



Aesculapius Ex

46th commencement on April 28th at PICC, Puno to address grads
Story on page 13

Plano, Texas, U.S.A.

Newsmagazine of the UERMMMC Alumni Foundation USA, Inc.

Foundation Year XXIV, March, 2005

UERM nos. 9, 10, 14 and 20 in boards!



Annual meeting participants listen to an array of speakers on August 4, 2004

1st joint association-foundation meeting adopts reforms

The alumni foundation and the alumni association held their first formal joint business meeting during the 16th convention and reunion on August 4, 2004 at the Downtown Marriott Hotel in Chicago. Led by their respective leaders, Drs. Bayani Elma, chairman, and Conrado Miranda IV, president of the foundation and Joseph Rastrollo, outgoing president of the association, the twin alumni bodies clarified each other's role vis-à-vis fundraising, donations, co-sponsorship of chapter and reunion activities.

The groups also formalized 4 important collaborative policy moves which would improve their operations and management such

as: 1) attainment of permanent tax-exempt status for the foundation in the states of New York, Illinois, and Texas, all sites of past and future conventions; 2) acceptance of Mastercard and Visa credit cards which will provide alumni and donors with a convenient way to pay their membership dues, registration fees, and donations or pledges; 3) approval of a lockbox system for each organization to collect and deposit funds through Lakeside Bank in Chicago, a move that would provide a permanent address and ensure security, accessibility and transparency in the handling of money; and 4) the involvement of a financial or investment adviser in the

both non-profit entities using the expertise of H & R Block.

These were initiated by the association's Vice-President Susan Perez-Suntay, Executive Director Irene Ibanez-Manlapaz with authorizations from Drs. Rastrollo, Miranda, and incoming alumni president Dr. Manny Blas.

Also at the meeting's morning session, a new fund campaign using whole life insurance for charitable giving was launched. The plan to be handled by Farmers Insurance called for a donor to buy a whole life policy making the foundation its beneficiary in which the premium, now treated as a gift

Continued on page 3

Class '03 scores 72% passing

Proving that class valedictorian Karen Nielsen's (last August board's top-notcher) feat was not a fluke, the UERMMMC Class 2003 February examinees scored a 72% passing and landed 4 in the top 20, up from August's 56%.



Dr. Nielsen

They were among the 1,084 out of 1,990 (54%) successful candidates who hurdled the week-long physician licensure exams given in Manila and Cebu last month. Results were published in major dailies in the country and their online editions on February 23.

In a news flash to *Aesculapius Ex* from her office on February 28, Dean Georgina T. Paredes announced that the school's bets grabbed the 9th, 10th, 14th, and 20th spots in the honor roll. They are, in the order of their respective rankings: Drs. Michael Arden Gimez Perdon, Jane Opina Francisco, Demuel Dee Lozada Berto, and Benjamin German

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Chairman Emeritus Dr. Wilmer Heceta with colleagues.



Annual session had a morning seminar and afternoon-business meetings by itself and with the association.



New Dean Georgina T. Paredes attending her first annual meeting with Chairman Dr. Bayani Elma.



Dr. Elma expounds on a point during the afternoon business meeting



Kenneth Moore of Farmers talks with Dr. Manny Blas about donating life insurance to the Foundation.



Dean Paredes



Treasurer Dr. Elmer Gilo makes his report by power point.



Plaques of appreciation are awarded to alumni association heads Drs. Rene Querubin, Joseph Rastrollo, and Alex Bobila

Annual meeting highlights . . . continued from page 1

is paid by the donor to the foundation which in turn pays the insurance company the structured premium.

So far, the program is yet to catch fire as only a dozen alumni mostly officers, have signed up. Foundation leaders remain optimistic about eventual support from alumni donors after a big push by both organizations and the Farmers Insurance Group at the Chicago convention.

New batch of trustees elected

The early afternoon session of the annual meeting tackled the reports of officers and committees (see pages 6-8) and elected the new batch of five trustees who will serve for a term of three years..

There was one surprise during the election, the decision of Dr. Samuel Dona not to seek another term, thus creating a second vacancy up for grabs. The first one was created by the Dr. Nely Recano's decision months before to step down after serving two terms including a stint as treasurer until 2002. So did Dr. Dona who had served as audit committee chairman. Both expressed the desire, in the words of Dr. Recano, to give "younger members a chance to participate and be active and bring new and fresh ideas to the foundation."

Voted in to replace them were Drs. Irene Ibanez-Manlapaz and Ruby Reyes. Elected with them were returning trustees Drs. Conrado Miranda, IV, Elmer Gilo, and Dekiam Ong.

Manlapaz, association executive director, returns to the board after a year

a year hiatus. She had served one term earlier until 2003. Dr. Reyes of Class '78 is the newest member of the board. She did her residency in med-peds and fellowship in allergy and immunology at the UMDNJ-NJ Medical School in Newark where she served as clinical faculty until 2000. She is currently in private practice in New Brunswick, NJ.

All five were immediately sworn in at the meeting by Dean Georgina T. Paredes, herself an *ex officio* member of the board, attending her first annual meeting.

All current officers of the board retained their positions while minor changes were made in the committee assignments (see roster in pages 10-11).

Every year 5 trustees are elected for a fresh term of 3 years. The Board of Trustees has 15 members in all. The ones whose term is up in August are: Mrs. Amuerfina T. Castro, Drs. Victoria Camacho, Roy Baldomero, Rolando Mendoza, and Renato Querubin.

\$156,00 budget approved

Buoyed by the success of the New York convention in 2003, the board approved a budget proposed by the chairman and president of \$155,561 for fiscal year 2004-2005, a \$73,311 (88%) increase over the previous year's. It calls for near doubling of expenses for current project programs particularly scholarship, faculty development, and library. It is also funding the new projects of drug assistance for indigent patients at the charity hospital at the behest of the alumni association and the dean's special honors award for freshmen. Details of the budget are found in pages 10.

Association's DAP fund now \$162,000

The alumni association set fundraising records as the final figures from the New York and Chicago conventions showed net profits that enabled it to set aside a large sum for the drug assistance program/indigent patient fund project it had officially adopted in 2003.

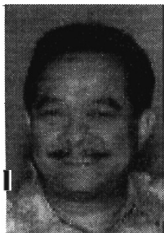
Under the leadership of then President Joseph Rastrollo and policy implementation by Executive Director Irene Manlapaz, the association saw the need to fund this project to provide UERM medical students with sufficient patients to learn clinical medicine from and offer the community an affordable quality medical care. Current President Manny Blas and President-Elect Edgar Banez also strongly support the project. So have the chapters and their leaders.

In all, the association has donated \$150,776 to the alumni foundation for this project, \$127,776 of which is from the national and past reunion hosts Northeast and Midwest Chapters, \$25,000 from the Southern California, and \$5,000 from the MarVaDC Chapters. Individual alumni donors have also pitched in a total of \$8,000 plus Class '75's \$4,154.81. The total DAP fund so far is \$161,930.81, Dr. Gilo confirmed.

As a result, Dr. Blas decided to go ahead with the first funding release to the UERM Charity Hospital. The mechanics of this are being worked out. The original plan was to build up the

Continued on page 9

Reelected and newly elected trustees



Dr. Miranda



Dr. Gilo



Dr. Ong



Dr. Manlapaz



Dr. Reyes

Alumni fund med student's Netherlands stint

Several alumni and one association chapter on short notice in early January heeded the plea of Mr. Jimmy Dumlao II, a 3rd year medical student chosen by the College of Medicine as an exchange student to the University of Maastricht School of Medicine in the Netherlands, for support. Through the alumni foundation, they gave Dumlao \$1,000 for his living expenses for his one month stay in Europe starting last January 24th. UERMMMC defrayed the cost of his plane fare. Those who responded to this urgent call and chipped in the needed amount were: Chuck Gotardo '72 (\$100), Ed Banez '76 (\$100), Benjie Rigor '62 (100), Irene Manlapaz '75 (\$100), Susan Suntay '77 (\$100), and Southern California Chapter (\$500). Dumlao expressed his gratitude in a letter to alumni on page 12.

Freshman scholars adopted

Two appeals for scholarship support published in the alumni association newsletter last June were promptly answered. The Dallas-based North Texas Association of Philippine Physicians led by Dr. Dolores Corpuz Bauzon '65 and previously led by Drs. Asuncion Agustines Acosta '70 and Mike Alday '69, adopted Ms. Mildeanna de Guzman of Dagupan City. The UERMMMCMAAA led by Dr. Joseph Rastrollo '73 took Ms. Melanie Estolas of Pasay City. Both scholars are *cum laude* graduates from U.P. Manila. Both organizations will give \$1,000 a year to each of them for 4 years until they graduate. The association already remitted its 4-year funding for Estolas to the alumni foundation during the Chicago convention. Dean Paredes continues to appeal for alumni support so she can recruit more top premed graduates to enroll at UERMMMC. See related article on pages 5 & 18.

SoCal raffle winner opts for cash, donates back \$2,000 to chapter

Which do you prefer, Mercedes Benz C230 or \$35,000? *Kuwarta o kahon?* Mr. I Romero, the winner of the successful raffle held December 4, 2004 by the Southern California Chapter benefiting the DAP fund campaign, chose wisely. He took the cash but donated back \$2,000 to the chapter, Chapter Boss Andy Ebilane '73 reported. The fundraiser netted \$25,000 all of which had already been donated to the foundation. Other winners were Hawaii's Dr. Elizaga '67 (LCD TV), a doctor from Washington D.C., and another from Corona, California (digital cameras).

Active missionaries: Southern California to Zambales, Northeast to many more places

January and February were busy months for medical missions. The Southern California Chapter team headed by Andy Ebilane and President-Elect Ed Banez went to Iba, Zambales in late January while the Northeast Chapter covered a very wide area. Missioners first participated in the 3rd dermatological mission to Banaue, Ifugao on January 3-5 headed by Dr. Ida Tiongco '68 and hosted by Dr. Tony Ligot '68 of the Good News Clinic and Hospital in collaboration with other groups in the Northeast and the Philippine Dermatological Society. The group reported seeing 500 patients and doing 100 procedures.

The second sortie led by new President Fely David Quines '68 and past head Alex Bobila '73 started with a medical-surgical mission at the UERM Charity Hospital on February 16-18, followed by a similar mission to Banaue on February 20-23 and capped by a humanitarian mission in Zamboanga later in the month

New med school with UERMMMC connection

The AMA Harvard International Medical School opened its doors in Makati last June, 2004 under the academic leadership of many UERM alumni, former Dean Esperanza Lansang told the editor last summer. The

new school is owned by the brother of UERM alum Dr. Sonny Aguiluz '66. The AMA Educational System is known for its computer schools all over the country and Bahrain. Lansang added that she had helped in the school's preparation for accreditation as it would also use the PBL curriculum now in place at UERM. The initial cost for students is P80,000 per semester.

9 pulse oximeters for UERM

The Recycling for Charity Committee Chairman Dr. Benjie Rigor last January acknowledged the donation of 9 pulse oximeters sent recently to the UERM Memorial Hospital. The donors are: Danny Mangunay '73 (5), Debbie Bobila '73 (1), Conrad Miranda '67 (1), one from Class '75, and Vickie Casibang '71 (1).

In memoriam

We mourn the loss of two distinguished alumni last year: Dr. Pablo Reyes, Sr. '61, former UERMMMC professor of surgery and head of the University Health Service, in August, and Dr. Rolando Santos, a former member of the Board of Trustees of the alumni foundation, who passed away on October 18, 2004 in Fairfax, Virginia. Board Chairman Dr. Elma represented the foundation at his wake. Alumni foundation President Dr. Conrado Miranda, IV sent this message to the family of Dr. Santos:

"On behalf of the UERMMMC Alumni Foundation, I wish to extend our heartfelt sympathy and condolence to the family on his untimely demise. He was at one time a very active member of the Board of Trustees of the Foundation. He was a respected alumnus and colleague, active in many other medical circles and civic organizations. Our prayers and thoughts go with his family, loved ones, and friends. Sadness has its place but let us also celebrate his life!"

My both rest in peace!

NEWS FOUND UP

From the Dean's Office

Clerkship in a U.S. hospital inked

The UERMMMC recently signed an agreement with Dr. Sheldon Sirota, Director of Medical Education at St. John's Episcopal Hospital South Shore in Far Rockaway, New York to accept 10 qualified 4th year UERM students into the clinical clerkship in surgery, internal medicine and ob-gyn for the school year 2005-2006. This has been made possible through the help of Dr. Gilbert Makabali '68, chairman of the surgical department and assistant director of medical education at the said hospital. Dean Paredes wrote "The intention of this clerkship affiliation is to give these Filipino-American or American students an early opportunity to be familiar with and gain experience in the U.S. health care system. It will also give them the opportunity to establish ties with residency positions in the U.S. hopefully improving their chances of being admitted to residency training programs."

During her trip to the U.S. last summer, Paredes also began ironing out clerkship affiliations with Jackson Park Hospital in Chicago as well as another one in Rhode Island also with assistance from alumni. No formal arrangements have so far been concluded with either one.

Midwest Chapter donates \$25,000 for scholarship

The dean reported that an agreement was signed on January 17, 2005 between UERM and Dr. Manny Blas,

national alumni association and outgoing Midwest Chapter president, in which \$25,000 was given by the chapter to finance 4 medical students from their freshman to clerkship years. She said that "two 'gold scholars' will receive \$2,000 per year" and "two 'silver scholars' \$1,000 per year" for four years upon "satisfactory completion of requirements." She commented that "these scholarships will boost our campaign to admit highly qualified students preferably those with latin honors" She also expressed "my deep personal appreciation for all the efforts of our alumni" especially Drs. Blas and the Midwest Chapter, Emelinda Tolod of the PMA of Greater St. Louis, Jeff Rastrollo of the alumni association, Bayani Elma of the alumni foundation, and the NTAPP of North Texas.

Foundation supported activities

The 7th Annual Research Forum was held on December 14, 2004 at the auditorium. The Dean Fernando Sanchez, Jr. Research & Publication Award for 2004 went to faculty members Drs. Grace Encelan Brizueta and Teresa Ludovice-Yap. Also recognized for outstanding papers were four residents and two students. All presenters received certificates of recognition and modest cash prizes.

The 19th Dr. Jose Cuyegkeng Memorial Lecture given last Dec. 8 by Dr. Joven Cuanang discussed "The Quality of Care and Patient Safety in the Medical and Nursing Curriculum."

Class '03 scores . . .

Continued from page 1

Francisco. They "belong to the top 50 of their class" out of 256 and "are all first time takers" who "had to take the boards in February because they are Seventh Day Adventists," she added. The February exams do not include Saturdays whereas the August ones do.

The grades of the top twenty examinees range from 81 to 85.5, the *Philippine Daily Inquirer* internet dispatch reported.

The oath taking was held on March 21st at the Manila Hotel. Registration for professional license with the Professional Regulation Commission and the mandatory membership in the Philippine Medical Association began last March 7th.

The 2nd Dr. Romulo Guevarra, Sr. Memorial Lecture in Pharmacology last October 22, 2004 featured Dr. Esperanza Icasas Cabral, a renowned cardiologist, pharmacologist, researcher and leader in the field of medicine in the country.

'04 grad in TOSP finals

Christine Y. Lacuesta, M.D., a 2004 *cum laude* alumna was chosen as one of 18 finalists in the sciences for the Ten Outstanding Students of the Philippines Award. Twelve other finalists from all over the country were chosen for the arts. Lacuesta and UERMMMC received plaques of recognition from President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo herself at the award rites in Malacanang.

CBHP volunteers from U.S.A

Two alumni daughters, Ms. Mindy Guzman & Marsha Pascual, recently joined junior interns at the Community Based Health Program in Antipolo. They helped in health education, conducted health worker training and assisted interns in the clinic. Volunteers are always welcome in Antipolo, the dean wrote.

The UERMMMC College of Medicine is still accepting applications for the first year class of the academic year 2005-2006 starting in June, 2005. Please contact the college as soon as possible for more information at 011-632-3315 or www.uerm.ph.

Otherwise, the next class will be for the 2006-2007 term. Applications then must be completed by January 15, 2006. In addition to academic and documentary requirements, applicants must take the NMAT (National Medical Admission Test) administered in Manila and New York.

Foreign students are encouraged to apply early. The names of accepted applicants will be posted at the above website as they become available.

Facing facts and challenges

by Bayani B. Elma, M.D., Chairman, Board of Trustees

"We make a living by what we get but we make a life by what we give." Norman MacEwan



I will follow Jay Leno's lead (host of NBC's *Tonight Show*) by announcing at this date that I will not seek the chairmanship of the foundation come 2006. To paraphrase the late Johnny Carson, "I also have an ego but I do not need to be chairman of the foundation to stoke it." I've found out also that if you let someone else take the credit, you can get results.

To all officers and members of the Board of Trustees and all concerned alumni, the Leadership Workshop and Annual Business Meeting of the foundation will be held on Thursday, August 4, 2005, not the usual Wednesday, at the JW Marriott on Westheimer by the Galleria in Houston, Texas. This wise and practical recommendation came from the most awarded UERM alumnus, Dr. Benjamin M. Rigor: if the 20 officers and members of the BOT would donate the costs of the one-day stay at the hotel alone by checking in a day later, the foundation would be richer by no less than \$2,000 much needed dollars.

The UERM College of Nursing, according to a published report by the

Commission on Higher Education (CHED), is only one of 12 (1 of 5 in MetroManila) out of 175 schools offering nursing programs in the Philippines to get at least 90% of their graduates to pass the yearly board exams from 2000 to 2004. With this stellar record, no wonder the College of Nursing has increased its total enrollment from **613** for SY 2003-2004 to **842** for 2004-2005. In comparison, the College of Medicine's total student population decreased from **994** for SY 2003-2004 to **868** for 2004-2005. The multistory building currently under construction behind the gym will accommodate this burgeoning number of future nurses. Want to hazard a guess or two to explain the discrepancy between the passing rates of the two colleges? They breathe the same air and drink the same water! How about the quality of students being admitted as freshmen? This fact might be a wake-up call for ALL alumni to donate more for scholarshipship programs spearheaded by the alumni foundation and association. The tuition and other fees for SY 2005-2006 for first year amount to P74,288 (\$1,375)

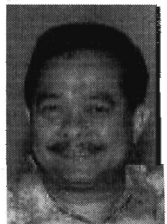
per semester. According to Mr. P.O. Domingo whom I met on February 17 in his office, this is the main reason why UE Main students graduating with honors choose to enroll at other medical schools than UERM. Except for U.P. and the Pamantasan ng Lungsod ng Maynila, the fees at the UERM College of Medicine are competitive with other private schools like St. Luke's, San Beda, and MCU. UST, I'm told, charges P100,000 per semester! Mr. Domingo made a very good suggestion: "How about each class from 1961 to 2004 or 43 classes donating \$1,000 to the scholarship program?"

I was stimulated to obtain these foregoing facts about foundations when an alumnus quipped that the assets of OUR foundation have "appreciably grown." In 1975, 21,877 U.S. foundations with assets of \$30 billion gave away \$1.9 B. By 2000, 56,582 foundations gave away \$27.5 B from assets of \$486 billion. Our foundation is small potatoes compared with these giants. But a gift of a dollar, \$100, or even \$1,000 can compete with

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Let us lead by example

by Dr. Conrado J. Miranda, IV, M.D., President



Dear Fellow Trustees and Officers,

Thank you very much to those of you who sacrificed your time and resources to be able to attend the annual meeting of the foundation. Your presence was proof of your dedication to the cause.

As I expressed in my report, you take with you to the board, not only your reputation and your influence but also your "fat purses." I would therefore enjoin you again to be the exemplars of

benevolence by making generous tax deductible contributions to the foundation. As was also expressed at the meeting, let these be unrestricted contributions either to the general fund or to the endowment fund. And each one should also support the whole life insurance program introduced to us at the convention and especially fashioned for our alumni: no medical exam, guaranteed acceptance (except for cancer and HIV/

HIV/AIDS). I filled out an application form for myself. This ensures the foundation a legacy of at least \$10,000 either at my death or at age 90. It builds up cash value from the 3rd year up.

Please fill out the application form if you have not already done so. Let me know if you need a form.

Let me know also of any concerns or ideas you may have on how we can improve our work.



Net assets now \$662,000

by Dr. Elmer Gilo, Treasurer

(The complete renditions of this and the previous year's reports are available online at the uermalumni.org website. IRS Form 990 can be viewed at Guidestar.org. Editor)

I, Elmer S. Gilo, M.D., hereby submit the following Treasurer's Report of the UERMMM Alumni Foundation USA, Inc. for the year ending December 31, 2004. The total net assets at the beginning of 2004 were \$429,478.00. There was received from Cash Contributions, income from investments, sale of related goods and unrealized gains (loss) from investments from January 1, 2004 to December 31, 2004 a total of \$289,949.11. During the same period, the Total Expenses were \$56,794.42. There was a change in Net Assets of \$233,154.69. The Total Net Assets of the Foundation as of the end of fiscal year 2004 is \$662,629.38. January 2, 2005.

Statement of Financial Position

ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
Cash	
Operating Chase Bus. Checking	\$ 11,260.04
Chase Bus. Money Market	363,484.86
Merrill Lynch Bank Account	2,000.33
Lakeside Bank	78,197.70
Chase CD 6 mo.	10,271.17
Chase CD 7 mo.	00.00
Chase CD 12 mo.	00.00
Total Cash	465,214.10
Total Checking/Savings	465,214.10
Other Current Assets	
Investments	
JP Morgan Chase	149,654.53
Merrill Lynch EMA	47,760.75
Total Investments	197,415.28
Total Other Current Assets	197,415.28
Total Current Assets	662,629.38
TOTAL ASSETS	662,629.38

LIABILITIES & EQUITY

Equity	
Opening Balance Equity	351,362.88
Permanent restricted net assets	
333 Endowment Fund	27,465.00
Total permanent restricted assets	27,465.00
Net Assets	50,646.81
Net Income-Change in Net Assets	233,154.69
Total Equity	662,629.38
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	662,629.38

Statement of Activities

Ordinary Income	
Individual Contributions	121,620.89
Corporate & Business Grants	
UERMMMCMAAA (National)	122,776.00
MarVaDC Chapter	6,000.00
Southern California Chapter	25,000.00
Alliance & Friends	3,000.00
Total Corporate & Business Grants	156,776.00
Related Sales Revenue (Merchandise)	115.00
Investment Income	
Interest on savings & temp. invest	1,886.05
Dividends & int. from securities	5,695.17
Total Investment Income	7,581.22
Change in market value of invest.	4,006.00
Total Income	290,099.11
Total cost of goods sold	150.00
Gross Profit	289,949.11

Expenses	
Grants & Assistance	
Program grants	42,030.00
Awards & grants to individuals	2,000.00
Specific assistance to individuals	1,474.00
Other grants & assistance	500.00
Total grants & assistance	46,004.00
Total professional fees	2,752.08
Supplies	736.88
Postage & delivery	915.28
Equipment rental & maintenance	1,384.59
Printing & publications	2,940.00
Insurance	807.63
Bank charges & fees	644.51
Other expenses	609.45
TOTAL EXPENSES	56,794.42
NET INCOME	233,154.69

Facing facts Continued from page 6

the very rich in spiritual content and meaning so long as benevolence feels good. Remember the saying: "Many drops can make an ocean!"

Lastly, the trustees of the foundation should display a greater commitment and set a tone for alumni and other donors to follow. There should be no ambiguity about the requirement of some annual cash gift. If 100% of the trustees are contributing, then the donors can see the level of commitment, thereby giving them confidence to invest and support the many programs and projects of the foundation. I will make a resolution that all trustees make a donation either in cash or in-kind (equipments, teaching slides, CDs, etc.) amounting to no less than \$1,000 starting this year, 2005, with a grace period completion by December 31, 2006.



Minutes of the 2004 annual meeting

by Rolando Mendoza, M.D., Secretary

(the following are excerpts from the official minutes recorded by Dr. Mendoza.. Editor

The meeting on August 4, 2004 at the Chicago Downtown Marriott Hotel consisted of three segments: an orientation and leadership workshop; the annual meeting itself; and a joint conference with the alumni association and the auxiliary (Alliance & Friends, Inc.).

The first segment (morning) had two parts. The first was orientation featuring talks on the history of the alumni foundation by Dr. Frank Rabadam, history of the UERMMMC Alliance & Friends by Mrs. Esther Querubin, complimentary relationship among the foundation, association, & auxiliary by Dr. Conrad Miranda, history of the alumni association in the US by Dr. Rogelio Sion, "The Role of the UERM College of Medicine in Meeting the Mission & Objectives of the Alumni Foundation" by Dean Georgina T. Paredes, and recycling for charity by Dr. Benjamin Rigor. The 2nd part was a workshop on management featuring talks on charitable giving through a whole life insurance by Kenneth More, use of a lockbox for fund deposits by Lakeside Bank officers Raymond Spaeth & Todd Monte, and "The Role of a Financial Advisor in Managing the Funds of a Non-Profit Organization" by Michael Sprenger of H&R Block.

The second segment early in the afternoon was the annual meeting. Called to order by the chairman. After establishing a quorum, previous minutes were approved. Under old business, officers' and committee reports were heard, discussed and approved. The chairman gave his report in magazine format. The treasurer reported net worth of \$429,478 as of 2003 (no liabilities). Under new business, the following were done:

(1) elected by acclamation Drs. Conrad Miranda, Elmer Gilo, Dekiam Ong, Irene Manlapaz, & Ruby Reyes for the 2004-2007 term; (2) awarded plaques for distinguished service to

the foundation to Drs. Joseph Rastrollo, alumni association president, Alexis Bobila, Northeast Chapter president, Renato Querubin, immediate past association president, and Nely Recano, immediate past treasurer of the alumni foundation; (3) tabled proposed changes in the bylaws; (4) voted to have a foundation winter meeting;

95) scrapped the scheduled Saturday meeting and opted to hold pre-convention meetings on Wednesdays in the future; (6) decided to purchase a bond for the treasurer; (7) engaged the services of an investment adviser Michael Sprenger of H&R Block to help the investment committee grow the foundation funds; (8) voted to allocate 30% of the new budget for scholarship and require trustees to contribute at least \$100 for scholarship &/or restricted funds and to help in more aggressive fundraising; and finally, (9) approved the 2004-2005 budget.

The joint conference late in the afternoon resolved the following: (1) the alumni association is in charge of the wish list project but donations to it must be payable to the alumni foundation which acknowledges them in writing, the foundation, in turn, disburses funds only after a completed written request or proposal has been received; (2) checks generated from the CME, souvenir journal, wish list and memorial lectures must be made payable to the foundation while proceeds from the gala dinner/dance, welcome reception, and sports tournament go to the association; donations from drug companies could go to either organization depending on a particular company's policies. The business & manner of conducting annual meetings and conventions will be further threshed out by the executive committees of both bodies with legal help.

Association's DAP . . .

Continued from page 3

fund up to at least \$300,000 and then, through wise investment, use only its earnings to fund the drug and laboratory expenses of charity patients at UERMMH. But the dire need of the medical students for clinical materials has impressed the association leadership to advance its distribution to as early as the coming school year or as soon as the legal requirements of such a program are worked out between the association and foundation and the foundation and UERMMMC. The proposed budget of the foundation already calls for an expenditure of about \$72,000 for this purpose.

Meanwhile, the alumni foundation continues to pursue its

fundraising efforts toward the 333 Endowment Fund. Individuals contributed a total of \$11,120.87 to the fund in 2004. Dr. Elma reported, bringing up the fund total since its 1995 inception to \$53,147.87. There are no corporate donors to the fund so far, foundation records show.

Aesculapius Ex

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Thank you so much to all our donors!

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UERMMMC ALUMNI FOUNDATION
USA, INC.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE

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289-7609

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2004-2005 budget

PROJECTS

Student Scholarship Awards

- | | |
|---|-----------------|
| 1. Partial Tuition Grant @ \$500 per recipient | Total Costs |
| 15 awards, 5 for each 2nd, 3rd & 4th year medicine. | |
| To be awarded in the 2nd semester. | \$ 7,500 |
| 2. Academic Excellence @ \$50 per recipient, 30 awards, 10 for each 2nd, 3rd, & 4th year medicine | \$ 1,500 |
| 3. Book Scholars @ \$250 per recipient, total of 30 recipients | \$ 7,500 |
| 4. Full Scholarship Mr. Oscar Arriola | \$ 2,000 |
| 5. Special Honors Award For 10 incoming freshmen with a GWA of 1.8-2.0 & high NMAT score | \$ 3,650 |
| Management Fees | \$ 200 |
| SUBTOTAL * | \$22,350 |
- *Comment: Increase of \$6,475 over last year's budget.

Residents Awards

- | | |
|---|--------|
| 1. Best Resident Award | |
| Awarded to the best resident in CARES (Clinical, Administrative, (Research, Education & Service to the community) | \$ 200 |
| 2. Service Award | |
| Given to all graduating residents & fellows | \$ 500 |

Faculty Program

- | | |
|--|---------|
| 1. Educational Grants | |
| For master's degrees in education | \$ 500 |
| 2. Travel Grants * | \$2,000 |
| *An increase of \$1,000 over the 2003-2004 budget. | |
| 3. Dean Esperanza Lansang Basic Science Award | \$ 500 |
| 4. Dean Joven Cuanang Clinical Science Award | \$ 500 |

Conferences

- | | |
|------------------------|---------|
| 1. 4 Memorial Lectures | \$1,200 |
| 2. Postgraduate Course | \$ 600 |

Research

- | | |
|---|--------|
| 1. Dean Fernando Sanchez Research & Publication Awards | |
| Awarded to the 10 best research papers presented in the Annual Research Forum by students, residents &/or faculty * | \$ 500 |
| *Comment: Increase of \$75 over the previous year's budget. | |

Community Service Program

- | | |
|--|--------|
| 1. Community Service Award | |
| Awarded to a student/resident &/or faculty/department for exemplary community service as recognized by the government, community or the Medical Center | \$ 500 |
| 2. Community Outreach Health Screening (Antipolo) | \$ 500 |

Library

- | | |
|--|------------------|
| 1. Main Library | |
| Purchase of textbooks, journals & CDs | Donation-in-kind |
| **Decrease of \$1,000 from last year's budget. | |

- | | |
|--|----------|
| 2. Departmental Library | As Above |
| 3. Out-Patient Department | |
| Purchase of screening materials i.e. urine & blood for diabetes, UTI, anemia, etc. | \$1,000 |

Medical Student Organizations

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---------|
| 1. On-Campus * | \$1,000 |
| *Increase of \$500 over last year. | |

Others

- | | |
|---|---------------------|
| 1. Wish List | |
| From the Dean | \$5,000 (Estimate) |
| 2. Donation-In-Kind (Recycling for Charity & Share Educational Materials) | \$30,000 (Estimate) |
| 3. Physical Therapy Scholarship | \$ 200 |
| 4. Drug Assistance Program/ Indigent Fund (UERMMMC MAAA, Inc.) * | \$71,911 |
| *Restricted Fund | |

GRAND TOTAL FOR PROJECTS \$137,961

Accountant	\$1,000	Newsletter	\$2,000	Tax prep., NY	\$ 2,000
Bank charges	100	Meeting expenses	2,000	Xerox copy, reports	1,000
Cash reserves	5,000	Office supplies	500	Miscellaneous	500
Fund raising	2,000	Postage	500	TOTAL O/A EXP.	\$16,600

UERM MMC ALUMNI FOUNDATION
USA, INC. ROSTER

(Continued from previous page)

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Scholarship Awardees for 2004-2005

Recommended by the UERM MMC College Of Medicine Committee on Scholarship & Academic Honors chaired by former Dean Dr. Erlinda V. Valdellon.

Partial Tuition Fee Award (\$500 for 10 students)

- A. Fourth Year
1. Domingo, Oliver Glenn
 2. Dy, Cindy
 3. Fineza, Pierre
 4. Gamad, Verdi
 5. Pascual, Marvi

- B. Third Year
6. Abadilla, Janice
 7. Ibanez, Raquel
 8. Lustre, Ronald

- C. Second Year
9. Buelva, Ailene
 10. Guerra, Joanna

Book Award (\$250 for 20 students)

- A. Fourth Year
1. Balbuena, Jasmin
 2. Basilan, Christine Erika
 3. Cabigon, Jhason
 4. Caparino, Ana Shine
 5. Fineza, Pierre
 6. Huang, Manuel
 7. Pahway, Christian Michael
 8. Sergio, Michael Angelo

- B. Third Year
9. Abadilla, Janice
 10. Capulong, Ma. Chelo
 11. Domingo, Oliver Glenn
 12. Ibanez, Raquel
 13. Licuanan, Angelina

14. Lustre, Ronald
- C. Second Year
15. Arzaga, Ma. Ligaya
 16. Baula, Mary Jo
 17. Bautista, Patricia
 18. Monterozo, Merlyn
 19. Obmerga, Ma. Gomyda
 20. Vivar, Jo Ann

Academic Excellence Award (\$50 for each of the top ten students during the SY 2003-2004, total of 30)

- A. Second Year (by 1 to 10 ranking)
- Pandes, Marky J.; Pepito, Don Leo; Arzaga, Ma. Ligaya; Salalima Augusto N.; Ramiro, Raciela Regina; Briones, Ma. Gelen; Te, Abigail L.; San Luis, Christa; Chu, Calvin Ray; Montalbo, Joen gelee.
- B. Third Year (by 1 to 10 ranking)
- Hao, Celine; Wilson, James; Andal, Angelica; Aurellado, Marion; Malanay, Erwin; Tamban, Celito; Galauran, Jose Mari; de Guzman, Mark; Ibanez, Raquel; Santiago, Kimberly
- C. Fourth Year (by 1 to 10 ranking)
- Trebol, Joanna; Pabellano, Ma. Luisa; Tan, Tenille; Miranda, Kathleen; Cruz, Alveen; Pile, Marichel; Trovela, Sheila; Cabradilla, Joyce; Gorospe, Gabrielli; Tongco, Cesareo Amadeo

Raymundo, members. RESIDENTS AWARDS: Jose Prudencio, M.D. chairman, Drs. Ida Tiongco, Ruby Reyes, & Edgar Banez, members. CONFERENCE & MEMORIAL LECTURES: Rolando Mendoza, M.D., chairman, Drs. Elmer Gilo, Ruby Reyes, & Irene Manlapaz, members. RESEARCH: Irene Manlapaz, M.D., chair, Drs. Ida Tiongco, Benjamin Rigor, Deborah Bobila, & Jose Prudencio, members. LIBRARY & SHARE EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS: Dekiam Ong, M.D., chairman, Drs. Victor O'yek, Ana Maria Pasatiempo, Renato Flores, & Isabelita Casibang, members. COMMUNITY SERVICE: Rolando Mendoza, M.D., chairman, Drs. Belen Gilo, Nimfa Aguilu, members. RECYCLING FOR

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CHAIRMAN EMERITUS: Wilmer G. Heceta, M.D., El B. Castro, M.D., & Fernando S. Sanchez, Jr., M.D.

Constitution & By Laws

(Third installment, amended on July 30, 2003)



ARTICLE VI

Officers

Section 1. Election. The election of officers shall be held every two years during the annual meeting or at any adjournment thereof. The Board shall elect a Chairman, Vice-Chairman, President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Assistant Secretary, and Recording Secretary. Any such office not filed at the annual meeting or adjournment thereof may be filled by the Board at any meeting. The Board may at any meeting by resolution elect and define the duties of such officers as it may from time to time determine. No officer, other than the Chairman of the Board, need be a trustee. The same person may be elected to more than one office, except the offices of President and Secretary shall not be held by the same person. A vacancy in any office may be filled by the Board at any meeting. All officers shall hold office at the pleasure of the Board or until their respective successors shall have been elected and shall have qualified. They shall receive such salaries or other compensation as may be authorized by the Board.

Section 2. Resignation and Removal. Any officer may resign at any time by delivering a written resignation to the President or Secretary of the Corporation. The acceptance of any such resignation unless required by the terms thereof, shall not be necessary to make the same effective. Any officer may be removed at any time for or without cause by vote of the trustees.

ARTICLE VII

Duties of Officers

Section 1. Chairman of the Board. The Chairman of the Board shall preside at meetings of the Board, shall be a member *ex officio* of all committees, and shall have such other duties as may be prescribed by the Board.

Section 2. Vice-Chairman. The Vice-Chairman will perform the functions of the Chairman during his absence. He/She will perform other duties assigned by the Chairman.

Section 3. President. The President shall be the chief executive officer of the Corporation and shall have general supervision over the business of the Corporation and over its several officers, subject however, to the control of the Board. Except as otherwise hereinafter provided by these Bylaws, or by resolution duly adopted at any meeting of the Board, the President shall have power to sign for the Corporation all deeds and other agreements and formal instruments and shall be a member *ex officio* of all committees. In the absence or disability of the President, the Vice-President (or, if there be more than one, the Vice-Presidents, in the order of their appointment) shall have the powers and perform the duties of the President. In the absence or disability of the President and the Vice-President (or, if there be more than one, each Vice-President), a trustee of the Corporation may be appointed by the Board to discharge the President's functions in whole or in part, as the Board may specify.

Section 4. Secretary. The Secretary shall take and keep the true minutes of all meetings of the Board and of committees of the Corporation, shall have custody of the corporate seal, and shall have the authority to affix the same to any instrument requiring it, and when so affixed, to attest it. The Secretary shall notify trustees of their election, shall, under the general direction of the President, prepare and present the business to be acted upon at meetings of the Board and of Committees; shall in general perform all duties incident to the office of Secretary; and shall perform such other duties as may be assigned by the Board or the President. In the absence or disability of the Secretary, any Assistant Secretary shall have the powers and perform the duties of the Secretary.

Section 5. Treasurer. The Treasurer shall in general perform all duties incident to the office of Treasurer; the Treasurer shall have the custody of the funds and securities of the Corporation, shall keep full and accurate accounts of receipts and disbursements in books belonging to the Corporation; shall exhibit such books of accounts and records at the office of the Corporation to any of the trustees at any time upon request and shall render a detailed statement to the trustees as often as they shall require it; shall deposit the funds of the Corporation in such banks or trust companies or in such vault or vaults as may from time to time be designated by the Board. The withdrawal of such funds and securities shall be made only on the signature or signatures of such one or more trustees, officers or employees of the Corporation as may be designated from time to time by the Board for such purpose.

The Treasurer shall perform such other duties as from time to time may be assigned by the Board. The Treasurer, if required so to do by the Board, shall give a bond for the faithful discharge of the Treasurer's duties in such sum, and with such sureties, as the Board shall require. The expense of any such bond shall be paid by the Corporation.

In the absence of the Treasurer, any Assistant Treasurer shall have the powers and perform the duties of the Treasurer.

Section 6. Qualifications of Officers. The nominees should have participated in the activities of the Foundation/alumni Association for at least two years. The qualified nominee shall submit a resume and a signed consent that he/she is willing to serve if elected. The documents shall be submitted three months prior to the Foundation's annual meeting (July/August).

It is not necessary that a nominee be a medical alumni. Other community leaders who could be assets to the Foundation could also be elected as officers and members of the Board of Trustees.

ARTICLE VIII

Fiscal Year

The Corporation's fiscal year shall be the calendar year.

Final installment next issue



Exploring fundraising options

by Irene I. Manlapaz, M.D., Member, Board of Trustees

Are the officers and members of the Alumni Foundation fulfilling their promises?

Several months ago, emails from a "Ruben Silang" and an "Al Tanglaw" floated around the alumni cyber circle. The letters expounded on the inefficiency to the point of absurdity of the management of the money of the foundation and the projects that it has been supporting these past few years. The Foundation is now more than 20 years old and one wonders if its leadership needs more time to grow up or do we need new blood with fresh ideas so that the next 20 years or so would be our golden years?

Most non-profit foundations invite volunteers to join their boards because of their expertise or stature in the community that can lead to more donations. Board members and officers usually are required to do fundraising or donate their time and money. In the case of our

Foundation, unfortunately, the recent audit done by Chairman Dr. Bayani Elma has shown that many trustees and officers fail either role. Should we then let alumni as a whole elect the people who are willing to do fundraising or have the Foundation set such a policy? Should we set term limits for trustees and officers so we will have a constant infusion of new ideas and energy that will make the Alumni Foundation stronger and free from a perception of being "passe" or "redundant"?

Further reflection on these matters have led me to believe that either some officers and BOTs do not really have time for the foundation, in which case they should give up their positions for those who have the time, energy and passion to do their jobs, or they do not know what fundraising activities they could do.

One simple and practical way to raise

funds is for officers and trustees to buy the Modified Whole Life Insurance Plan launched in Chicago. This costs about \$26 to \$55 a month depending on age and sex. The monthly premium is immediately tax-deductible to the donor. The equity over time as well as death benefit will be available to the foundation that receives the premium and pays it to the insurer. Encouraging family and friends to join in could net the foundation millions in due time.

What other fundraising projects can we do? How about a fall or winter cruise to the Caribbean, Mexican Riviera, Bahamas or Panama Canal where the weather is warm and the fun endless? With few hours of CME activities, the trip could be tax-deductible. Cruise lines give incentives to tour operators and pharmaceutical companies still sponsor CMEs. Somebody just must find the time to organize the trip!

Elma calls for May board meeting

In an email message on Easter Sunday, Dr. Bayani Elma called for a preconvention business meeting of the Board of Trustees on May 28, 2005 at the Hampton Inn BWI Airport in Baltimore, Maryland, to consider, among others, new requests for funding. The memo also calls for a "wide open" agenda for the afternoon segment of the meeting. The funding requests total \$18,259. About 25% of which is already covered by the budget approved last August. Among the new ones submitted to Elma during his trip to UERMMM last month are: \$2,400 stipend for a neuro-ophthalmology fellow; \$2,100 stipend for an OB-GYN ultrasound fellow; \$1,040 travel grant for a faculty to present a paper at a meeting in Seoul, Korea in October; \$700 for 2 faculty members to train in skills lab at the University of Hongkong in August; \$1,000 travel grant for a student to present a research paper at the Students' International Forum in June; and a \$1,000 increase in the research & publication award already funded by the alumni foundation.

46th commencement . . . Continued from page 7

Dean Paredes, in a news update emailed to the editor on March 29th, said that the 46th graduation exercises of the College of Medicine will be held on April 28, 2005 at the Philippine International Convention Center at Roxas Blvd. About 250 are expected to receive their MDs. Dr. Rolando M. Puno of Class '77, a Louisville orthopedic expert & the 2004 most outstanding alumnus, will deliver the commencement address.

European River Cruise

We are taking up Irene's challenge!
Join us on a cruise along the waterways of the Netherlands & Belgium and the Danube in 2 separate trips in the fall and next spring aboard the luxury riverboats *Van Gogh* and *Rembrandt*, respectively. Proceeds will go to the Dean's Scholarship.

Interested? Please call Nena or Sammy Piga at tel/fax (972) 596-8911 or email snpiga@yahoo.com or sapigamd@earthlink.net. We need at least 15 couples for the first and at least 50 couples for the second.

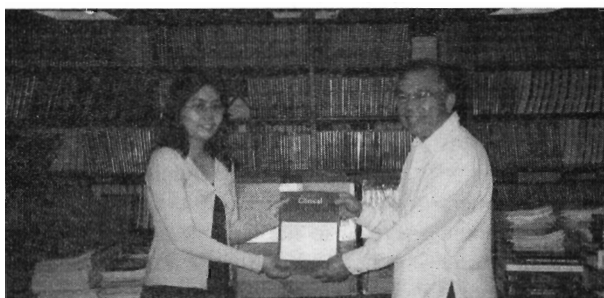
Allergy Practice for Sale

Established allergy & immunology practice in the upscale Dallas suburb of Plano, Texas is looking for someone to take it over: lock, stock & barrel. For more information, please call (972) 867-7990.

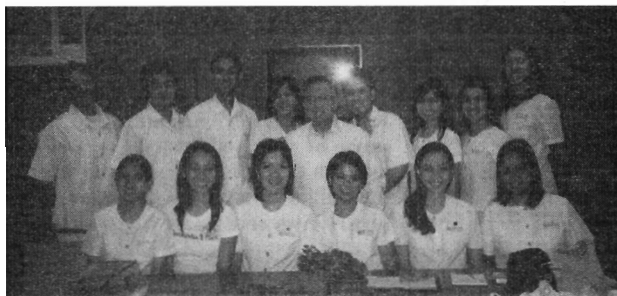
The Chairman's 2005 visit to UERM

Conclusion: Notwithstanding the cramped up location and old buildings, I foresee that the UERMMM College of Medicine will hold its lofty place among the medical institutions in the Philippines because of its dedicated and loyal faculty, and motivated students.

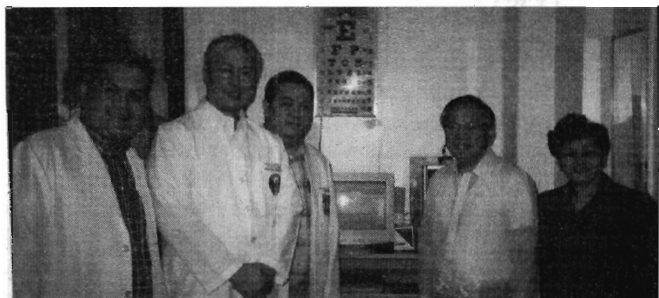
Monday, February 14, 2005 - 10 AM to 12 Noon: Meeting with Ms. Raisa Ocaya, Acting Chief Librarian who's also an evening first year law student at U.P. Diliman. A check for \$2,000 was donated to the library for the purchase of assorted books for the main medical library. We discussed declining medical student enrollment and the markedly increasing nursing classes. She showed me 3 computers with the software donated by the foundation and the 2 balikbayan boxes full of books, journals and CDs donated by the MarVaDC Chapter.



12 Noon to 1 PM: Meeting with 14 medical student leaders from the Medical student councils, fraternities, sororities, religious and civic organizations and school publications & news media. Amazing, there are 18 recognized organizations for a student body of 868! To no surprise of mine, they professed no knowledge of the US alumni foundation and association. A FYI and a Q & A characterized the one-hour session.



1PM to 4 PM: Attended the ECHO Seminar Assessment in Medical Education ((PBL). Different topics were discussed by 4 recipients of foundation travel grants (Drs. Josefina Resurreccion, Milagros Rabe, Benida Fontanilla and Grace Encelan-Brizuela.



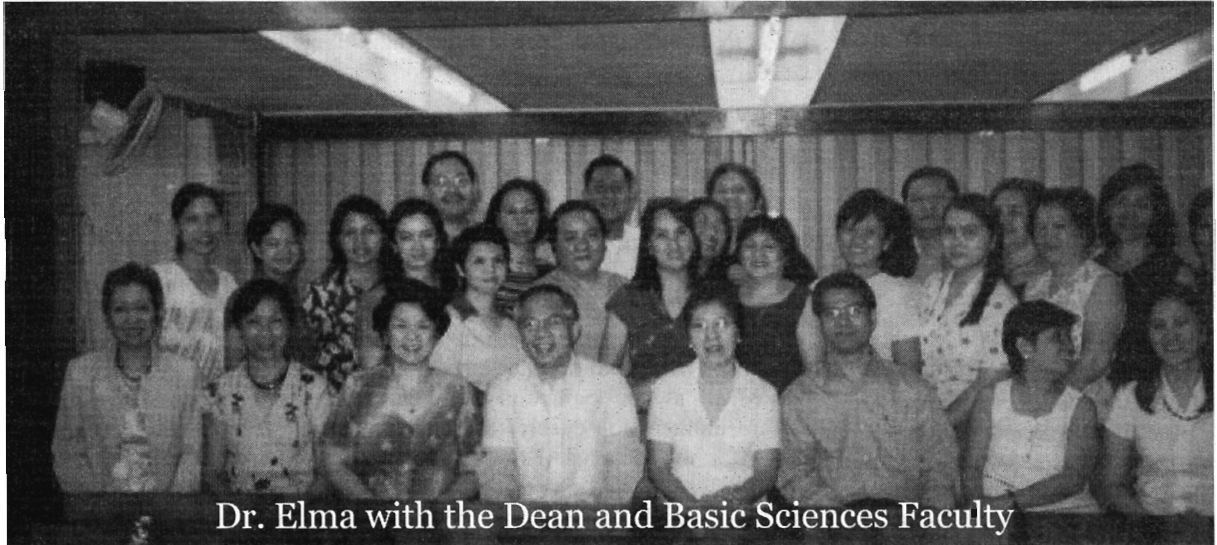
Tuesday, February 15, 2005 - 10:30 AM to 12 Noon: Meeting with Dr. Jesus Tamesis, Jr., past president of the UERMMM Alumni Association (Philippines) and Ophthalmology Department chairman at the alumni office. He mentioned that the local alumni association needs to get stronger in number and coverage in MetroManila and outside. We toured his department's OPD and hospital areas and showed me the computers, phoropter heads and books that were donated by the foundation. I also briefly met new alumni president Dr. Susan Pilapil-Lazaga who gave me the website <http://uermmaa.home-page.org> and email address uermmaa@i-next.net for any U.S. based alumni to use to get in touch with her.

12 Noon to 1 PM: Met with basic sciences department heads. Several questions were raised on the slow processing and delivery of grants from the foundation. I told them that the proper forms must be completed from the Dean's Office and the size and amount of the requested grants considered before submission to the BOT for decision. 1PM to 2 PM: I met with Dr. Florina Estrada, recipient of an educational grant for PhD and a travel grant in Bioethics from the foundation. She thanked the foundation for all our assistance and informed me of her possible relocation to a medical school in Bahrain due to personal and economic reasons.

2PM to 4 PM: Attended the Academic Council Meeting chaired by Dr. Divinagacia and composed of Dean Paredes, Dean Arnel Malaya of Physical Therapy, VPAA & Research & Educational Development Head Dr. Fernando Sanchez, Registrar Generoso Magdaleno, UERM Corporate Treasurer and Secretary. Most relevant information I learned were: clinical clerkship for UERM students are St. John's Episcopal South Shore in New York beginning April, 2005; and a Memorandum of Agreement had been signed between Fairleigh Dickinson University



The Chairman's 2005 visit to UERM



Dr. Elma with the Dean and Basic Sciences Faculty

and UERM for the masteral degree education of nursing, P.T. and engineering faculty from UE Main possibly beginning in SY 2005-2006. Dr. Divinagracia strongly advocated the revival of the Alumni Relations Office to enhance and facilitate inter-alumni and alumni-administration relationships.

Wednesday, February 16, 2005 - 1 Noon to 4 PM: Meeting with Dean Paredes and her staff. There are 800-900 applicants to the College of Medicine and the Admissions Committee has already decided on whom to accept for the first class of 2005-2006. The Recipient Acknowledgement of Funds for the 2 checks for Ms. Estolas's scholarship and the medical library were presented to me. We went over the liquidation reports from the OB-GYN for the books and simulator; psychiatry, biochemistry and ophthalmology for the monies donated by the foundation. We discussed at length her requests for funds for the following: Special Honors Awards for 15 students for SY 2005-2006 (instead of 10), Basic Life Support Skills Lab Project, Student Development Grant, Faculty Development and PD Heads and Travel Grant for Dr. Grace Brizuela's attendance to AMEA 2005. She also requested if the foundation can support one full scholar for 5 years for a total amount of \$6,800 for SY 2005-2006 assuming the student can maintain the academic requirements.

I had a brief meeting with Aesculapian editor Ms. Janice Abadilla who agreed to publish in its quarterly issues any announcements or news about the foundation.

4 PM to 5 PM: Meeting with Mr. P.O. Domingo, Chairman of the UERMMMC Board of Trustees. Also present were Dean Paredes, Drs. Alex & Debbie Bobila, and Irene I. Manlapaz. Dr. Domingo lamented the relegation of the UE College of Medicine to the 4th choice of medical school applicants behind UP, UST, and PLM. He defended a 5% increase in tuition to raise the salaries of faculty and administration which he admitted to be lower than those of UE Recto. He stated that he has not received any salary for the 16 years he has been at the helm of UERM. He pointed out that scholarships at UERM should be defined more clearly" and further challenged that

"each graduating class from 1961 to 2004" should support one scholar." As a group we thanked him for his valuable time with us and invited him to the Houston convention in August as our special guest, to which he politely declined because he is "too old to travel."



Thursday, February 17, 2005 - 4PM to 5 PM: Meeting with Dr. Sonia Castro-Rodriguez, Chair of the Department of Psychiatry. She said that there are currently 12 in-patients at the psychiatry ward and the staff of 2 residents of the 3-year program sees about 15 outpatients a day. She showed me the documents on how her department has spent the \$4,200 donated by the foundation: Zaguirre Memorial Lectures, 3 journal subscriptions, books and financial support for the psychiatry team that did "critical incident stress debriefing" of the mudslide victims in Real, Quezon recently. She proudly informed that the UERM Department of Psychiatry is the only one in the country to have held yearly postgraduate courses in psychiatry around the country since 1992. She also wanted everyone to know that "UERM has produced the most number of psychiatrists in the Philippines and abroad." From my encounter with this regal lady psychiatrist, I am very pleased that she is the chairwoman of OUR Department of Psychiatry!

Bayani B. Elma, M.D.

Ya'll come Texas!

If you have not attended an alumni reunion and convention before or been a regular at the past ones, don't pass up the next one 'cuzz 'twill be in our great State of Texas! No, it ain't gonna be in San Antonio by the Alamo or in Big D's cardiac Cowboys country. It's in Houston, the Queen City of the Bayous.

What have we got to offer? Let me leave the braggin' to Kuya Joe Tandoc, convention co-chair. Let me just say that being big is not a Texas myth. It is Texas! Like any souls across this Lone Star prairie, Houstonians have vastly different concepts of thrill, beauty, fun, money, friendship, food, hospitality . . . from the rest of the country. They take pride in surviving the summer heat in August, burning their tongues at chili cookouts, revel at the wildcat deals they make at daytime and the two-steps they tap at the honky tonk at sundown.

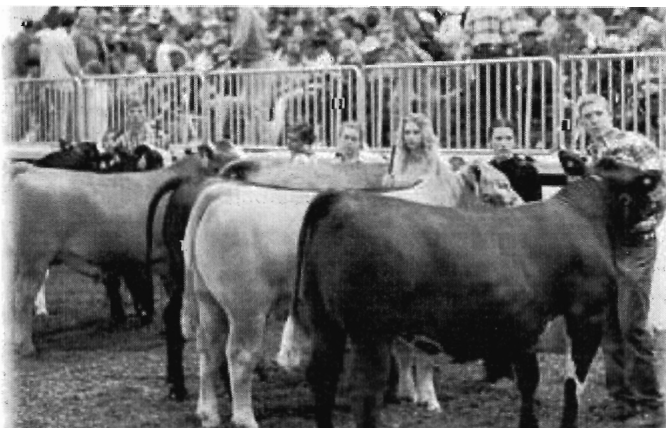
The venue, see for yourself. Right by the Galleria. The meeting, it will be awesome! We'll talk big money at the foundation's annual meeting, claim big prizes in the golf outing, have non-stop laughter and excitement at the fellowship reception on day 1. Then an 8-hour CME *cum* ethics and Cuyegkeng lecture starring hotshot UERM alumni capped by a batch night party on day 2.

On the final day's general assembly, come hear school officials tell us why they need our help and equally listen to our alumni officers show us how we can help. Ask questions at the open forum. Thinking of sending your kid to med school in the homeland? Attend the first



symposium on Philippine medical education. Bring lots of cash. If you are a bit short, we now accept Mastercard and Visa for your fees and donations. We will have an oil baron auction style fund raising. Let's send the dean home with a treasure trove of support for our students and faculty. The gala toasting the silver jubilarian Class '80, pearl '75, jade '70, and ruby '65 will be pure fun. No winded speeches. Just camaraderie, music, dancing, picture-taking, reminiscing. We promise. We will even have our very own alum priest say mass and keep us all on the side of angels. Serious! See you in Houston. It's a deal!

Editor



For the 2nd time in history, the UERMMCMAAA and UERMMCA-FUSA head south to Houston, Texas for their 17th Alumni Reunion & Convention and annual meeting on August 4-6, 2005 at the J.W. Marriott Hotel across the world famous Houston Galleria, a 3-level fully air-conditioned shopping mall with its many stores, restaurants, offices and ice skating rink.

Houston is the country's 4th largest city, energy capital of the world, Space City USA (NASA Space Center), and home of the Texas Medical Center, its biggest employer. It is very cosmopolitan, diverse, and noted for its courteous and friendly people. It has an excellent theater district, super restaurants (seafood, barbecues, ethnic, etc.) at very reasonable prices and home to all major college and professional sports. It is near Galveston island which is famous for its Strand, the beautiful Moody Gardens and home port to cruise ships sailing to the Caribbean and Mexico.

Although there's no organized UERM alumni chapter in Texas a group of dedicated alumni from Houston and Texas got together to stage a memorable event for all. It's headed by Tom Lumicao of Pearl Class '75 and yours truly of the Ruby class '65, ably supported by UERMMCMAAA national officers led by President Manny Blas of Chicago, Executive Director Irene Manlapaz of Louisiana and Convention Coordinator Susan Suntay of New York.

The big event begins with a golf tournament on Thursday morning, Aug. 4, followed by general registration and exhibits, and in the evening the Welcome & Fellowship Night. The CME on Aug. 5 is from 8AM to 4PM with the Cuyegkeng Memorial Lecture at noon. That evening's Jubilarian Night will be hosted by all jubilarian classes led by '65. On Aug. 6, the Gala Night dinner-dance will honor the jubilarian classes '65, '70, '75, and '80.

To date, alumni responses indicate a big turnout. So register now! See next pages for details.

Joe Tandoc, M.D.

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**Deadline for submission: June 30,
2005.**

Thank you for your support.

2005 Houston golf tournament

by Jun Nasser, M.D.

FORE!!!

Attention all golfers, golf lovers and lovers of golfers. The Houston shootout will be played at TOUR 18 on Thursday, August 4, 2005. It will be a shotgun start at 7:30 am. TOUR 18 has simulated the 18 most famous holes in the history of golf where you can experience the exhilaration of "America's Greatest Eighteen Holes" all in one course. Check its website at www.tour18.com.

The format will be Two-Person, Best Ball. This is a flighted tournament of men, women and mixed teams. Numerous prizes and fits will be given in addition to the usual awards for Lowest Score, Nearest to the Pin (par 3's), Longest Drive, etc. The Grand Award will be the RM Cup. This will be awarded to the class whose 4 players have the lowest combined scores. All playing alumni must indicate their year of graduation in the score card to be counted. This cup will be passed on to the winning class in the succeeding years or retained if successfully defended.

We need help to make this a fun-filled and successful venture. I would like to encourage alumni to look for sponsors of \$100 per hole. Eight Class '68 golfers have made their pledges so far. Top trophy contender Class '69 golfers Razalan, Salumbides, and Taturan have likewise pledged. I'm sure our phone won't stop ringing for more pledges from the other classy alumni golfers. We also need donors of golf gift items or cash, etc. A \$100 cash donation per class would fetch \$4,000. Volunteers will be needed on site. May we call on non-playing spouses and children? Other bright ideas, suggestions and comments are welcome.

IT'S TIME TO FORM YOUR TEAM! Fill out the entry forms and send them in with your entry fee of \$175 per player, grab a big bucket and hit the driving range. This includes practice balls, cart, lunch, prizes, and bus rides to and from the course.

Your contacts are: Jun Nasser '68 at (409) 727-4907, (409) 727-3746 (fax) or msnasserjr@aol.com; Tom Lumicao '75 at (281) 265-2983 or thomasl@bcm.tmc.edu; Jonas Bustos '68 at (785) 258-2592 or jonasbustsos@tctelco.com.

An open appeal Adopt a scholar

by Bayani B. Elma, M.D., Chairman

This first appeared in a newsletter special during the last alumni convention in Chicago. Editor

Dear Fellow Alumni,

I hope that you will join us in giving back to the UERMMMC College of Medicine, the school that gave us so much.

We have all benefited enormously from our UERM education far beyond the mastery of the basic sciences and clinical skills. We were taught by caring and dynamic teachers who had taught us to respect self-discipline, hard work, and civility. What we learned from UERM prepared us not just for future medical careers but also for life.

Remember, it was through the generosity of earlier philanthropists that we were given the opportunity of this great UERM education, the foundation on which our successful lives rests.

Now it's time to reciprocate and assist others in having the same opportunity.

However you can reach out, whether it's \$100 or \$10 or in kind (medical books, equipments, VHS tapes and CDs), please know what a difference you can make. Your gift will help UERM continue to provide financial aid to students in need, to attract and keep top faculty, enrich the medical library and ensure that the UERM tradition continues to live on.

As you consider your gifts to the Annual Fund, please remember the impact your UERM education has had in your lives. No matter what the size, all gifts are important and appreciated.

The only gift that is too small is no gift at all!

When I first interviewed Dean Georgina T. Paredes at her office last June, I sensed immediately that she had a clear game plan for the medical school: lead it to academic excellence by recruiting top pre-med graduates and emphasizing faculty development. To this end, her initial foray into alumni affairs in Chicago emphasized scholarship. In that interview, she presented me with a list of 15 desirable applicants for first year most of whom did not have sufficient means to afford enrollment at UERM. Knowing the limitation of our resources, she made an urgent appeal for just two *cum laude* prospects. Alumni responded warmly and took the 2 scholars for four-year funding.

Now, she is out there again searching for similar quality applicants for the incoming class of 2009. This time, she wants more support from alumni. Working with Dr. Elma of the foundation and Dr. Blas of the association, she has refined the alumni scholarship program for freshmen (see pages 5, 12-13) to now involve two categories: (1) scholarship for latin honor freshmen and (2) scholarship for those without latin honors but with high NMAT and GWA.

The first is called Dean's Scholarship which has two levels: gold which grants \$2,000 a year for four years, and silver which gives \$1,000 a year for four years. She wrote me in December that she had already received 7 pledges: 4 from the Midwest Chapter which already remitted \$25,000, one from the Northeast Chapter and two from a couple of classmates.

The second is called Special Honors Award which the foundation has funded starting the 2005-2006 SY, and provides \$365 for each of 10 recipients with GWA of 1.8 to 2.0 and high NMAT score.

She is confident that she can get the best students with our backing. Out of 700 who applied, she hopes to enroll 150 good ones, 15 of whom could be alumni scholars. *Editor*

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



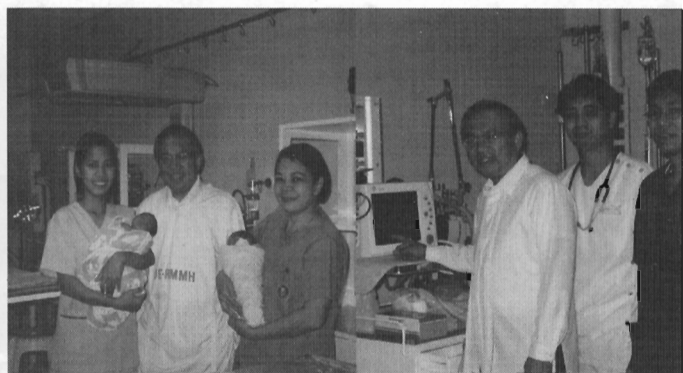
Dr. Tomasino Padla, Jr., Head, Department of Pathology receives teaching slides from Dr. Elma, with Dean Paredes & College Secretary Dr. Rabe.



Dr. Elma with the clinical department heads and Dr. Divinagracia after his 2004 meeting with them.



Dr. Elma presents the checks for the Dean's IT project and the library.



Dr. Elma also visits the Foundation gifted new pediatric and adult ICUs.



<The Chairman's 2004 visit included a meeting with UERMMMC Board Chairman Mr. P.O. Domingo and Dr. Divinagracia, and Former Dean Valdellon, Chair, Scholarship Committee.>



The Houston Host Committee

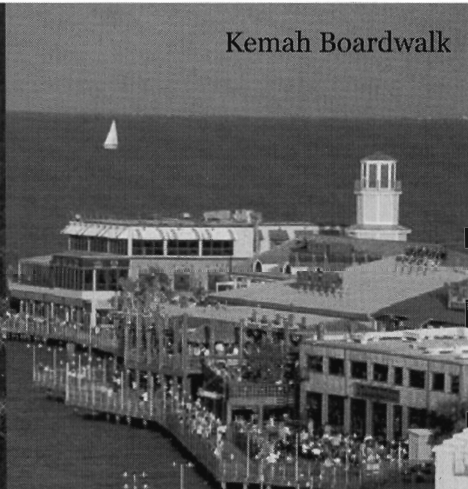
The Cast

In the picture (L to R): Front row, Mia Dajoyag-Mejia '95, Susan Perez-Suntay '77, Odette Blas, Christine Garcia '02, Del Y Andres '75, Josie Tandoc; Back row. Brian Bruel '01, Leonidas Andres, Manny Blas '67, Tom Lumicao '75, Virginia Lumicao, and Joe Tandoc '65. Not in picture: Fernando & Sol Kiok '74, Perla Castro '73, Mike Jocson '65, Jun Nasser '68, Naomi Piga BCM '02, Ethel Ilanga '75, Ed Tomaneng '75, James Tagle '75, Robert Valenton '75

Houston Rodeo



Kemah Boardwalk



Johnson Space Center



Kemah Boardwalk



Aesculapius Ex

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Welcome to Houston!

