



ACUCA NEWS



ASSOCIATION OF CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES IN ASIA

*"Committed to the mission of Christian higher education of uniting all people
in the community of service and fellowship."*

ACUCA MEMBER INSTITUTIONS

HONG KONG

Chung Chi College, CUHK
Hong Kong Baptist University
Lingnan University

INDIA

Christ University
Lady Doak College

INDONESIA

Parahyangan Catholic University
Petra Christian University
Satya Wacana Christian University
Universitas Kristen Indonesia
Maranatha Christian University
Duta Wacana Christian University
Soegijapranata Catholic University
Universitas Pelita Harapan
Krida Wacana Christian University
Universitas Atma Jaya Yogyakarta
Sanata Dharma University
University of HKBP Nommensen

JAPAN

International Christian University
Kwansei Gakuin University
Meiji Gakuin University
Nanzan University
Doshisha University
Aoyama Gakuin University
Momoyama Gakuin University
J.F. Oberlin University
Tohoku Gakuin University
Seigakuin University

KOREA

Ewha Womans University
Sogang University
Soongsil University
Yonsei University
Keimyung University
Hannam University
Jeonju University
Handong Global University
Mokwon University

PHILIPPINES

Ateneo de Manila University
Central Philippine University
De La Salle University
Philippine Christian University
Silliman University
Trinity University of Asia
Filamer Christian College
Miriam College
St. Paul University

TAIWAN

Fu Jen Catholic University
Soochow University
Tunghai University
Chung Yuan Christian University
Providence University
St. John's University
Chang Jung Christian University
Wenzao Ursuline College of Languages

THAILAND

Asia-Pacific International University
Payap University
Assumption University
Christian University of Thailand

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Message from Dr. Vincent Han-Sun Chiang, ACUCA President and Fr. Leszek Niewdana, SVD, General Secretary of ACUCA

At the 19th ACUCA General Assembly on October 28, 2012, the role of the ACUCA secretariat was handed over from International Christian University, Japan to Fu Jen Catholic University, Taiwan. Following is the message from the new ACUCA President and General Secretary.

Fu Jen Catholic University is humbled and honored to serve as the ACUCA Secretariat for 2013 to 2014.

As one of the original 22 founding institutions, Fu Jen has witnessed the flourishing development of ACUCA. Not only the number of member institutions has almost tripled in the last three score years, but also different programs were launched to promote exchanges. In the past, we organized the ACUCA Lecturer Series for distinguished scholars to tour member schools and share their expertise with the faculty and students, which greatly enhanced the mutual understanding among our partners. More recently, we have expanded the scale of exchanges to include also our students. With the implementation of ACUCA Student Mobility Scheme, Student Camp and ACUCA Network Model, we offer students a unique opportunity to engage in learning through cross-border dialogues; and we can expect our efforts in facilitating these programs to bloom as our young students become professionals, who will lead the development of their society and countries in the next decades. ACUCA thrives on the devoted work of previous presidents and secretariats and the collaboration of all the member schools.

The Management Conference, the Biennial Conference and General Assembly have given all members an opportunity to meet every year. The great efforts that the organizers made in selecting themes of common interests, inviting renowned speakers and arranging the logistics with meticulous care have greatly encouraged member schools to participate in the above-mentioned occasions. For several years, ACUCA member schools have focused on the advancement of service-learning, which has now become one of the most effective pedagogies commonly used amongst us to develop the students' professional skills through actual work and service for the disadvantaged groups. We believe that the fruitful results we enjoy come as a result of many ACUCA conferences and meetings, with which we have deliberated and debated to perfect our practice in service-learning.

Based upon the solid foundation, we hope to deepen its impact by pushing it a step further to investigate "university community engagement" and value education in our annual gatherings for the next two years. As institutions of higher education are confronting new challenges in the 21st century, the roles and responsibilities that institutions hold need re-examination. Universities and colleges have long played a vital role in nurturing graduates to be fully skilled to perform effectively in global entities. A mission equally important, though often neglected, is the provision and training of students' character, ethical knowledge and commitment to society. Very often, our young graduates are competent in performing technical and professional tasks, but they tend to fail in applying what they learn in the class setting to their local environment. Therefore, there is a growing need to include community engagement and value formation into curricula, diverse activities and reflection, so that students can have a holistic education experience which integrates local knowledge with skills such as communication, teamwork, leadership, the spirit of social commitment and the sense of responsibility. It is our hope that ACUCA members continue to function as institutions dedicated to equipping our students with moral values and commitment to serve their communities that are inherent in Christian education.

Another task for the Secretariat is to increase the impact of ACUCA by inviting more universities from our region to participate. Demographically, Asia has two of the world's most populated countries, China and India. We are glad to see that two universities in India applied to become official members this year. In China, although there are no Christian universities, there has been a growing number of research centers on Christianity in recent years. By extending our invitation to more counterparts in India and observers from China, we can share the ideal of Christian education and our practices with fellow educators.

Based upon the solid foundation of our shared values, we believe ACUCA will continue to engage educators, faculty and students from different cultural and religious backgrounds in their commitment to better the society through mutual support and a communion of life.

We look forward to the pleasure of working more closely with you in the next two years!



From left to right: former General Secretary Dr. Ro, Dr. Chiang, former President Hibiya and Fr. Niewdana.

Vincent Han-Sun Chiang
President
Fu Jen Catholic University

Fr. Leszek Niewdana, SVD
Vice-President for Mission
Fu Jen Catholic University

ACUCA Biennial Conference & 19th General Assembly 2012 "Whole Person Education -Trends and Challenges"

The ACUCA Biennial Conference & 19th General Assembly 2012 took place at International Christian University and Meiji Gakuin University in Tokyo, Japan from October 26 to 28, 2012. More than 80 participants from 46 member institutions in 8 countries and region and the United Board joined the conference, and through listening to keynote lectures and exchanging ideas at parallel sessions, they deepened their understanding of the Whole Person Education.

Participants also enjoyed presentations on the ACUCA Network Model, the ACUCA Student Camp, and Field Reports by the member institutions whose countries suffered from natural disasters.

At the General Assembly, Dr. Johannes Unsok Ro, the General Secretary, gave a report on ACUCA activities for the last two years, and

suggested that ACUCA should continue to develop the ACUCA Network Model. After that, partial amendment of the ACUCA Constitution and By-laws was approved, followed by approval of new membership of 3 institutions: the University of HKBP Nommensen from Indonesia, and Christ University and Lady Doak College from India. Christ University and Lady Doak College are the first institutions from India to join ACUCA. Finally Fu Jen Catholic University, Taiwan was elected as the new ACUCA President institution, and President Vincent Chiang gave an acceptance speech.

ACUCA Secretariat at International Christian University would like to thank all the participants and everyone who supported this conference.

Reflections on the ACUCA Biennial Conference

At the ACUCA Biennial Conference, three members from the United Board for Christian Higher Education in Asia, including President Nancy E. Chapman, joined. Mr. Ricky Cheng, Vice President for Development, shared with us his reflections on the conference.

Congratulations to the ACUCA Biennial Conference team, headed by Prof. Hibiya and Prof. Ro for the great success of this conference.

The conference theme, "Whole Person Education (WPE)" is perfectly matched by two perfect venues, the ICU and the Meiji Gakuin University campus. The serenity and the wholesomeness of the two campuses are the ideal venues for the ACUCA members to contemplate the next step in putting WPE into practice.

I learned a life lesson during dinner at the Dialogue House, which I am eager to put into practice at home. The Chair of the ICU Board, Mr. Kitashiro, shared with us the secret of happy marriage. Mr. Kitashiro said that he never argues with his wife. He further revealed the secret of always starting with an apology before any arguments. We can learn important life lessons anytime and anywhere, and this is the spirit of whole person education.

Coming back to the conference, Dr. Benson, the first keynote speaker, rightly pointed out that there is indeed a perfect storm embattling the very core and spirit of whole person education with institutions increasingly focusing on jobs and career. Employers complain that higher learning institutions today work like factories, cookie stamping students with high scores but low skills. President Chan, the second keynote speaker, showed us how the Baptist University of Hong Kong may be one of the few safe harbors to equip Baptist University students with the important soft skills they need to face the challenges of the 21st Century. Clearly Professor Chan is practicing what he preaches about whole person education. Perhaps it is no surprise that Prof. Chan was a product of great liberal arts education at ICU 37 years ago.

WPE was further explored in three parallel sessions on its theoretical, practical, and technological aspects. The sessions, led by experienced ICU faculty, discussed and even debated the best way to conceptualize and put in practice this very important subject. These sessions gave us more food for thought and fleshed out the structure for ACUCA members to adapt the pedagogy and practice suitable for their institutions.

In watching the student presentations about the ACUCA student networking model and the student camp activities, I wanted to transform myself back in time by 30 years, so that I might join them next year. Failing that, I look forward to signing up on the third-stage institute that Dr. Benson suggested.

In the last Biennial Conference, held in Keimyung University in Daegu, I raised my hand at the closing ceremony, commenting that although ACUCA covers Asia, noticeably there were no members from two of the biggest countries in Asia, or the world for that matter - India and mainland China. Today, we have achieved half of that target. I hope in the not so distant future, there will also be ACUCA members from mainland China. In my mind that will make ACUCA whole.



Mr. Ricky Cheng



Keynote lectures took place at the Dialogue House at ICU.



Keynote lecture by Dr. Albert S. C. Chan.



President Nancy E. Chapman of the United Board exchanging gifts with ACUCA President Junko Hibiya.



Participants visiting Taizan-so, a historic house in the Japanese Garden on ICU campus.



Students making a presentation on the ACUCA Network Model.



Participants enjoyed their visits to Asakusa during the optional half day tour.

Providence University Is Proud of the Achievements of its Students and Faculty in World Competitions

Students and Faculty of Providence University are on top of world competitions. These achievements are indeed remarkable and have made Providence University truly proud!

At the **23th IKA/Culinary Olympics 2012** held in Germany in October, 2012 Ke Ming Jhong (柯明宗) and his apprentice, Ye Dong Han (葉東翰) from the Department of Tourism won four gold medals. Ye Dong Han learned the skill of Vegetable Carving from his master for six months. Although a new comer in the field of Vegetable Carving, Ye Dong Han worked so hard at harnessing his skill and like his master started harvesting the fruits of his labor by winning in various competitions. In fact, he also won a gold medal in a culinary competition in Korea.

At the **12th British Invention Show Awarding Ceremony** held on November 9, 2012, all the twenty-three entries from Taiwan have garnered a total of twenty-two gold, nine silver and seven bronze medals. This marks the best winning record history of Taiwan in British Invention Show.

Students from the Department of Computer Science and Information Engineering of Providence University, Shen Yi Jie (沈義傑), Jhang Hen Cih (張恆慈) and Chen Han Wun (陳漢文) won a gold medal for their excellent invention of the motion sensing robot. By simulating the reaction of human's

movement, their robot can be used in disposing dangerous objects, like bombs. The students are more than glad to have the opportunity to share different concepts and ideas with the other outstanding inventors around the world.

Moreover, the Team of Researchers on *Acinetobacter Baumannii* (AB) assigned by President Tang Chun Yin of Providence University, whose members are experts from universities such as Providence University, National Tsing Hua University, Yuan Pei University and NTUH Hsin-Chu Branch has finally succeeded at decoding this type of bacteria after three years of hard work. This encouraging discovery would help doctors greatly as they would be able to give medical treatment to their patients who are infected with *Acinetobacter Baumannii*, a very strong microbe resistant to drugs especially antibiotics. This researchers' theory was adopted by the National Library of Medicine on September 22, 2012. They also held a conference at National Taiwan University Hospital (NTUH) Hsin-Chu Branch on October 30, 2012 on *Acinetobacter Baumannii*.

These are just some of the manifestations that Providence University students and Faculty are no doubt globally competitive. CONGRATULATIONS! WE ARE VERY PROUD OF YOU!



Ke Ming Jhong and his apprentice, Ye Dong Han from Tourism Department won 4 gold medals in Vegetable Carving at the 2012 IKA/Culinary Olympics held in Germany.



Computer Science and Information Engineering students, Shen Yi Jie, Jhang Hen Cih and Chen Han Wun won a gold medal for their excellent invention at the 12th British Invention Show.



President Tang Chun Yin of Providence University with the Team of Researchers on *Acinetobacter Baumannii*.

The Challenge of a Nonviolent Approach to Situations of Violence

Nanzan University, Japan

Students at Nanzan University, Nagoya, Japan, had a unique opportunity in the Autumn of this year to hear about a new approach to protecting civilians in armed conflict. Ann Frisch, Professor Emerita of the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh and Senior Adviser for Outreach and Advocacy and nonviolence trainer for the Nonviolent Peaceforce (NP), on October 30th, gave a presentation to a gathering of over three hundred students, professors and visitors on the theme *Unarmed Civilian Peacekeeping: Has Its Time Come?* The presentation at Nanzan University was a UN Academic Impact lecture.

NP is an international, non-partisan, unarmed civilian peacekeeping force whose goal, as described on their homepage (<http://www.nonviolentpeaceforce.org>), is "to promote, develop and implement unarmed civilian peacekeeping as a tool for reducing violence and protecting civilians in situations of violent conflict." Founded in 2002, NP grew out of the experience of one of the founders (Mel Duncan) who, in Nicaragua during the Contra War of the 1980s, observed that villages in which foreigners were present were not attacked. This experience suggested that, in situations where those involved in violence and atrocities are concerned about their international image, the presence of foreigners could create a safe place for the various actors to come together and negotiate a resolution.

Professor Frisch introduced her presentation by getting the students to discuss among themselves whether unarmed civilian peacekeepers would be able to provide real protection for civilians in situations of

armed conflict. The most common perception that emerged among the students was that the unarmed peacekeepers themselves would come under attack, and therefore the approach did not seem viable. Professor Frisch went on to describe the activities of NP.

As she described it, the goal is always to reduce violence, protect civilians and provide safe space for them to do the work of peacemaking. NP goes into conflict situations in response to invitations by credible local groups committed to nonviolence, and makes contact with the key players (commanders and soldiers of opposing sides, police, local leaders, etc.), building relationships of trust by maintaining neutrality. The peacekeepers are selected from nationalities whose neutrality will not be doubted. These international peacekeepers work with national NP peacekeepers who serve as interpreters of language and culture. NP does not bring solutions or even get involved in negotiating solutions. It provides a presence that helps create a safe venue for the various actors themselves to negotiate a resolution. It has achieved this in numerous situations, most recently in Mindanao in the Philippines.

Perceptions are widely held that violence and atrocities can only be stopped by force. However, an armed intervention will leave scars, divisions, and in many cases the seeds of further conflict. An approach that does not use violence, does not take sides, and does not impose solutions but rather creates a safe place for the opposing sides to make their own peace, would certainly seem to have the potential to lay the basis for a more permanent peace. (Text by Michael T. Seigel)



Professor Ann Frisch



Many students attended the lecture.

Kwansei Gakuin University to Increase Student Mobility After Receiving Global 30 Plus Grant

On September 24 the Japanese Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) selected Kwansei Gakuin University (KGU) to receive a grant aimed at bringing more students abroad and fostering global human resources. The "Project for Promotion of Global Human Resource Development (Global 30 Plus)" was established by MEXT for this aim, and KGU was chosen along with 10 other institutions for Type-A funding, which provides support for university-wide initiatives to augment study abroad programs, create competent world citizens, and lead other Japanese universities in the same direction.

Since 2009, as part of its 120th anniversary landmark celebration, KGU has been implementing its New Strategic Plan to expand on its international programs through the establishment of a new International Initiative Team, boosting student mobility numbers, reinforcing its English Programs, expanding its global partnerships, and working with International Organizations such as United Nations Volunteers to send more students on International Cooperation activities.

Now, as part of the Global 30 Plus, KGU will further its global education initiatives by implementing new course clusters - Language Courses, Practical Courses, Global Courses, Life Design Courses, and Leadership Courses.

Of these the core components will be the Language Courses that are assigned according to proficiency, and Practical Courses that include United Nations Student Volunteer programs, and overseas internships and international exchanges where there is an emphasis on practical knowledge and participation.

Furthermore, 3 Certificate Programs (CP) - the Global Leader CP, Global Expert CP and Global Citizen CP - will be established to increase outgoing mobility for more than 1000 students. These students will participate in any one of the study abroad programs including overseas international cooperation activities such as United Nations Student Volunteers, exchange programs to our partners, foreign language intensive programs or overseas internships and joint-seminars.

To kick off KGU's new programs as part of the Global 30 Plus, a Commemorative Lecture Series was launched on November 6. For this occasion the university invited Dr. Flavia Pansieri, Executive Coordinator of United Nations Volunteers (UNV), to give a talk on the values of youth volunteerism. KGU has been the forerunner in student volunteerism as they were the first in Asia to establish cooperation with UNV in 2004 to

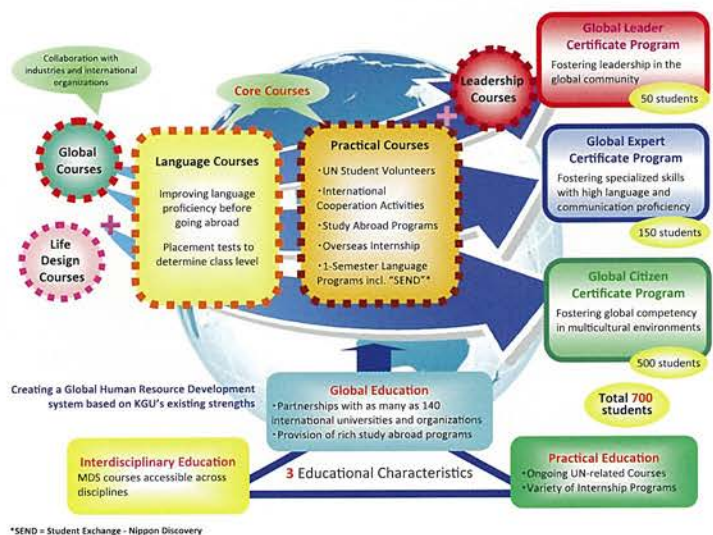
send students to overseas assignments.

Through these new initiatives KGU hopes to foster capable world citizens that will contribute positively to the global community. In order to achieve this KGU hopes to work even more closely with their ACUCA partners.

For more information, please visit the KGU website: http://www.kwansei.ac.jp/english/pr/pr_005186.html



Global 30 Plus Commemorative lecture and forum with Dr. Flavia Pansieri, Executive Coordinator of the UN Volunteers, and KGU's Vice-President for International Strategy - Dr. Takahiro Shinyo.



*SEND = Student Exchange - Nippon Discovery

Hong Kong Baptist University, Hong Kong

New Facilities Opened to Enhance Teaching and Learning

Universities in Hong Kong welcomed two cohorts of undergraduate students this September following the government's academic reform under which undergraduate education moved from a three-year to a four-year curriculum.

To cater to the increased number of students and to fulfill its Whole Person Education ethos, Hong Kong Baptist University (HKBU) embarked on a programme a few years ago to expand its campus and enhance its teaching and learning facilities. A new building and a new sports centre were opened this summer.

With "thinking out of the box" as its design theme, the 13-storey Academic and Administration Building features an extrusion of "boxes" from the exterior walls of the building, symbolising freedom of thought and the infinite expression of creativity. This innovative motif also conveys the idea of reaching out from the campus to the community.

The building provides comprehensive facilities such as the

University's largest Learning Commons with an area of about 1,300 sq m, a 400-seat auditorium, 26 classrooms which can accommodate over 2,000 students at one time, a 260-seat canteen, multi-purpose rooms for student activities and roof-top gardens. The building also houses the Faculty of Social Science, a number of administrative offices and student organisations.

The official opening of the building on 12 November also saw the naming of the brand new Madam Kwok Chung Bo Fun Sports and Cultural Centre, after a donation of HK\$30 million (USD 3.85 million) to the University. The Centre includes a sports hall with a ceiling height of 12 m, a multipurpose hall with a seating capacity of 350, and a rooftop recreation area.

The new buildings form part of the University's Campus Expansion Plan which will increase the net floor area of the campus by 27,000 sq m on its completion in 2013.



Newly completed Academic and Administration Building and the Madam Kwok Chung Bo Fun Sports and Cultural Centre.



The sports hall has a ceiling height of 12 m.



Highly popular among students, the Learning Commons has two separate zones for group discussion and private study.

Sanata Dharma University Hosts the 2012 AJCU-AP Service Learning Program

On August 5-25, 2012 Sanata Dharma University, Yogyakarta, Indonesia received the honor of becoming the host of 2012 Service Learning Program (SLP). Service Learning Program is an annual program hosted and followed by AJCU (Association of Jesuit Colleges and Universities) members in Asia Pacific. The theme varies based on contextual issues in the hosting country. Consistent with the Indonesia context, the theme for this SLP is One Earth Many Religion: Constructing Dialogue and Solidarity towards the Integrity of Creation. This theme seeks to explore the dynamics of interreligious dialogue and the role it plays in facing environmental issues in Yogyakarta especially in relation to Mount Merapi.

Service Learning Program 2012 was attended by students from 4 countries, a total of 37 participants. Of this 37, 16 students are from Sanata Dharma University, Indonesia. Sogang University from South Korea sent 4 students. Sophia University in Japan sent 8 students. There are 5 Jesuits universities in the Philippines; Ateneo De Manila, Ateneo de Naga, Ateneo de Zamboanga, Ateneo de Cagayan (Xavier

University) and Ateneo de Davao. All the Ateneos sent delegates to attend SLP 2012, making a total 9 participants from the Philippines.

During Service Learning Program all the participants were involved in various activities including visiting religious communities around Yogyakarta, camping and one week live-in among a multi-religious community among Merapi Slope. Through these activities the participants directly experience and observe the concerns addressed in the theme. By the end of the process all the participants reflected upon their experience and made an action plan to be executed in their context. The action plans, are mainly focused on more openness and establishing dialogues on the diversity of religions.

In 2013, SLP will be held in Naga, the Philippines with Ateneo de Naga University acting as the host. USD is a routine participant in SLP and intends to send participants to attend the next SLP.



SLP participants during the visit to the Royal Tomb and its surrounding Moslem community in Kotagede.



Members of a group collaborating to cook their own dinner during the second phase of SLP.



SLP participants in the midst of a group reflection.

Silliman University, Philippines

4 Universities in Japan, Thailand, United States Undertake Service-Learning at Silliman

Thirty-eight students from four universities in Asia and the United States had service-learning activities at Silliman University in the first semester of school year 2012-2013.

The students were on campus on different dates and were assigned to different host communities of the University's Service-Learning Center (SLC).

George Mason University in Virginia, USA, was first to be hosted on June 15 to 26. Twelve students came with their adviser, Dr. Al Fuentes. International Christian University in Japan followed, with four of their students hosted by different non-government organizations from June 30 to July 26. Eight students from Bangkok University came next, from July 15 to August 5, together with their teacher, Prof. Ramiah Nena Thamvithya. Capping the semester were nine students Ferris University in Yokohama, led by their adviser, Dr. Masaki Yokoyama, from September 3 to 10.

Service-learning is a teaching pedagogy that enables students to reflect on lessons learned in the classroom among (and while interacting with) partner communities and doing on-ground activities with them. For international students, it is an approach to cultural understanding and appreciation of local ways of life. They are hosted by Filipino families, allowing them to experience local culture and traditions.

In an address to students at the formal opening of the second semester, Silliman Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Betsy Joy B. Tan, elaborated on service-learning as among the University's three basic educational thrusts that define its teaching pedagogy towards whole person education.

"Service-learning is where you yourselves validate and apply concepts and theories in your respective disciplines through an understanding of socio-civic issues on the ground while working with communities in finding solutions to their problems," she said.

Dr. Tan also mentioned the two other thrusts on whole person education that complement service-learning in Silliman: the integration of faith-strengthening activities in instruction, research and extension; and offering educational opportunities in five venues of integrative learning in the University (better known as the 5Cs of Silliman education): education in the classroom, education in the church, education in the (athletic) court, education in the cultural facilities of the University, and education in (and from) the community.

Silliman's active involvement in service-learning was nurtured with the support of the United Board for Christian Higher Education in Asia. It also derived impetus from its involvement in the Service-Learning Asia Network organized by International Christian University in Tokyo, Japan.



S-L participants taking a pose with their host families and some barangay officials inside a multipurpose area after an orientation session.



Sometimes walking back to one of the host sites, a housing project, proves to be more fun.



Vegetable gardening is among the activities that the participants are encouraged to experience.

Dialogues on Latest Social Transformations within Asia to Foster Greater Understanding

International social scientists and experts talked last October on current sociological, political and geo-political situations in the Philippines and the rest of Asia which will hopefully lead to greater understanding among cultures in the recently convened Asia Pacific Sociological Conference.

Entitled "Sociology and Social Transformations in the Asia Pacific Region," the 11th Asia Pacific Sociological Conference (APSA) held Oct. 22-24 at the Ateneo de Manila University gathered over 200 participants from 22 different countries worldwide.

Prof. Raewyn Connell of the University of Sydney, Australia talked about the future of social science and urged the people to "face the issues" and "be bold and meet cautions in the possibilities." Michael Hsiao of the Academia Sinica in Taiwan, meanwhile, related the history of sociology in Taiwan and the driving forces behind the indigenization movement in his country. "Taiwanese sociology has been somehow manifested or freed from being trapped or dominated by any hegemonic paradigms."

Philippine Sociological Society President and Dean of the School of Social Sciences (SOSS) Dr. Filomeno Aguilar presented his paper "Differentiating Migrant Transnationalisms: the View from East Asia" wherein he defined migrant transnationalism as a social process characterized by substantively bifocal consciousness and orientation, as well as regular practices and conductivity. He discussed this opposite "modular transnationalism" where there is transportability and transnational practice between origin and destination.

The three-day conference also had parallel sessions that discussed various socio political topics not just in the country but across Asia. In the parallel session "Crisis and Identity Communication in Mass Media," media and film practitioners and experts talked about the latest trends, happenings, and current events that affect the media sphere in the Phil-

ippines and Asia. Sharon Agduma of the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) presented the case of the three Filipinos in China who were executed last March 2011 for drug smuggling.

Agduma discussed how the DFA communicated with the Chinese government, and how they related the news to the family of the three. The DFA used their strategy called "Stealing the thunder" that project a perception of the crisis as less severe in an effort to safeguard the agency's credibility.

Aine Mangaoang of the Institute of Philippine Culture in her study of popular Youtube video of the Cebuan inmates dancing to the tune of Michael Jackson's Thriller said that the practice of new media creates new cultural opportunities and infinite creative possibilities. In the case of the inmates, it generated response globally that created a sense of belongingness to a wider world and lessened the stigma of incarceration.

Ateneo professor Leslie Advincula Lopez also presented her study how Civil-Military Operations (CMO) adopted by the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) shifted from the "men in uniform" identity to a "protector" defining themselves as agents of peacekeeping and humanitarian work. "The CMO as a soft technology provides the participatory media spaces for the soldiers to interact with the civilians on a more social basis," Lopez said.

The parallel session "Muslim-Filipino Identity" saw Prof. Rene Oliveros discuss the Bangsamoro both as a place and a collective identity and Datu Mussolini Sinsuat Lidasan, the challenges Muslim-Filipinos face after the September 11 bombing. "It is here in the Philippines that one can realize his potential to be the best Muslim that one can be," Oliveros said. He said the term "Muslim-Filipino" is the most appropriate identity for all Muslims in the Philippines. It is where Muslim is the core identity and it is complementary not contradicting identities.



Institute of Sociology Director Prof. Michael Hsiao of the Academia Sinica, Taipei discusses the development of Sociology in Taiwan.



Aine Mangaoang of the Institute of Philippine Culture discusses the impact of Youtube in our age today through the phenomenal "Thriller video" of the Cebuano inmates.



Ms. Sharon Agduma of the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) shares how the DFA handles crisis communication, particularly the execution of three Filipinos in China.

New "Peace Builders" Face Greater Challenges After Graduation

The 29 students of the Ateneo de Manila University and Nippon Foundation's Asia Leaders Programme this year are set to encounter greater challenges after graduation.

During the graduation rites held at the Leong Hall, Ateneo de Manila University last October 24, Harsha Navaratne, Chairman of the Sewalanka Foundation, the biggest NGO in Sri Lanka, called on the graduates to "take the difficult path and work for a greater society" adding that "we cannot rely on our political leaders to solve all the conflicts and damages we have."

"When you leave here, you'll work within different communities. You may go back to your own country or you may travel to other parts of the world. Of course, the two of my countrymen, I hope they come back home. There is so much to do back home. You may work in the government, or an NGO, or a private company or an international agency. It doesn't matter where you work. It matters how you work," Navaratne said.

The graduates of the Asia Leaders Programme came from 22 different countries in Asia who took an intensive training program to become peace building practitioners. The programme is a dual campus Master of Arts Programme initiated by the The Nippon Foundation, the UN Mandated University for Peace (Upeace) and the Ateneo de Manila

University.

"I think this program has been exemplary in many ways, bringing together young people from all over this region with the common hope, a hope for peace. This is what motivates us in the University of Peace," John Maresca, Rector of Upeace said.

The graduation was attended by Ateneo de Manila Vice President for University and Global Relations Fr. Joey Cruz, UN-mandated University for Peace Rector John Maresca, Nippon Foundation President Takeju Ogata, and Chairman of the Sewalanka Foundation Harsha Navaratne. Also present at the graduation was former President of the Philippines Fidel V. Ramos, who is part of the Asia Leaders Programme International Advisory Board.



The graduates pose with Former Philippine President Fidel V. Ramos who is part of the Asia Leaders Programme International Advisory Board.

Ateneo Confers Gawad Tanglaw ng Lahi Award on Artist David Medalla

London-based artist David Medalla received the Gawad Tanglaw ng Lahi award in the Special Academic Convocation on Nov. 27, 2012 at the Leong Hall Auditorium.

Gawad Tanglaw ng Lahi is an award given by the Ateneo de Manila University to those who have dedicated their life's work to the pursuit of Filipinism and the Filipino identity through any of the channels of culture. As such, the award recognizes the contribution of any individual or organization, regardless of race, creed or political affiliation, so long as he/she/it has succeeded in steering the national consciousness towards a clarification, development and enhancement of the essential Filipino image.

Medalla is considered an important figure in the history of art as a pioneer of kinetic, earth, performance, participation, and conceptual art. His most iconic body of work is the "kinetic sculptures," best exemplified by his Bubble Machines of 1963 which, through the use of soap and water mixed with air funneled through an engine he especially designed, produced columns of froth that subverted the solid nature of sculpture, showing how it could be both static and dynamic. That work of Medalla was a first in the history of art. His other kinetic sculptures were the Sand Machine (1964) and the Mud Machine (1964- 1967).

In 1955, he founded the Poetry Club of Manila and attended the art appreciation classes of Fernando Zobel at the Ateneo de Manila University in Padre Faura. During that time, he began creating semi-figurative mixed media work that would eventually form part of the original collection of the Ateneo Art Gallery. Among these were The Joyous Kingdom

and My Sister at the Sewing Machine (both in 1956).

He is also engaged in participatory art: A Stitch in Time (1967/1968), where the audience was invited to be involved in the process of creation by sewing messages onto a sheet of cloth.

Aside from the Poetry Club of Manila, he founded the Exploding Galaxies, an organization of multimedia artists working around cultural, social, and gender issues. He also co-established Artists for Democracy.

In the 70s, he was included by Harold Szeeman in the fifth staging of Documenta, a prestigious exhibition of international contemporary art.

In 1991, together with Adam Nankervis who has remained his staunchest collaborator, he founded the Mondrian Fan Club, which they dedicated to celebrating the legacy of the late Dutch geometric abstract artist through exhibitions and performances, and an ongoing series of ephemeral art works in different parts of the globe titled Cosmic Graffiti.

Medalla is the only Filipino to be so included in the permanent collection of one of the world's greatest museums, the Tate. In 2011, his work Cloud Canyons No. 14, an iteration of Bubble Machines was unveiled at the New Museum in New York as "an iconic work of 20th century art."

The Special Academic Convocation is an annual event where individuals are recognized for exemplifying the ideals of the Ateneo through their works. The Special Academic Convocation held last July 19 awarded Jose "Ping" de Jesus the Lux-in-Domino Award, Sr. Amelia G. David, ICM the Bukas Palad Award and Prof. Reynaldo C. Iletto, PhD, the Gawad Tanglaw ng Lahi Award.



Artist David Medalla in one of his creations "Cloud Canyons." Cloud Canyons are considered to be an iconic work of twentieth century art.



David Medalla performs at the Vargas Museum in University of the Philippines.



Another performance at the Vargas Museum.



David Medalla with his portrait.

Ateneo Develops Mobile App for Flood Monitoring and Reporting

Come rainy days, reporting and monitoring flooded areas will be a mere text away with the Ateneo Java Wireless Competency Center's (AJWCC) new mobile application aptly called "Flood Patrol."

"Flood Patrol" allows citizens to report and retrieve real time flood information via the mobile phone. It was developed especially for PAGASA/DOST's Project NOAH.

The Android flood reporting and monitoring application gathers flood data from the citizens then uploads it on the web in real time. Using the flood patrol, history of the reported floods in real time can be viewed and filtered for a particular time or depth/height.

Dr. Reena Estuar, Executive Director of the AJWCC, said that since a lot of people have mobile phones now, they wanted to develop applications that can empower citizens to do something about disaster

monitoring and disaster preparedness. "Reporting floods in your area helps local governments and other institutions where they need to focus on at a certain time."

The application requires the user to take a picture of the flooded area for validation and at the same time allows one to view the reports on the map. The reported floods are color coded based on the height. The map can also be zoomed into a particular area to monitor specific areas.

"The app is user-friendly because it doesn't ask you to type in so many details but asks you to confirm everything you put," Dr. Estuar said. She added, "In the future, we will do an app that can do more predictions on floods which will help us in disaster prevention."

Campus Sustainability Initiatives

Hong Kong Baptist University, Hong Kong

Vol. 12 Hong Kong Baptist University Cultivates Green Culture on Campus

Hong Kong Baptist University (HKBU) was the first university in Hong Kong to commit to building a sustainable low carbon campus. In 2009, the University launched a Sustainable Low Carbon Campus project to cultivate the value of sustainability and to foster a low carbon lifestyle and environment-conscious culture within the University community.

Much has been done since then to achieve this objective. With a well-established Staff and Student Green Ambassador Network comprising 170 Green Ambassadors, the low-carbon culture and messages have been successfully conveyed and instilled in the University community through 56 engagement events including briefings, trainings, sharing sessions, visits and workshops over a three-year period.

The Low-carbon Ambassador Programme was launched in September 2011, with 60 students selected to take up the responsibility of disseminating low carbon messages after a series of training sessions on environmental knowledge, leadership skills and project management. Earlier this year, 15 outstanding Ambassadors went to Taiwan to learn how the policy of separation of waste at source is practised.

Various activities and measures were also implemented to promote a low carbon culture at the staff level. For example, the BU Hour 1300, a lunchtime event, was initiated in May 2012 to encourage staff to make good use of their lunchtime to relax their bodies and minds as well as to switch off their computers to reduce energy consumption in their offices. A series of lunchtime relaxation workshops, including Music Relaxation, Muscle Relaxation, Eye Relaxation and Deep Breath Relaxation, were organised with over 160 staff participating.

The Sustainable Low Carbon Campus project achieved excellent results by 2012. The University has achieved a 5% carbon reduction, which is equivalent to 1,000 tonnes of carbon emissions that would require 43,000 mature trees to be absorbed in one year. These impressive achievements resulted in the University winning the Silver Award in the Public Organisations and Utilities Category at the 2011 Hong Kong Awards for Environmental Excellence and being awarded the "Class of Excellence" Wastewi\$e Label two years in a row.



Staff members enjoy organic farming on the rooftop gardens on campus.



HKBU Staff enjoy eco-friendly tie-dyeing at a BU1300 workshop, during a lunchtime activity.

From the former ACUCA Secretariat at ICU

As we finish the role of the ACUCA Secretariat, we would like to introduce some of the staff who supported President Junko Hibiya and General Secretary Dr. Johannes Unsok Ro. Ms. Miyako Suzuki played a central role in the Secretariat, organizing meetings, communicating with member institutions, managing the website and so on. Mr. Masahiko Chiseki was in charge of the Student Mobility Scheme and the Network Model, and Ms. Natsuko Ito was in charge of the ACUCA News.

"I was a bit nervous when we took over the role of the secretariat from Keimyung University two years ago," says Ms. Suzuki. "However, with the support by my colleagues and the ACUCA members, I could do my job as a member of the Secretariat. I enjoyed communicating with the ACUCA members, and it was such a rewarding experience. I would like to thank everyone for all the support to ICU."



We held meetings twice a month. From left to right: Ms. Naoko Yoshio, Mr. Chiseki, Ms. Akiko Hashimoto, Ms. Megumi Tsuburaya, Ms. Suzuki, Mr. Shin Takahashi, Dr. Hibiya, Dr. Ro and Rev. Dr. Takeshi Nagata.



A visit to Yogyakarta for the Executive Committee Meeting in April 2012. From left to right: Ms. Ito, Dr. Ro, Rev. Dr. Nagata and Ms. Suzuki.

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Editor's Notes

- This is the last issue to be published by International Christian University. From the next issue, Fu Jen Catholic University will be in charge.
- Fu Jen Catholic University is honored to serve as the ACUCA Secretariat for 2013 to 2014. For future contacts, you can address your e-mail to acuca@mail.fju.edu.tw.
- Four issues of the newsletter "ACUCA News" are published each year. For the next issue, please send them together with print quality photos by e-mail to the ACUCA Secretariat (acuca@mail.fju.edu.tw) no later than **February 25, 2013** if you have any stories to share.