P.
2. Posos, Roselle F

**C. Book Scholarship + Partial Scholarship grant (total = \$750.00)**

***Incoming 2nd year***

1. Olarte, Patricia

We are also pleased to recommend the following qualified students for the Dean's Scholarship of Gold (\$2k) and Silver (\$1k) from the **UERMMMM Medical Alumni Associations of America, Inc., Midwest Chapter, New York, New Jersey Chapter, Class 1972, Class 1973 and Dr. Miranda – Caturay Grants:**

**D. Gold Scholarship (\$2k)**

***Incoming 4th year***

1. Bermejo, Leonides D

***Incoming 3rd Year***

1. De Joya, Roberta Eimille
2. Panga, Gregggy

***Incoming 2nd Year***

1. Barcelon, Ela
2. Cruz, Angela Beatriz

**E. Silver Scholarship (\$1k)**

***Incoming 4th year***

1. Afos, Ivy Elline S.
2. Estolas, Melanie

***Incoming 3rd Year***

1. Bolante, Bryan
2. Ligot, Jason Triton D
3. Pepito, Donna L ea
4. Tablizo, Kenny

***Incoming 2nd year***

1. De Leon, Roselle
2. Nadal, Christine
3. Chavez, Ma. Claudia

The Incoming Second Year Gold and Silver Scholarship Awards are being recommended for the second semester of School Year 2007-2008.

F. The Committee on Scholarship and Academic Honors is pleased to recommend the following Incoming Second Year Students of School Year 2007-2008 through the UERMMMM Alumni Foundation USA, Inc. Book Scholarship grant (\$250). They are recipients of the Special Honors Award for School Year 2006-2007 and have maintained their Academic Excellence.

1. Esguerra, Denise Francesca C.
2. Or, Rosemaylin L.

Sincerely yours,

Lily L. Sia Vargas, MD  
Chair



Editorial

The priorities we face

Now that we have settled in under our new leadership, let us take stock of where we are and which way we are going.

First, the legitimacy of the foundation has been confirmed, maintained and strengthened by consistent compliance with the law.

Second, its financial operation has been streamlined with the computerization of all records, launching of this website, lockbox depository system, and acceptance of credit or debit card and bank draft system of donation.

Third, the strong commitment, dedication and hard work of officers and trustees past and present have attracted more donations from supporters.

As a result, our alumni through the foundation have increased their support of existing projects and responded generously to new ones.

As new Dean Dr. Alfaretta Tan-Reyes takes the helm of the College of Medicine, we must now also work with her to set well-thought out priorities to support.

tra of her stewardship is the training of a stable of high caliber medical educators and basic science professors.

Let us explore projects that will increase clinical instructions for students in the wards especially junior interns.

Also, let us help the 45% of our new graduates who cannot pass the board exams on their first try. Let us work with the new dean to find some effective solutions to their predicament.

We now have the organizational know-how and surging alumni support to tackle these. We can do it! Let's do it!

UERMMMMC ALUMNI FOUNDATION USA, INC.

(A non-profit charitable, 501 C 3 tax-exempt corporation, Tax I.D. No. 13-3119113)

All gifts are tax-deductible.

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I pledge a gift of \$ which will be paid on dates: #1 #2 #3 Enclosed is my check for: \$100 \$75 \$50 \$30 \$ (other) payable to: UERMMMMC

Alumni Foundation USA, Inc. Or donate online at www.uermafusa.com, Or:

Charge the amount of \$ to my VISA/MASTERCARD # Expiration Date

Signature as shown on the credit card

My gift will be used for:

- Scholarship Award Faculty/Best Teacher Award Residency Award Publication/Research Award Community Service Award Conference Workshop Basic Skills Laboratory Endowment Fund Library Wish List Indigent Fund Other

The gift is in honor or in remembrance of: THANK YOU FOR YOUR GIFT!

Please mail this form and your check to Elmer Gilo, M.D., 2 Deer Run, Sparta, NJ 07871. (973) 729-7967, egilo@earthlink.net