



Silliman university

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SU joins Clinton forum

A DOUBLE MAJOR in Economics and Political Science of Silliman University was one of only two students from outside Manila given the chance to engage United States Secretary of State Hillary Clinton in a forum held November 13.

Silliman was the choice university outside Manila to represent the Visayas in the forum coordinated by the US Embassy and handled exclusively by TV network ABC-CBN. The university was connected via satellite to the University of Santo Tomas, the main forum venue where the Secretary of State was located. Ateneo de Zamboanga University represented Mindanao.

Anna Katrina Espino, who is in her junior year and was introduced by ANC anchor Tony Velasquez as a debater, asked Ms Clinton about the global recession.

"Will the effort of your government to reverse the recession affect your adherence to free trade principles?"

Espino received more than a response. The Secretary congratulated her. "Well, Anna, thank you and congratulations on being a champion debater. That's quite an accomplishment."

Ms Clinton proceeded to the question and cited how the whole world is starting to recover from the global recession.

"I think that we are reversing the

effects of the global recession, not only in the United States, but we are beginning to see some positive signs elsewhere," she said. "And I really want to commend the Philippines. Until the recession, I think you had 34 or 35 straight quarters of positive growth, which is really the best way to end poverty -- to grow out of it."

The Secretary admitted that there is a slow movement back to economic stability but affirmed the US' commitment to free trade alongside efforts to cascade its benefits to the working class.

"In the United States, we are committed to free trade, but we also would like to see trade agreements recognize the rights of workers to benefit from free trade, because if the free trade benefits only go to the top of society, that doesn't change the economic well-being of the larger society, which we would like to see free trade do," she explained.

Aware of the typhoons that hit the Philippines over the last months, Ms Clinton emphasized how free trade should not compromise the environment and exacerbate the effects of climate change.

She said abrupt changes in the weather that cause horrible storms and droughts have a tangible effect on how people are living.

"So we don't want free trade to encourage climate change; we want it

to help discourage climate change. So we are going to continue to promote trade and economic activity, but we would like to see it have a positive impact on workers and the environment," Ms Clinton said.

The Secretary concluded her talk with Espino by sending her regards to the "gentle people" of Dumaguete.

Espino joined an audience composed of high school and college students on the historic Silliman Hall grounds.

Silliman's participation in the forum was facilitated by the Thomas Jefferson Information Center (TJIC) of the US Embassy in Manila. TJIC is the coordinating unit of the American Studies Resource Centers (ASRC) located in select universities across the Philippines. These centers serve as information hubs of the US Embassy, promoting American history, life and culture, and social and political processes. The ASRC at Silliman is hosted on the ground floor of the Robert B. and Meeta J. Silliman Library, one of the country's biggest libraries.

Established in 1901 by Presbyterian missionaries, Silliman University is the Philippines' oldest American university. The venue for the Silliman event features Silliman Hall, the country's oldest standing American structure representative of stick style architecture.

primarily serve as a permanent home to the Silliman National Writers Workshop, the oldest running writers' workshop in the Philippines. Among its features will be a two-storey main function hall and five duplex cottages (with toilet and bath).

As it celebrates its 49th year in May 2010, the Silliman National Writers Workshop anticipates participation of creative writers from Asian countries.

Silliman is Top 2 in CPA, ME board exams

SILLIMAN UNIVERSITY IS the country's second top performing school in the licensure examinations for Mechanical Engineers (ME) and Certified Public Accountants (CPA).

The University garnered a passing rate of 94 percent in the ME board exam against a national passing rate of 60.46 percent, and passing rate of 82 percent in the CPA board exam against a national passing rate of 41.67 percent.

Silliman congratulates the following:

Licensed Mechanical Engineers:
Acahy, Jun Anthony; Aday Hardeley; Avanzado, Wilmark; Bad-an, Francisco Jr.; Buquiran, Alden; Cabale,

Dan; Duran, Jose Marlon II; Fabugais, Ramon Jr.; Jarabe, Maxuel; Litorja, Matthew Van; Moreto, Mark Bencer; Palafox, Christopher Bhrent; Picardal, Franz Joseph; Rubia, Ulysses; Salon, Eugene Allan; Villariza, Clifford

Certified Public Accountants:
Andaya, Mark Lowell; Aujero, Charelyn; Barote, Arianne; Bontia, Mar John; Daniel, JC Pearl; Delos Santos, Gretel Kelly; Dumat-ol, Cyndi May; Fernandez, Mark Joseph; King, Belton; Nolasco, Therese Claire; Omaguig, Gerswane; Pino, Marvin Carlo; Pis-an, Phillipp Jhune; Serato, Kristine; Ungab, Diogenes; Yu, Joana Jael; Yu, Yuri; Zosa, Red Lily;

High School pupils win in nat'l debate

TWO GRADUATING HIGH school students of the School of Basic Education were the champions of the Ana Alano Cup of the Philippine Schools Debate Championship (PSDC) held November 4 to 7 at the Ateneo de Manila University.

Julius Anthony Ragay and Jay Anderson comprised Silliman Team A that bagged the Alano Cup in the championship round among the highest-ranking four teams coming from high schools that have not yet been part of the PSDC main finals round.

Silliman won over teams from La Salle Greenhills, Ateneo de Davao and Ateneo de Zamboanga.

Three other high school students

made it to the finals of the Public Speaking Contest of the PSDC: Anderson, Amyrrha Estoloso and Pol Eldridge Caluscusan.

Four other teams represented the University: (Team B) Estoloso and Nicole Villanueva; (Team C) Dayle Danielle Casianan and Jeff Nicolo Palad; (Team D) Caluscusan and Mishell Marie Gabas; and (Team E) James Shemron Corro and Mykaela Luz Maxino.

The PSDC is the country's national debate championship for high schools that follows the British parliamentary style. There were 116 teams from 19 schools around the country that faced off this year. Silliman was the only school from the Visayas.

Construction of Writers' Village Underway

A WRITERS' VILLAGE will soon rise on the picturesque Silliman property at Camp Lookout in Valencia.

Groundbreaking rites took place in the afternoon of November 15 with National Artist for Literature Dr. Edith Tiempo as the guest of honor.

The Village will host the Creative Writing Center which is dedicated to promote literary arts in the Philippines and across Asia.

Construction of the Village is being

supported through a P5-million donation from Atty. Enrique Sobrepeña, President and CEO of the College Assurance Plan and an Outstanding Sillimanian in 1973 in the field of Business. He made the donation in honor of his wife, Rose Lamb-Sobrepeña, and the founders of the Silliman National Writers Workshop, Dr. Tiempo and her late husband, Dr. Edilberto Tiempo.

The Village is envisioned to

University officials attend ACUCA conference in Taiwan

TWO SILLIMAN UNIVERSITY administrators attended the 2009 Management Conference of the Association of Christian Universities and Colleges in Asia (ACUCA) held October 28 to 30 at Chang Jung Christian University in Taiwan.

Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Betsy Joy Tan and University Pastor and Chaplain Rev. Noel Villaalba represented Silliman in the conference themed "Service-Learning and International Cooperation."

Dr. Tan represented Silliman University President Dr. Ben Malayang III in the meetings of university

presidents and the ACUCA Executive Committee. Dr. Malayang sits in the seven-country Committee as Philippine representative.

Recognized as one of the pillars of service-learning in Silliman University, Dr. Tan shared the University's interdisciplinary approach to service-learning and how it has been institutionalized as pedagogy of learning.

A separate session was organized for university chaplains that tackled, among others, the role of faith formation and development of Christian principles in the academe.

LGU execs meet in SU for regional capacity dev't event

SOME 80 PARTICIPANTS from 12 provinces in the Philippines and six other countries, composed mostly of local chief executives, convened for a Regional Capacity Development Learning Event held October 26 to 28 at Silliman University.

Themed "Improving LGU Performance through Local Capacity Innovations and Incentive Mechanisms", the event was organized by the Galing Pook, in partnership with the United Nations Development Programme (Philippines and Bangkok) and the SNV Netherlands Development Organization. It was co-sponsored by

SILLIMAN UNIVERSITY AND the provincial government of Negros Oriental.

The three-day event had two parts: a learning-sharing workshop and an on-site learning visit to various LGU exemplars in the province of Negros Oriental, including the *Tabo sa* PAO, Inter-Local Health Zone (Negros Oriental Provincial Hospital) and the Dauin Coastal Resource Management Program.

Graced by UNDP Country Director Renaud Meyer and Galing Pook Foundation Executive Director Dr. Eddie Dorotan, the event provided a venue to learn and share from

innovative approaches on incentive mechanisms in internal governance systems that enable local governments to perform their functions and meet their objectives.

It featured several sessions that facilitated interactions among Filipino and international delegates from Cambodia, Thailand, Sri Lanka, Indonesia, India and Pakistan on experiences and exemplary practices that illustrated how to innovate leadership and engagement with various stakeholder groups in building appropriate local capacity incentive mechanisms across local government institutions.

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Happy Charter Day Anniversary

Dumaguete!