

June 2010

Dear Fellow Sillimanian:

"Today marks the end of a regime indifferent to the appeals of the people. It is not Noynoy who found a way. You are the reason why the silent suffering of the nation is about to end. This the beginning of my burden, but if many of us will... bear the cross we will lift it, no matter how heavy..." This and more points from the inaugural speech of PRESIDENT BENIGNO S. AQUINO III inspire much of the sense of nationalism that is spreading like fever on campus.

Nationalism as inspired by a historical event of the country, the inauguration of the 15th President of the Philippines, His Excellency Benigno Simeon Cojuangco Aquino III, was chosen as main theme in the opening of the cultural season for school year 2010-2011. The June 23 salvo featured the Philippine Opera Company who filled the Luce Auditorium with Filipino classical songs. A call for the preservation of these songs at the end of the concert was made by the performing artists and in response, our University President Dr. Ben S. Malayang III told the members of the Cultural Affairs Committee to make sure that the traditions in Philippine music will be part of the mission of the University's cultural program.

The Miss Silliman pageant on August 24 with 13 students vying for the three titles (Miss Silliman 2010, the Miss Silliman CO-ED and the Miss Silliman Headline Girl) takes nationalism as the inspiration with the theme "Ang Pagsibol sa Bagong Filipina." This year's candidates include Mary Rose Ronville Montejo of the College of Agriculture, Ayesha Amigo Villanueva of the Institute of Clinical Laboratory Sciences (in picture), Anna Rachel Laplap of the College of Business Administration, Marian Vanslebrouck of the College of Nursing, Johara Madronio Villanueva of the College of Engineering and Design, Ella Clavano of High School, Stephanie Denise Horca Martin of the College of College of Arts and Sciences, Kimberly Anne Cimafranca of the College Of Performing Arts, Nikita Kay Serion of the College of Education, Feb Rodriguez of the Computer Studies, Felrose Fabria of the School of Public Administration and Governance, April



Joy Seville of the College of Law and Iresse Patricia Bulos of the College of Mass Communication.

The 110th Founders Day theme “Silliman @ 109: Raised On Eagles’ Wings” is inspired by the 1979 song composed by Michael Joncas of the Vatican Council “On Eagles Wings” with lyrics based on the wisdom found in Psalm 91 and Isaiah 40:31. The highlights of the celebration in August include the Parada Sillimaniana. This year’s Founders Day parade will have background music consisting of an infusion of the tribal beat of Mindanao, the traditional cheer *Silliman Whooper* and the revival of the *Silliman March*. Each participating unit will have a choreography that goes with the beat. Alumni groups who are planning to participate may get an advance copy of the recorded music and the rules governing the parade. The new Chairperson of the Parada Sillimaniana is Dr. Elizabeth Susan Vista-Suarez, the Dean of the College of Performing Arts. Any request for inclusion in the Founders Day Calendar of Activities (available on Silliman website: su.edu.ph) can be e-mailed to the Founders Day Chairperson Dr. Margaret Helen Udarbe Alvarez, the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences: cas.malvarez@yahoo.com

There are 6,573 students enrolled in the college and graduate school levels for the First Semester of school year 2010-2011. Around 300 of them come from 23 countries. Among the new programs offered is the PhD in Psychology with specialization in Clinical Psychology and Socio-Organizational Psychology.

The *Silliman Journal* chosen as the best research publication in the country, was ranked No. 1 in the June 3 A-1 accreditation listing of the Commission on Higher Education.

2001 BBA Accountancy graduate Chad Ian Garcia Cahambing graduated with honors in two degrees, Master of Business Administration in Finance and Master of Business Administration in International Business - from Northeastern University in Boston, Massachusetts.

1976 Outstanding Sillimanian in Nursing Service Dr. Luz Sobong Porter was recently honored as College of Nursing and Health Sciences Professor Emerita, as presented by the President and Provost of Florida International University (FIU).

College of Agriculture Dean Dr. Jose Edwin C. Cubelo, is on a three-month fellowship at Purdue University in Indiana, as a Global Diversity Scholar in Residence at the university’s Diversity Resource Office. Dr. Cubelo left for Purdue University on April 17, 2010 and is set to return to Silliman University on July 22, 2010. This is under the Leaders Fellows Program of the United Board for Christian Higher Education in Asia (UBCHEA).

1988 College of Law alumnus Judge Rafael Cresencio Tan, Jr. was one of the nine honorees of the 7th Dr. Jose Rizal Awards for Excellence for Outstanding Chinese-Filipinos on June 19. Judge Tan is a multi-awarded public servant. The recognition is a project of the *Manila Times* and the Kaisa Para sa Kaunlaran, Inc.



Former Literature teacher of Silliman University Kitty Sollesta Taniguchi is among the few female painters who has successfully “trespassed” upon a formerly male-controlled territory. For the past thirty years, she has faithfully explored themes of femininity and feminine modes of representation that challenge and reinterpret some existing social and cultural conventions. Many of her works are

drawn from her personal struggle to define her own artistic identity, and her portraits of women may be read as the “truth, reality, challenges and sufferings of women through centuries of spiritual and physical oppression.” Symbolism likewise pervades her works as a way of replacing traditional representations and to give substance to her content. Kitty recently received confirmation that her work titled “Wrong Horizon No. 2” is the Philippine entry for the 4th Beijing International Art Biennale, which will be held in Beijing, China from September 19 to 23, 2010. The Dumaguete-based visual artist first made the Philippines proud when she represented the country in the prestigious exhibition in 2005, and she did it again in the 2008 editions of the biennale.

IN MEMORIAM: Journalist Henry Villava (MA Creative Writing 1981) on June 4; Abigail Evaretta Maco (SUHS 1954, BSN 1968) on June 4; the Governor-elect of Negros Oriental and former Congressman Hon. Emilio C. Macias (SUHS 1950, Pre-Med 1952) on June 13; the former Dean of the College of Engineering Teogenes v. Magdamo (BSCE 1961) on Father’s Day June 20; Federico F. Genove (BSCE 1953) on June 26, sisters Flora Bartolo Roa (Gen. Norm 1947) and Salvacion Bartolo Abugan (SUHS 1949, ETC 1952), and David Resposo Sr. (former Silliman treasurer 1962-1966). If you know of any Sillimanian who is not in our memorial list, please inform us.

Thank you for always being there for dear old Silliman.

President Ben Malayang has requested this office to regularly update you about happenings on campus. We are also interested in knowing what you and your alumni chapters are doing.

Please keep in touch and update your file with our office if you have not done so. We would truly appreciate it. You may reach the President's Office through this email address: pres@su.edu.ph. You may also contact the Alumni Affairs Office through this address: sillimanguidingstar@gmail.com.

Sincerely,

Jocelyn "JONG" Somoza de la Cruz
Director of Alumni and External Affairs

cc: Dr. Ben S. Malayang III