

• THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF FAR EASTERN UNIVERSITY •

# TAMBULI

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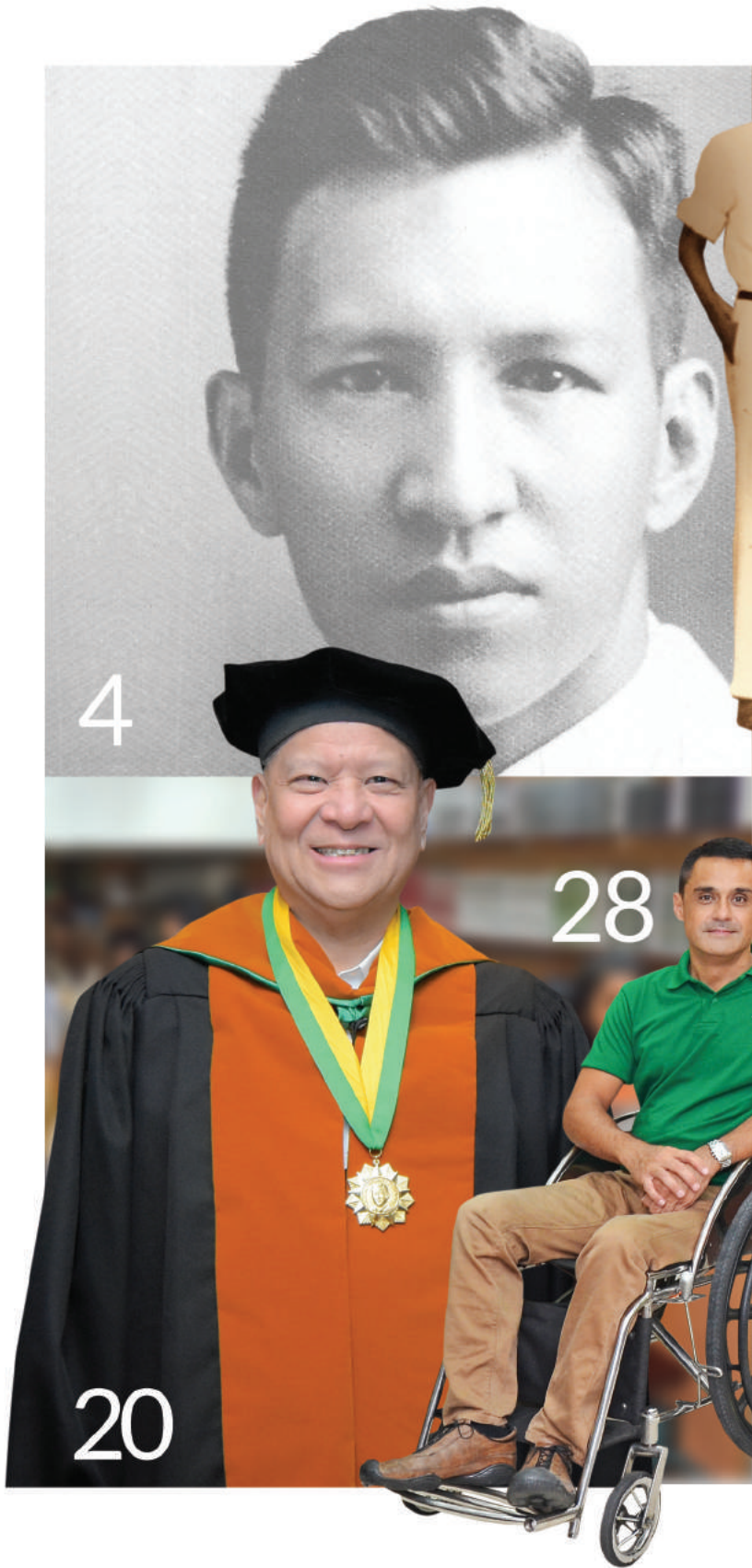
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# TAMBULI

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## PRESIDENT'S VIEW

# Be Brave: The Story of Far Eastern University

*Dr. Michael M. Alba's opening remarks at the premiere showing of Be Brave: The Story of Far Eastern University at the Ayala Museum, Makati  
9 February 2018*

**T**hank you for coming. Welcome to the premiere showing of “Be Brave: The Story of Far Eastern University,” which is also being simultaneously shown in various campuses of the FEU group of schools. As its subtitle indicates, this film documentary chronicles the history of FEU from its founding in 1928. Its narrative uses as its base the recollections of Dr. Lourdes Reyes Montinola, the daughter of FEU’s founder Dr. Nicanor Reyes Sr. To set the context so as to hopefully enhance your viewing pleasure, especially for those of you who may not be well acquainted with FEU, I would like to offer six points briefly.

First, FEU was, *is*, the realization of Dr. Reyes’s grand and noble vision to provide access to quality higher education to all Filipinos. It was grand, being outsized in ambition; and it was noble in that it sought to bring out the best in the people who were touched by the dream, especially the faculty, staff, and students of FEU.

Second, since its establishment in the Commonwealth Period, FEU has seen its fortunes rise and fall with those of the country. It was bright with promise during the heady days of the antebellum years when the Philippine Islands were preparing for independence from American rule; it underwent tremendous suffering during World War II; and, with great difficulty, it rose from the ashes in the post-war years.

The late 60s through the mid 80s were, to borrow a phrase from the writer Jose Lacaba, “days of disquiet and nights of rage” in the FEU campus as everywhere else in the country.

Thus, given its history, FEU cannot but work for the country’s good and that of its citizens.

Third, the stewardship of FEU passed to Dr. Lourdes Montinola in the late 80s, and now it has been passed on to her children. Aurelio Montinola III is the Chair of the Board of Trustees and the CEO, Antonio Montinola is a Trustee and the lead in FEU’s sports engagements (as his uncle, Alfredo, was), Juan Miguel Montinola is the CFO, and Gianna Montinola is the Vice-President for Corporate Affairs.

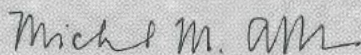
Under the stewardship of the Montinolans, FEU has metamorphosed into a system with seven schools and 11 campuses. The schools consist of FEU Manila, FEU Institute of Technology (or FEU Tech), FEU High School, FEU Diliman, FEU Cavite, the soon-to-open FEU Alabang, and Roosevelt College, which was acquired in 2016. The campuses include the original school grounds, which are now being shared by FEU Manila and FEU High School; a 17-story building in nearby R. Papa Street, which houses FEU Tech; a 6-story building in Makati (which is a satellite campus of FEU Manila); the more traditional school grounds in Diliman, Quezon City, and Silang, Cavite; and a rising building complex in Filinvest, Alabang; plus the five sites of the Roosevelt College schools, which are in Cubao, Marikina, Cainta, San Mateo, and Rodriguez. It is a school system ascendant, by which I mean that all of the schools are on a relentless journey seeking to deliver ever higher quality in order to improve the lives of an ever increasing number of students and graduates.

Fourth, FEU is rising to meet the opportunities and challenges presented by the future. Recognizing on the one hand that, because of a propitious demographic age structure, the Philippines has a chance to become a rich country in the next 80 years or so if Filipino workers can find gainful employment, but on the other that, because of globalization and rapid technological change, workers are being displaced by automated processes, FEU is adopting innovations to prepare its graduates for the fast-changing landscape of the world of work. These include well-designed learning spaces to create a conducive learning environment; an emphasis on digital literacy, effective communication, and critical thinking in its curriculum to foster the skills most needed by workers to succeed in the workplace; the adoption of new delivery strategies, such as blended learning, among others, as well as learning-management and artificial-intelligence powered adaptive learning systems to make learning more efficient and effective; and the use of data analytics to track student engagement and learning outcomes. The aspiration is that, as a result of their engaging and immersive experience in FEU schools, graduates will be future-proofed and future ready.

Fifth, as with thousands of hapless Filipino civilians, Dr. Nicanor Reyes Sr. and his household fell victim to the wanton cruelty of the Japanese troops in the last days of the Battle of Manila. He died on February 9, 1945, perhaps an hour or two past 4 pm, that is, exactly 73 years ago, almost to this very hour. In her book, *Breaking the Silence*, Dr. Montinola recounts that Dr. Reyes just had time to gather the household in the vestibule of their residence before the Japanese soldiers barged in with their murderous intent. His last words to them were "Be brave."

Sixth and last, through the 90 years of its existence, FEU has heeded the clarion call of its founder to provide quality education to Filipinos. We in the FEU Community of today fervently believe in his cause; we are inspired by his vision; and we are motivated to take part in his mission and, indeed, are ennobled by our various roles in it. As we face the headwinds of the future, our collective will will continue to be emboldened by his last directive, "be brave".

And so now that you have been primed for it, ladies and gentlemen, it gives me great pleasure to present the film documentary "Be Brave: The Story of Far Eastern University."



Michael M. Alba

**Dr. Michael M. Alba**  
President



# O U R *Brave* S T O R I E S

How does one measure bravery?  
What does it mean to be brave?

Bravery could be:  
Speaking the truth.  
Standing up for your belief.  
Challenging the status quo.  
Daring to try something new.  
Taking that first step to overcoming your fear.

Bravery has many faces. By celebrating the stories of the bravery of the Tamaraws, we come to a deeper understanding of how the university has been so much a part of our lives. The 90 years of the university's existence personalizes one's experience as told by the men and women who have lived at varying times.

The stories reflect the brave spirit of the men and women of FEU---individuals who courageously shared their struggles, freely spoke what's on their minds and hearts; and who never forgot the journeys they had been through to get to where they are now. When faced with the unexpected, they are those who stood fearlessly and moved forward.

These everyday success stories are about real people who did not allow circumstances to define them. We are brave and we intend to keep these stories alive to inspire the future generations.

# READY TO STAND PAIN

## A STUDENT DANCER'S EXPERIENCE

Darryl Chavez, FEU Dance Company

**B**eing brave means one must unarguably be ready to bear pain every now and then (or always when necessary). Because through it, one gains something rewarding.

A three-day workshop was held in November 2017 for the members of the Far Eastern University Dance Company (FDC). It introduced a dance technique unfamiliar to my body as it was something contemporary called the Horton Technique. I did a little research on the internet (<https://www.dancespirit.com/horton-technique-2326036575.html>), and I learned that it was founded by Lester Horton, an American dancer who contributed to modern dance. With this new and exciting technique being introduced to me, I went ahead and learned it with eagerness and vigor.

Corinne Siniguian, the dance instructor, taught the warm-ups for the style which, surprisingly, exhausted us to a certain degree. I already encountered multiple styles of dance in the FDC, but this one technique really changed my image of dancing. The moves felt so foreign. My body had to adjust to the demands of this style of dance. Even in warm-up sessions, it felt challenging to move the way Ms. Corinne did. According to her, the Horton Technique applied the strength of the feet. It allowed a more stable footing, and made the hands reach out to the air to feel the surroundings better. Obliques were often used in routines in the technique for a wider reach in dancing. The first day of the workshop led to new knowledge which continued with assignments to do for the next meeting. The first day ended with the introduction of the Horton Technique.

The second day was tiring. In my opinion, when a dancer is presented a new style, the body must adapt to its foundations and stretches. My body, being new to the Horton style, ended up with pain in the obliques, the feet, and many other muscles that were previously unfamiliar with these movements. This, however, did not stop my thirst for learning the dance technique. I went ahead and did the warm-ups, proceeded with the assigned routines and finally started the advanced techniques. Ms. Corinne gave us a confidence warm-up, which meant that we had to walk from one point to the other while not breaking posture. She said that it is one way of boosting our self-confidence on stage and in life. One just has to walk as if there was an audition, wherein you have to give your best from inside yourself, which is pretty difficult. My spirit never wavered though, so I strutted and masterfully walked inside the studio to



display a powerful presence for Ms. Corinne. Lo and behold, she was impressed. We all applauded ourselves and a new sense of confidence emerged in the company!

Ms. Corinne gave us the last set of routines on the third day. All of us in the FDC practiced hard as we memorized the routines with enthusiasm. Of course, this focus came with a price. We all became stiff and our bodies hurt. The pain did not hinder us though because we are fighters. As I usually say to myself, pains in varying degrees are normal occurrences in the lives of student dancers. A dancer must always be used to some pain, because through it, one gains something rewarding. It happened in the past two days of the workshop, warm-ups for the body, stretching for the lines, and performed routines for the mind. Ms. Corinne went ahead and presented seven Horton routines that formed a foundation for the body. Some were floor techniques. Others were arm movements. Generally, all seven of them were difficult to do. The challenge went on and helped us with our movements all throughout the workshop. We definitely experienced something unique.

The day ended with a last dance routine that reviewed all that was learned during the entire workshop. We started in the corner and performed like there was no tomorrow. It was an individual performance, with each of us barely completing the set, while some shone and performed with utmost mastery of the dance. Hard as it may have been, the Horton Dance Technique Workshop paved a new road for the FDC and gave the company a new sense of style. Indeed, I am thankful to Ms. Corinne for teaching us a unique dance technique. I am sure to apply what I learned in future performances.

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*Darryl Chavez is a third year Bachelor of Arts in Communication student from the Institute of Arts and Sciences.*



# YOUTHFUL TRIUMPH OVER BUREAUCRACY

Julia Abad

I was 31 years old when I first stepped into the building that housed the Presidential Management Staff as President-elect Benigno S Aquino III's appointee designate. The team that I brought in with me was led by a bar topnotcher, full of idealism and thoughts of how they would contribute to the massive task of governing – all under the age of 25. I could not blame the veteran staffers who looked skeptically at us, wondering how this seemingly juvenile crew would survive the daily rigors of planning the President's engagements, ensuring that inputs from government agencies were fully vetted and on time, and briefing the President so that he could come into every meeting and appointment well-equipped for Presidential pronouncements, actions and decision-making.

We walked into the challenge of supporting a newly elected President armed with very little knowledge of how the bureaucracy worked. However, every one of us was determined to make our own contribution to the serious business of running the country. We worked 15-hour days, spent hours poring over documents and made it a point to listen to experienced bureaucrats who had served many other previous Presidents. We came into the office early, and were

almost always the last office to turn off our lights at night. We vetted, edited and proofread to no end, making sure we got this message across: there was no room for mediocrity in a Presidential staff.

Slowly, those who were initially skeptical about working on serious policy matters with a bunch of 20 year olds began to see us in a different light. Slowly, it was the time we invested in colleagues, collecting and analysing information, listening to arguments and presenting counter arguments, writing and rewriting, that began to matter more. In the end, we earned the respect of our bureaucracy through hard work, and by demonstrating our ability to perform every single task we asked of them, if necessary.

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*Julia Abad is currently the Executive Director of the FEU Public Policy Center. She was also the former secretary of the Presidential Management Staff and Chief of Staff of President Benigno S. Aquino III.*





# THE COURAGE WITHIN US

Ed Garcia

**W**e are brave even while we confront adversity, not only after all the obstacles are hurdled. Courage is catalyzed in the process, even before we know the outcome. At times, in fact, the courage to be and to do is awakened and taken knowing that we may face an unfavorable outcome or that in the end we may stare at a result that is neither desired nor denied. Another experience comes to mind that I chanced upon not too long ago.

Upon retirement, I was invited to take on the task of engaging in the formation of scholar-athletes at Far Eastern University. As part of the invitation, I was asked to read a book dealing with the life of the school's founder, "Breaking the Silence" written by a survivor of the second world war that took the life of her father in the Battle of Manila in February 1945. Before he was killed by Japanese soldiers, he turned to his daughter, Lourdes, and quietly said to her, "Be Brave." He faced certain death, and his thought was to give courage to his loved ones.

Reading the story was a game-changing experience. Though he uttered the last phrase before his death, it led me to believe in underscoring the importance of courage as an attitude

in life in work with young people. "Be Brave" then became the cornerstone of my work with the scholar-athletes of the university: to be brave in the face of adversity, in confronting challenges in the court, in the playing fields and in life; to be brave in the choices we have to make as students now, and as citizens who have a stake in our country's future.

Given our context today, in our country and in the world at large beset by threats of war and violence, by the politics of hate and fear, by political discourse turned uncivil and divisive, by the transgressions against human dignity, characterized by the lack of respect for women and children, or the intolerance against people who are different or the inability to live with diversity, it is important to underline and emphasize the critical need for moral courage.

- Excerpt from Ed Garcia's book "Courage"  
published by Jesuit Communications Foundation, Inc.

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*Prof. Ed Garcia is a consultant on the formation of scholar athletes at FEU Diliman.*

Dr. Elizabeth P. Melchor

# Remembering One Brave Woman

**A STAR IS BORN**

\*For Beth, from Gianna

June 29, 2018

**B**eth and I always knew each other as cousins when we were growing up, but not quite as closely as I knew her in later years. When I joined FEU way back in 2004, we had a chance to get to know each other better.

At FEU she was admired most for her hard work, her professionalism, her dedication, and of course, her compassion. In fact my mother once commented that there were too many departments who reported to Beth as VP for Planning and Development, but Beth took it all in stride and never complained.

My first job at FEU was Consultant for Marketing and Communication and I was the only one in that division. Cristy Talampas was my secretary and together with Bing Cabasada, Beth and of course our then President Lydia Echauz, we managed to get things going. FEU never had a marketing division prior to my entry so it was pretty much what everyone today would describe as a startup.

We were constant companions at the Basketball Games, Beth having played basketball herself in High School. She

understood all the calls, she would comment on the coaches and I was so surprised when one time she stood up and started yelling at the referee for a bad call. By the way, she was correct.

I always knew Beth to be religious. She was very close to the Assumption nuns and we were together in Rome when St. Marie Eugenie, the founder of the Religious of the Assumption was canonized. I know she also had her Ligaya Community, but we never really spoke deeply about that. I knew she was a lay missionary, that she had spent some time in China, and that she was also part of the Auxiliary Missionaries of the Assumption, or AMA.

What I liked about Beth was her sense of humor. I remember asking her one time why she did not become a nun. She did not elaborate but did say that she did do other vows and was a “consecrated virgin.”

“Really?” I asked her. “What’s that? Whatever it is, virgins are a very rare breed these days,” I laughed.



# THE TIME

Dr. Beth Melchor

**T**here is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens: a time to be born and a time to die." (Ecclesiastes 3:1-2, NIV)

Recently, my doctor told me that the cancer in my body had progressed to the point that "the time to die" was near. He told me it would be good to tell my family so that they, too, would be ready. He also told me it would be good to get all my affairs in order.

It was a reality check. I knew that death comes to all of us at its appointed time, but to know it might just be around the corner made me think of what to do with my remaining time.

In some ways, cancer is a blessing because it gave me time to prepare. Discussing with my friends what songs I would like sung at my funeral Mass and the flowers and balloons I would like was a surreal experience. So I was discussing with my brother my living will and the "no resuscitation order," as well as entrusting him with all my important documents.

It was a time of letting go. Slowly letting go of earthly attachments and emptying of oneself. It was not long before I was hospitalized to drain 2.5 liters of fluid that had accumulated in my right lung. A day after I was discharged from the hospital, I was brought back due to a fever. I went through a battery of tests and experienced a great deal of pain. In the end, I underwent surgery for what they determined as a ruptured gall bladder. The power of prayers was seen in how the intestine cradled the ruptured gall bladder and kept it in one place; thus, preventing the spread of infection or sepsis. Throughout this experience, especially as I was being wheeled into the operating room, God's peace covered me and I really felt so free because everything was in His hands. I simply had to trust.

She laughed with me and went on to explain a little bit about her religious life. Not that much. In a world where many choose to view religion in different ways, some antagonistic, I always appreciated the fact that she was never pushy nor preachy, and in a discussion about religion, she always knew when to stop.

Beth was always a good listener. I would tell her about my problems as a separated parent, mother of 2 children, member of the family, employee at work and the like. She was always a good sounding board, was very practical in her approach and would always remind me to try and understand the other side. But she was also not a pushover and would speak her mind. In fact, I secretly felt happy whenever I would see her lose her patience at FEU and criticize another person's poor work. She was human after all!

I remember the day she told me she had breast cancer and that she needed to slow down. I remember the day she left a meeting earlier to go for her first chemotherapy treatment. She made nothing of it and it was I that was the anxious one. I also remember how she trudged on, wig and all, and continued whatever she had to do at FEU during her treatments. And I was jubilant when she told me that the doctors said she was in remission.



But not for long. Beth seemed to be doing EVERYTHING after that, mostly for her community. She travelled the world for speaking engagements everywhere and anywhere. I remember telling her that maybe she should slow down. She loved the travel – she is a Mendoza after all, and the clan all of have moles on their feet, they say. But more importantly, she was determined to finish everything she wanted to do or had to do in this life.

Her first cousin Laura Williamson and Clare Marsch were also my barkada. An aunt, Marissa Mendoza, was close to both of us. In spite of the distances that separated all of us Mendozas (our mothers, Tita Maritess Pineda, Tita Marilyn Velayo, Jun and BabyLou Santos included), we spoke to each other a lot and comforted each other through rough times. Unfortunately cancer also claimed the lives of both Marissa and Laura, and now Beth.

The morning of Beth's passing was the first day of the Commencement Exercises of FEU at the PICC. Beth and I sat through many commencements together, tearful yet happy about the next batch we were graduating and always proud of FEU's role in their lives. As I rushed in that day to catch the procession, I came across a perfectly shaped star in the pond at the back entrance. It was composed of a bunch of lilies expertly landscaped to show its 5 points, floating effortlessly on the water. I could not help but stop and take a photo.

This is how I will always find you Beth, even if you are gone. I will look up at the sky and see your star. I will pray to you to continue to guide me. And we will continue to converse. I love you Beth. I will miss you.

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*A tribute for Dr. Elizabeth Melchor, former FEU Vice-President for Planning and Development, who passed on June 29, 2018.*

*\*Atty. Gianna R. Montinola is FEU Vice-President for Corporate Affairs.*

Death is not something we often think about. If we do, it is approached with fear. But death is not something to be feared but a friend to be welcomed—a friend who will escort us to our heavenly home.

A lesson I learned from this inevitable life experience is the importance of expressing gratitude for all life's blessings, especially for family, friends, brothers, and sisters who go out of their way to love and serve me. I also appreciate all the prayers offered for me. Before I knew it, word went out to brothers and sisters in communities all over the world, and assurances of love and prayer flooded in. No wonder, the doctors were amazed with the outcome.

I also learned to travel light. We should not die with our material possessions in hand. They are meant to be used during our lifetime to bless others. We are only good stewards of the many blessings we have received from God. Freely have we received, freely we give.

I began to reflect on the immortality of our soul. The body may die, but our soul continues on. There is so much I don't know about the soul, but it is something I desire to appreciate.

My life's journey may soon come to an end, but no matter the length of our lives, may we live it to the full because Jesus came that we might have life, and have it to the full (John 10:10).

*Death is not something to be feared  
but a friend to be welcomed*



*Far Eastern University mourns the loss of one of its most esteemed academic leaders. Dr. Elizabeth Melchor served as Vice-President for Academic Affairs for four years. She was also VP for Academic Development. Her strong faith and bravery in battling cancer are truly inspiring.*

*This article is lifted from Kerygma Magazine's May 2018 issue and printed with permission of Shepherd's Voice Publication (<http://www.kerygmabooks.com>)*

During happier times: Atty. Gianna R. Montinola, Dr. Elizabeth P. Melchor and Ms. Cora Garcia.



# GREEN AND GOLD AWARDS

**T**he Green and Gold Awards draw from the University's official colors, which were selected by our founder and first president Dr. Nicanor Reyes, Sr. According to him, "The Green symbolizes the youth as the fair hope of the fatherland to whom the University is committed to giving them the best education, thus sprouting from their mind and heart their potentials to become productive, upright citizens of the country and of the world. Gold represents the gold standard of service to the creator, the nation, and the world that Far Eastern University always aspires to reach."

In line with the celebration of its 90th Founding Anniversary, Far Eastern University recognizes its exemplary alumni who, by their extraordinary achievements in their respective fields, have brought honor and prestige to their alma mater and contributed to the advancement of society.

Spearheaded by the FEU Alumni Relations Office (ARO) in collaboration with the President's Committee on Culture (PCC), and Athletic Office, these awards are given every five years.

# ONWARD ALMA MATER!

Atty. Jun de Zuñiga

**A**midst heavy rains and several flooded areas accompanying the exit of a typhoon, a serene and touching ceremony was held in the FEU auditorium at Morayta, Manila, last June 11, 2018. The occasion was the conferment of the Far Eastern University Green and Gold Awards to twenty-eight (28) of its alumni who have distinguished themselves in their respective fields. The event is held every five years and this year's ceremony was made significant because it coincided with the 90th Year of FEU's foundation. Despite the inclement weather, there was 100% attendance of the awardees, several of whom travelled from abroad or distant places. Surely, no one wanted to miss this occasion of honor. I was fortunate to have been one of the awardees. Monetary Board Member Antonio S. Abacan Jr., himself a previous Green and Gold awardee, proudly congratulated me on the stage, saying that we are the contribution of our university to the country's banking and financial system, as both of us presently sit in the policy-making Monetary Board of the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas.

The green and gold colors have their own history. They were selected by the university founder and first president, Dr. Nicanor Reyes, Sr. to embody these meanings: Green symbolizes the youth as the fair hope of the fatherland; and Gold represents the gold standard of service that the university always aspires to reach.





Tracing back one's college roots is both nostalgic and joyful, as I recall my stay there for eight (8) years, for my Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Laws degrees. And these feelings are doubled over when one returns for a conferment of recognition. About a third of the awardees were honor graduates, but what is common among all the awardees is that they all became special because of the exemplary accomplishments they achieved in their career. The message, therefore, is that success can be anybody's accomplishment in our alma mater. What is important is to have a good and solid foundation in learning and,

for me, I owe that foundation to FEU. As what the awardees' representative, Dr. Rosalind Wee, said in her response, we were there not only to accept the honor, but also to express our gratitude to our university.

I am also very happy to note that under the leadership of Chairman Aurelio M. Montinola and President Dr. Michael M. Alba, FEU is pursuing with great vigor its objective of preparing the students today for the challenges of tomorrow. Thus, its vision is to be a university of choice in Asia, together with its mission of producing quality higher education and of producing





globally competitive graduates with core values of fortitude, excellence and uprightness. We also feel to be very much a part of these goals and so I urge my co-alumni to cheer with these words lifted from our hymn: “Onward, FEU!”

In alphabetical order, here are the 2018 Green and Gold awardees: Lourdes Gutierrez-Alfonso, Jamela M. Alindogan; Leah T. Armamento, Angel P. Bautista, Dominador D. Buhain, Jr., Jesson Ramil D. Cid, Rachel Anne L. Daquis, Juan D. De Zuñiga, Jr., Jessa Czaraina E. Dulay, Christopher M. Ferareza, Janelle Mae B. Frayna, Maria Rhodora P. Fresnedi, Romeo S.

Fresnedi Jr., Jayson O. Gonzales, Eduard L. Lacanienta, Romulo B. Macalintal, Dennis E. Miranda, Teresita C. Moran, Corazon D. Ong, Fr. Anton C.T. Pascual, Karen Gracielles L. Remo, Arwind A. Santos, Josefina S. Sison, Marestella T. Sunang, Dexter Sy, Christopher T. Ulboc Jr., Rey Valera and Rosalind L. Wee.

Congratulations to all the awardees!

*This article originally appeared in the Manila Bulletin (<https://business.mb.com.ph/2018/07/04/onward-alma-mater/>)*



# CONGRAT 2018 GREEN AWARD



**Dr. Rosalind L. Wee**

**Bachelor of Arts in Mathematics, 1967**  
**Doctor of Humanities, Honoris Causa, 2017**

Founder, W Group of Companies

*“We are not only here to accept the honor but also to express our gratitude to the university.”*



**Lourdes Gutierrez-Alfonso**

**Bachelor of Science in Accountancy, 1984**  
Chief Operating Officer Megaworld Corporation



**Jamela M. Alindogan**

**Bachelor of Arts in Communication, 2006**  
Bureau Chief and Correspondent  
Al Jazeera English



**Atty. Leah T. Armamento**

**Bachelor of Science in Nursing, 1980**  
Commissioner, Commission on Human Rights



**Atty. Dominador D. Buhain Jr.**

**Bachelor of Laws, 1976**  
Chairman and President  
Rex Group of Companies



**Angel P. Bautista**

**FEU Boys High School, 1974**  
**Bachelor of Science in Zoology, 1979**

Acting Assistant Director  
and Chief Administrative  
Officer National Museum



**Atty. Juan D. De Zuñiga**

**Bachelor Arts in Political Science, 1966**  
**Bachelor of Laws, 1970**

Monetary Board Member  
and General Counsel  
Central Bank of the Philippines



**Christopher M. Ferareza**

**Bachelor of Science in Accountancy, 1998**

Partner  
Audit and Assistance Division  
Punongbayan and Araullo



**Maria Rhodora Palomar-Fresnedi**

**Bachelor of Arts in  
Mass Communication, 1980**

President  
Center for Growing and  
Giving Foundation, Inc.



**Romeo S. Fresnedi, Jr.**

**Bachelor of Science  
in Psychology, 1979**

Co-founder and Managing Director  
Except One Pte. Ltd.



**Brig Gen. Eduardo L.  
Lacanienta**

**Pre Medicine, 1969**

President  
Global Partnership for  
Sustainable Peace Academy



**Atty. Romulo B. Macalintal**

**FEU High School, 1964**

Premier Election Lawyer and  
advocate of the rights and  
privileges of senior citizen's and  
persons with disability



**Teresita C. Moran**

**Bachelor of Science in Education  
major in Library Science, 1971**

Chief Librarian NBS College



**Corazon D. Ong**

**Bachelor of Science in Food  
and Nutrition, 1964**

Founder and Vice Chairman  
Foodsphere, Inc.



**Rev. Fr. Anton C.T. Pascual**

**FEU High School, 1975**

Executive Director  
CARITAS Manila, Inc.



**Karen Graciles L. Remo**

**Bachelor of Arts in  
Mass Communication, 2002**

Managing Director and Co-Founder  
New Perspective Media, Dubai

# ULATIONS and Gold DEES



**Jesson Ramil D. Cid**

**Bachelor of Secondary Education major in Music, Arts, and Physical Education, 2013**

SEA Games Decathlon Gold Medalist  
UAAP Champion and MVP



**Rachel Anne L. Daquis**

**Bachelor of Science in Commerce major in Management, 2009**

UAAP Champion  
National Volleyball Team Captain



**Janelle Mae B. Frayna**

**Bachelor of Science in Psychology, 2017**

First Woman Grandmaster of the Philippines  
UAAP Athlete of the Year and MVP



**Arwind A. Santos**

**Bachelor of Secondary Education major in Sports and Management, 2011**

PBA Champion and MVP  
UAAP Champion and MVP



**Jayson O. Gonzales**

**Bachelor of Science in Psychology**

9th Filipino Chess Grandmaster  
Multi-titled Coach of the FEU Chess Team



**Dennis E. Miranda**

**Bachelor of Science in Commerce major in Management, 2005**

UAAP Champion and Mythical Team Member  
PBA Champion



**Marestella T. Sunang**

**Bachelor of Secondary Education, major in Physical Education, 2003**

3-time Olympian  
4-time SEA Games Long Jump Gold Medalist



**Christopher T. Ulboc Jr.**

**Bachelor of Secondary Education major in Physical Education, 2013**

2-time SEA Games 3000 meter steeplechase  
Gold Medalist UAAP Champion



**Jessa Czaraina E. Dulay**

**Bachelor of Fine Arts major in Painting, 2014**

Member of the restoration team of "Filipino Struggle Through History," National Artist Carlos "Botong" Francisco's iconic art work



**Rey Valera**

**FEU Boys' High School, 1972**

Multi-awarded songwriter  
and recording artist



**Josefina S. Sison**

**Bachelor of Science in Education, 1961**

Highly respected personality in the field of dance and choreography in the Philippines and abroad



**Dexter Sy**

**Bachelor of Arts major in Advertising Arts, 2005**

Multi-awarded visual artist

Ramon S. Ang

"FEU taught

## The university confers honorary doctorate on the president of San Miguel Corporation

**C**hairman Emeritus Lourdes Montinola, Chair and CEO Gigi Montinola, FEU Board of Trustees President Michael Alba, ladies and gentlemen, good afternoon.

Be proud. FEU has produced the best and the brightest graduates: Supreme Court Chief Justice Artemio Panganiban, Henry Sy of the SM Group, Lucio Tan of PAL, Alfonso Yuchengco of RCBC and Ramon Sy of Asia United Bank.

FEU has competed and can compete with the best and brightest of graduates from UP, Ateneo, La Salle, Harvard even! In every field we have excelled. I am an FEU graduate of mechanical engineering 40 years ago. Today I run San Miguel, the biggest conglomerate in the Philippines.

From its original business of beer, food and packaging of about P100 billion sales revenue a year, we diversified in 2008 into a company that now has interests in oil and petrochemicals, power, infrastructure, properties and banking. Today we are a company with P900 billion in revenues.

- Our beer market share is 95 percent.
- We continue to expand our feeds, flour, feedmill, piggery, chicken dressing plants and ready-to-eat products, packaging and property businesses, thus creating more jobs for our countrymen.
- We own Petron, which has the largest network of gas stations in the Philippines and a growing network in Malaysia.
- We are the largest power generator.

- We are a properties company that manages hotels, residential, commercial projects and economic zones.
- We manage toll roads, among them, Skyway, Slex, Star Tollway, South C-6 connector road. Through our toll roads we hope to solve traffic on Edsa.
- The Boracay Airport in Caticlan is in its finishing stage and we are building Boracay Bridge that will help solve solid waste, sewage, water, power and telecom problems.
- MRT 7 and the Edsa Loop connecting SM North Edsa through Commonwealth, Batasan, to San Jose del Monte, Bulacan, to Malabon, Navotas, Manila to Makati will ease commuter stress.
- The Bulacan Airport will be one of the biggest airports in Asia and the world. It will have six parallel runways good for 200 million passengers equipped with mass transit. It will create 40 million jobs and bring in 20 million foreign tourists a year. A comparable country like Thailand with a population of 100 million brought in 30 million tourists.
- San Miguel also has investments in cement, banking and BMW cars.

I never imagined that one day, I would be accepting a doctorate from my alma mater.

I am truly honored.

Looking back, being a working student helped me become more equipped in dealing with people from all walks of life. One of the reasons for my accomplishments is my ability to read people and

# me well!"

situations. I am able to adapt. I make tough decisions based on gut instinct. FEU has taught me well. FEU made me what I am today. What is the key to my happiness? Allow me to share with you what I have armed myself with in dealing with people:

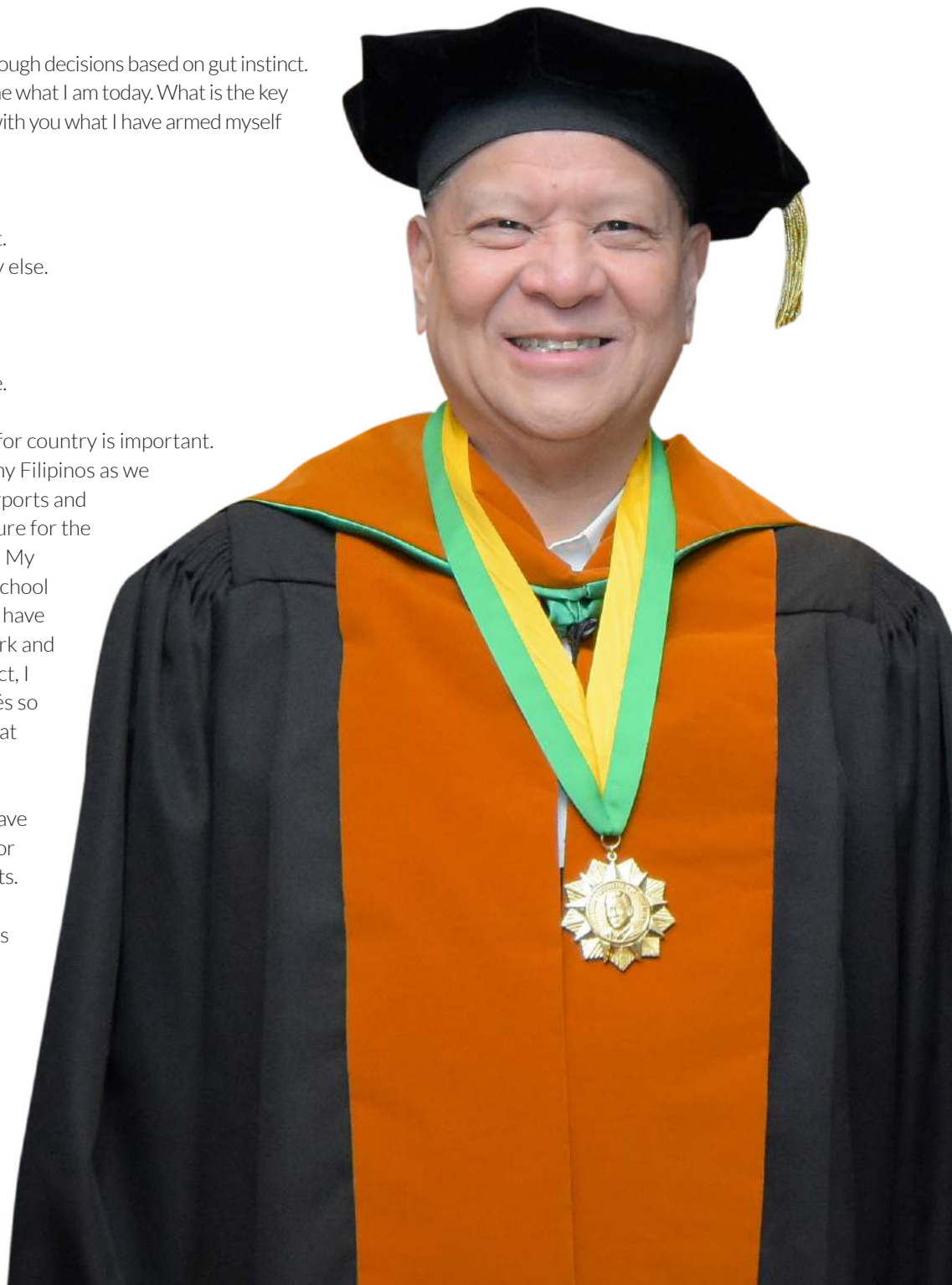
- Be a man of your word.
- Know how to keep a secret.
- Work harder than anybody else.
- Be decisive.
- Be a risk taker.
- Nothing is impossible.
- Believe in a bigger purpose.

At San Miguel, we believe that love for country is important. That is why we continue to help many Filipinos as we can through our products, roads, airports and infrastructure. Building a better future for the next generation is our ultimate goal. My character has been molded by this school and I am proud of the contribution I have made to society. I have made my mark and I challenge you to do the same. In fact, I am inviting you to send your résumés so that we can possibly work together at San Miguel in the future.

I would also like to announce that I have started an educational fund in FEU for deserving but less-privileged students.

To the class of 2018, congratulations and good luck to all of you!  
*Mabuhay tayong lahat!"*

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*Speech delivered during the 2018  
Commencement Exercises*



# Tamaraws Five

## A Legacy of Fortitude, Excellence, Uprightness

Five Suñga siblings studied in FEU, imbibed its core values, and moved on to colorful careers

*Dr. Teresito Suñga David, Ph.D.*

Tamaraw siblings Belino, Conchita, Dominadora, Esther, and Florencio were closely-knit children of school superintendent Juan Garcia Suñga and public school teacher-turned-housewife Florencia Carlos-Suñga. Both lived in San Fernando, Pampanga. Low key, rather introverted, character formators. A great role-model couple. Lolo Juan and Lola Eciang preached that talk is cheap and that action speaks louder than words. As educators, both believed in quality education. And so, they encouraged their children to pursue their passion and dreams at Far Eastern University. The rest is history.





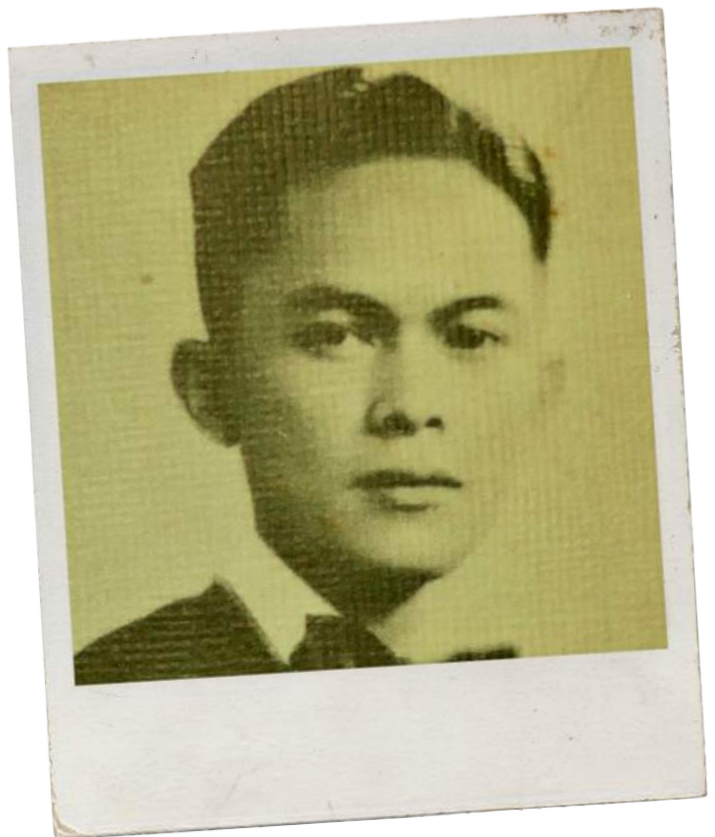
*The Suñga Family in 1959: "Let's Go, Tamaraws, Let's Go!!" Seated: Florencia Carlos-Suñga (†) and Juan Garcia Suñga (†)  
Siblings: Florencio (†), Conchita, Amelia (†), Dominadora, Esther, Belino (†)*

**Belino C. Suñga**  
BSC major in Accounting '48; (cum laude) CPA 4th placer

Ben Suñga threw his hat into local politics after serving as executive vice president at P. E. Domingo & Associates and as executive vice president of Litton Mills. He served as councilor (1964-1968) and twice as mayor (1968-1971, 1980-1981) of Masantol, Pampanga. Despite family misgivings about the shift from the corporate world to government service and political threats on his life and loved ones, he mustered enough bravery to tread the road less traveled. He often joked about eating bullets for his meals.

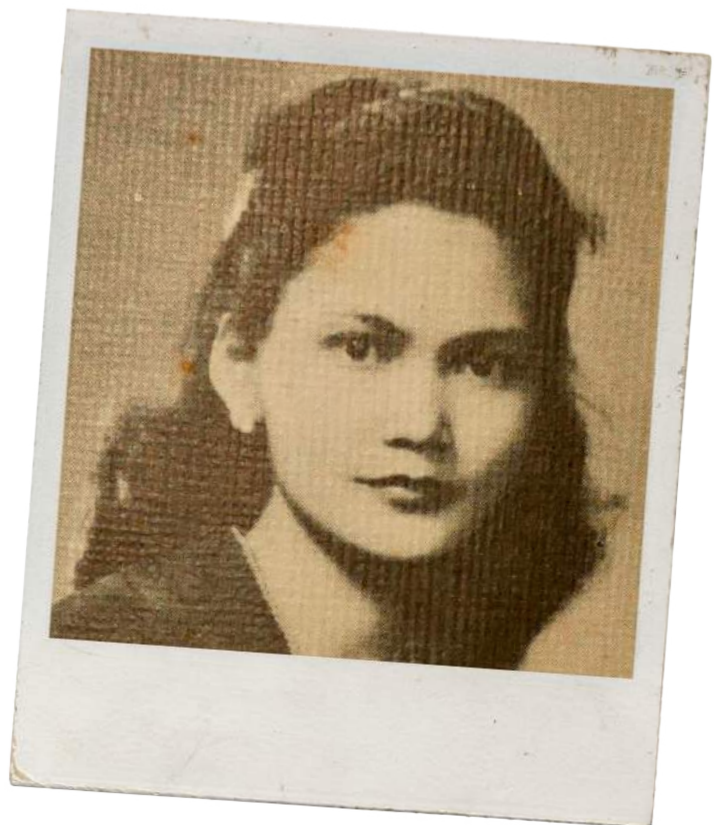
Ben took the CPA board exams even before his formal graduation and placed 4th. As the town executive blessed with a corporate track record, he rationalized the finances of the municipality as his top priority that resulted in the upgrading of Masantol twice in terms of its economic classification. With the right cash flow in the coffers, he was credited for upgrading the salaries of local government officials, cementing all main roads, and building bridges to connect far-flung poblacions.

Ben died while serving his second term as mayor. And he passed away a poor man (youngest daughter Agnes, an AB English freshman in FEU, had to continue studies in Macabebes) as he had resisted to have any part in the graft and corruption in government—not to mention that he was generous to a fault. Wealth to him was to be shared, especially with the less fortunate. He lived up to his campaign jingle (composed by folk singer idol Fred Panopio) when he first ran for politics: “Suñga, Suñga, y Ben Suñga biasa at marangal.” “Biosa” means intelligent; “marangal”, upright. And that was Tamaraw Belino C. Suñga.



**Conchita Suñga-David**  
BSC major in Accounting '48 (magna cum laude)  
CPA 4th placer  
Will celebrate her 94th birthday this April 2019

Chita Suñga David served as a brave lady senior officer in a predominantly male top echelon of Caltex Philippines for 35 years. She retired in 1985 when she turned 60, with a trademark of unquestionable loyalty and dedicated service to just one company during her corporate lifetime—something rare in today’s times. This was the same loyalty and service she devoted to husband and children who, in turn, adore her. She balanced the demands of being a corporate executive and the responsibilities of being a wife and being a mother to three children—all accomplished professionals in their respective fields.





***Lolo Juan and Lola Eciang preached that talk is cheap and that action speaks louder than words. As educators, both believed in quality education. And so, they encouraged their children to pursue their passion and dreams at Far Eastern University.***

As head of the Payroll Division, Chita put comprehensive compensation systems in place with the aid of her professional license as a Certified Public Accountant. But, more importantly, she hired talents known for both character and competence. This formation and development of a team ensured a smooth transition to her successor upon her retirement. At home, she served as the first teacher of her three Jesuit-bred children. Her philosophy of *magis* was so aligned with the core value of excellence in both Ateneo and FEU—being “more” and getting better, two behaviors that she role modeled for her children.

Full trust in her by all stakeholders, whether personal or professional, was the trademark of Chita. She was entrusted with all confidential compensation packages. In family matters, she still holds the key to the financial statements of her siblings plus those of some nephews and nieces—*gratis et amore*. She serves as one of three intercessors (siblinga D and E are the other two) for graces from above. Most petitions have been granted via this “living saint”—Tamaraw Conchita Suñga-David. The lady is married to fellow FEU alumnus Melchor Y. David.



Florencia and Juan Sunga

**M**elchor Y. David  
BSC major in Banking and Finance '48

Mel David worked his way up the career ladder in banking until his retirement in 1988 as vice president for administration at the United Coconut Planters Bank (UCPB). He started as a teller at the Philippine Bank of Commerce owned and run by the Cojuangcos and was brought to the First United Bank (FUB) as assistant vice president by the Liberal Cojuangcos. Mel's professionalism earned him the respect of both the Liberal and Nacionalista Cojuangcos. He refused to play politics, period.

For the most part of his banking career, Mel made his mark in branch banking as deputy head. At UCPB, he was challenged to change gears in his career by heading the Accounting

Division. He hit the ground running and institutionalized policies and procedures through the creation of manuals. His last assignment was an even bigger challenge—to head the Administrative Division. He had to ensure that all purchases were above board. Allergic to fanfare, Mel worked quietly but always got things done.

A disciplinarian, Mel was known for his impeccable integrity. Top management of UCPB (Chairman Danding Cojuangco and President Ramon Sy) so trusted him that his term was extended several times after the normal retirement. Mel lived a simple life in a simple and immaculately clean bungalow in Cubao where he ate simple meals. That was Tamaraw Melchor Y. David the banker.

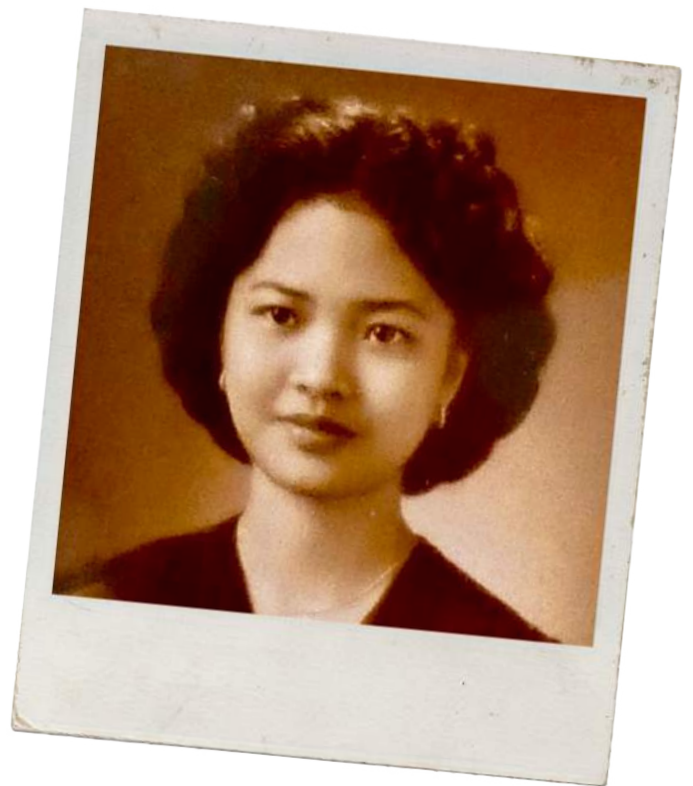
**M**ominadora C. Suñga

Associate in Commercial Science '48 (*summa cum laude*)  
BSC, major in Accounting '49 (*summa cum laude*) CPA  
Celebrated her 90th in January 2018

Ming Suñga is both beauty and brains. Her beauty radiates from the inside-out, with a softspoken demeanor. She belongs to the exclusive '49 Club, a group for pioneers of Central Bank of the Philippines (now the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas). She was briefly seconded to the Philippine Deposit and Insurance Corporation without loss of tenure at the BSP. She retired in 1992 as the Director of Supervisory Reports and Corporate Analysis. How this shy woman survived the bureaucracy can perhaps be explained by her fortitude to succeed against all odds.

She pursued her L.I.B. at the Lyceum of the Philippines where she graduated valedictorian in 1957. She placed in the top 20 of the bar exams. All her works are autographed with excellence; in other words, she always, as in always, put her best foot forward in everything that she does. She is the “editor” in the family as she used to be the ghost writer of some private commercial bank senior officers—*gratis et amore*.

Family and friends consider her a living saint. Ming is a role model as “Ninang for all Occasions” to her nephews and nieces. After retirement from Central Bank, she began hearing mass daily and doing volunteer work at the Parish of the Lord of Divine Mercy in Sikatuna Village, Quezon City. She has also served as parish communications consultant, again *gratis et amore*, of Fr. Gigi Yabut wherever the priest would be assigned. She is the other intercessor in the family—also tagged as a living saint.



**E**ster C. Suñga

BSC major in Accounting '56  
Will celebrate her 88th birthday this May 2019

Ester joined the Religious of the Good Shepherd (RGS), where she became known as Sr. Mary Frances Therese. She served as Mother Superior of the Quezon City RGS Convent (1975-1978), Mother Superior of the Cebu RGS Convent (1978-1981), Guidance Counsellor of the Malabon RGS Home (1982-1988), Mother Superior of the Baguio RGS Convent (1995- 2000), and Treasurer of St. Bridget’s School in Batangas (2005-2014). She did not undergo any formal training for those

leadership and management positions but simply used her inner strength to cope with the challenges of the times in those different capacities.

Before going for her second degree in FEU, Esther finished a BS Pharmacy at the University of the Philippines in 1952. Unlike her elder siblings who finished with Latin honors, Esther nonetheless finished with flying colors both in UP and FEU. She studied in the USA where she had her final vows as a religious.

As the third intercessor in the family—after C and D, Sr. Mary Frances Therese, RGS is also considered a living saint in the family. Perhaps because of her vocation, Sr. Frances is the most conservative of the three living sisters (C, D, E) in terms of moral matters.

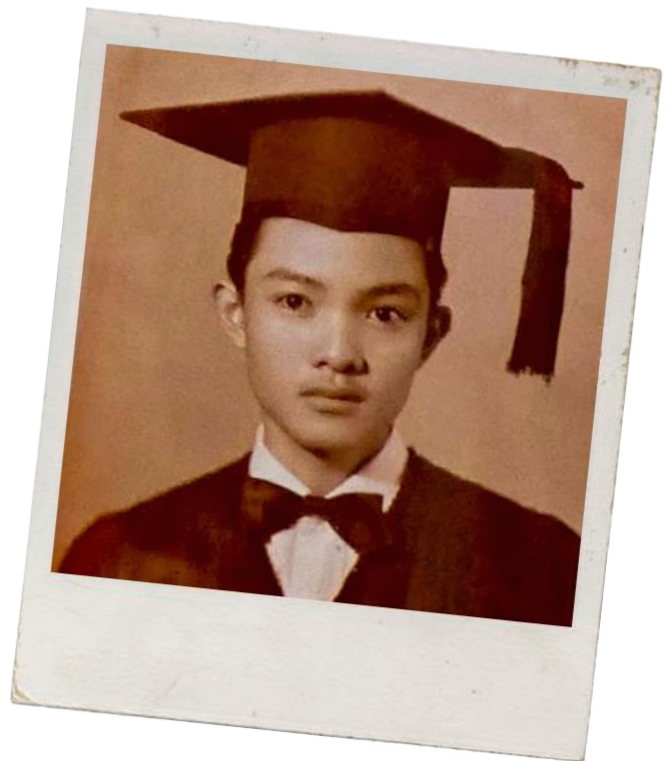


**Florencio C. Suñga**  
BSC major in Economics

Pong Suñga served as General Manager of the Egglard Poultry Farm in Sta. Maria, Bulacan. The start-up backyard business was wiped out by some cattle disease that spread in the town. Down but not downhearted, he pursued a BS Medical Technology degree at the University of Santo Tomas as a way of bouncing back. He had to fight teases, sometimes harsh put downs from the peanut gallery, about not living up to the scholastic standings of the Suñga siblings. But he fought all those with fortitude and presented himself as “unique”.

Like his elder siblings, Pong nonetheless marked his undertakings with excellence. He was forever trying to beat his own record, be it in business or in chess.

An avid fan of Bobby Fisher, Pong also lived in the world of Adam Smith and Karl Marx. Super idealistic, he dreamed of an egalitarian society. He disdained the trappings of society. He slept in a nipa hut in the province where he woke up to the crowing of the rooster and to breath fresh air. Like his elder siblings, he stuck to principles—particularly uprightness. He had no material riches to bequeath to his children. But, to him, integrity as a legacy was priceless.



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*Prof. Teresito S. David, Ph.D. is the eldest child of alumni Conchita Suñga and alumnus Mel David who are both featured in this article. Dr. David specializes in strategic leadership, change management, and executive development. As holder of the AG&P professorial chair and SGV-Antonio V. Ayala professorial chair. Dr. David served as the first chairman of the Leadership and Strategy Department at the Ateneo de Manila University.*

# TAMS BOOKSTORE: BEYOND BOOKS

Interview with FEU Bookstore Manager Jose Cabaltera

**I**t's hard to miss the Tams Bookstore in the FEU Main campus right in the corner of the Science Building and Nicanor Reyes hall (NRH). The Bookstore's newly renovated shop proudly displays a collage of vibrant FEU colors of green and gold and the university's logo and themes in almost all of its merchandise ---- from the shirts, hoodies, sweatpants to small merchandise items on the shelves.

Tams Bookstore Manager Jose Cabaltera shares with Tambuli how the Tams Bookstore has grown, how it evolved and how it continues to build the FEU Pride.

*Over the next seven years, the TAMS Bookstore added six more stores, representing a center for school spirit at each of the FEU schools.*

**Q: How did the Tams Bookstore start?**

The FEU Bookstore's beginnings arose out of a need to assemble the university's textbook distribution into one place securely inside the campus walls. Before my coming to FEU, Manila students scoured the bookstores and street vendors that line Recto Avenue's chaotic sidewalks and alleyways. Our task was to create, promote, and teach the FEU's student body that the new TAMS Bookstore would have their required textbooks when they needed them.

We chose a space located at the corner of the science building that had been occupied by the Employees Cooperative for 13 years for the same purpose. The location is readily accessible as it flanks a high traffic pathway leading to the LRT for the student body. This was 2011. Over the next seven years, the TAMS Bookstore added six more stores, representing a center for school spirit at each of the FEU schools.

**Q: Would you say that the university bookstore today has a different concept compared to the past and has more diversified in terms of merchandise?**

We designed a consumer-friendly space that maximizes the store's unique curved front window. We took inspiration from mass-market giants like GAP and BENCH in the furniture choice. The color palette is both natural and bright. We decorate our shelves to encourage our customers to feel and enjoy shopping before the purchase.

This aesthetic created a mall store ambiance. We realized it worked when during our slow seasons, we'd find students lingering about, perusing books, fingering through clothing racks, basically killing time until their next class.



Insofar as merchandise goes, we have created a basic line that everyone looks for at any university, i.e. the hoodie, the tumbler, umbrellas. Yet we also have created more unique merchandise that celebrate Filipino heritage, like with our new ceramic collection designed and produced by master potter Lanelle Abueva. We are hoping to introduce TAMTAM merchandise this year banking on the new mascot's popularity.

**Q: Can you describe how it has grown and what the FEU community expect in the future?**

From textbooks, our responsibility developed as the TAMS Bookstore integrated into campus culture. We began to supply the basic school supplies. From this point, we incorporated laboratory supplies and have begun branding notebooks and other classroom requirements. We then were given the responsibility of producing and distributing exam tools, like exam booklets and scantrons. These steps provided new challenges for my team as they needed to work through lines much more quickly and we tacked on hours of service earlier in the mornings, later in the evenings, and on weekends.

Within two years, the bookstore was asked to take over the production and distribution of FEU Manila's PE uniforms. This was an immense undertaking for our team that opened the window for the TAMS bookstore to assume uniform production

responsibilities from other schools. And we did so gradually, one school at a time. The latest undertaking was to align all the schools into one uniform production calendar. The bookstore starts to work on the next year's uniform production as soon as all the enrollment periods have ended. Presently, it is imperfect. However, with this past school year's success, I know it is possible to orchestrate.

In 2013, I started the TAMS Bookstore Facebook account not truly realizing the monster I was creating. From the beginning we grabbed at straws trying to figure out the mystery of social media content creation. We experimented with different modes of posting until one style might catch on only to be rendered obsolete months later, leaving us at square one. Today the TAMS Bookstore Facebook fan page is quickly approaching 25,000 followers. Also, we have multiple administrators to share the responsibility for this goliath task. We continually learn new tactics to stay abreast of new app technologies and engage with community social influencers to observe and assimilate new techniques.

From the TAMS Bookstore initial purpose, the textbook has undergone a revolutionary change. Future years will see our bookstores requiring less and less space for textbooks as FEU adopts more and more the usage of digital books, online sources, and modules. Presently, I see the university





*I see the university bookstore becoming more merchandise driven by the increased importance of branding and school spirit and with less reliance on paper.*

bookstore becoming more merchandise driven by the increased importance of branding and school spirit and with less reliance on paper. There will always be a need for classroom and laboratory materials, although they too will inevitably morph into something new.

**Q: As a manager, what is the most challenging part of your job running the bookstore? The most fulfilling?**

Looking back, the most challenging aspect of my experience was also the most fulfilling. The TAMS Bookstore effected university culture. Obsolete organizations that had once managed the production and distribution of uniforms, textbooks, and merchandise abused the systems that they worked in for years to the detriment of the school's name and to its students. The

TAMS Bookstore spent a lot of time policing processes and enforcing university policies. In our first years, we assured anonymity for students who came forward with claims of systemic textbook abuses in the classrooms. We worked with the academic office by reporting these claims, the result of which are world-class instruction materials in use inside the classrooms and a faculty that thrives on teaching and serving its students.

Another way the bookstore effected cultural change inside the schools is that it has become the go-to spot for most things of school spirit: student organizations approach us for support. They come to us for game tickets. They come to us for their classroom needs. We have witnessed the TAMS Bookstore becoming an integral part of the FEU student experience.

# NEWLY RESTORED FEU AUDITORIUM

INAUGURATED WITH  
NICK JOAQUIN'S 'CONTRA MUNDUM'

**Alma Cruz Miclat**  
*Philippine Daily Inquirer\**

Nick Joaquin wrote about Calle Morayta in old Sampaloc, Manila, thus: "Remember Catalina Zandueta when she played a gorgeous Aida? Or the really heartbreaking 'Madame Butterfly' of Dalisay Aldaba? Or the great Alexandra Danilova dancing the 'Dying Swan'? Or the Manila Symphony Orchestra in concert doing the 'Brahms No. 2'? Or the premiere of Leonor Orosa's 'Noli Dance Suite' ('Salome, Sisa, Maria Clara')? Or Alfredo Lozano or José Cubiles, to play Beethoven's 'Appassionata'? Or everyone's astonishment when Martha Graham displayed her ballet à la mode? Or Remedios Bosch Jimenez singing Leonora to Arrigo Pola's 'Trovatore?'"

The "calle," a theater, or the Great White Way? Oh, no. "Morayta" for the National Artist, it occurred to me, referred not to the whole street, but to the theater of all theaters, the Far Eastern University (FEU) Auditorium.

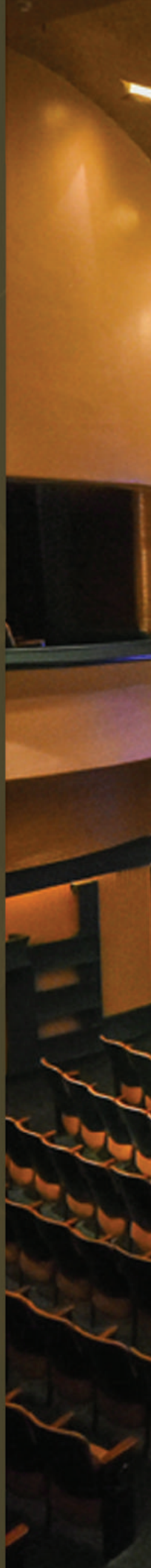
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## CULTURAL CENTER OF THE '50S

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"Going on stage there was like walking back in time and bumping into the past itself, into nostalgia itself," said the late Nick Joaquin, our National Artist whose birth centennial was celebrated last year. His own plays, "Portrait of the Artist as Filipino" and "Tatarin," were staged at the iconic FEU Auditorium. It was considered the cultural center of the country in the 1950s, when the Cultural Center for the Philippines was yet to see the light of day, while the Metropolitan Theater had been turned into a boxing arena and its nooks and corners the hovels of the poor after World War II.

The FEU architect, later National Artist, Pablo Antonio Sr., started constructing the cluster of buildings in 1938 up to 1950. The Manila campus is a living art museum with United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation-Asia Pacific Heritage buildings and auditorium done in the Art Deco style. It boasts of many works of art by National Artists Fernando Amorsolo, Vicente Manansala, Carlos "Botong" Francisco, Cesar Legaspi and Napoleon Abueva.







## TRADITION CONTINUES

Nick Joaquin noted that the auditorium had a stimulating effect on the FEU studentry, especially when the university started a play-writing contest. Also, an early favorite of students here was a one-act comedy that has become a classic theater piece locally for amateur groups. Who has not seen "New Yorker from Tondo" and Rustica Carpio?

During the activist days of the late 1960s, however, the auditorium was turned into a different kind of theater. Shown here was a film version of a Chinese communist musical entitled "The East is Red," when the judiciary allowed its showing despite an earlier ban by the executive.

*Joaquin wrote about that period, "The FEU Auditorium was now usually closed—and rare were the times when it reopened for an occasional show, like my 'Tatarin.'"*

Fortunately, the tradition of the FEU Auditorium as cultural center is being revived, thanks to the young director of the FEU President's Committee on Culture, Martin Lopez. After two-and-a-half years of renovation, the venue, which will turn 70 next year, with its 1,040 seats, presented its inaugural show entitled "Contra Mundum" last May 3, and officially closed FEU's yearlong celebration of Nick Joaquin's centenary.

"Contra Mundum" was a one-hour performance consisting of the reading of excerpts from Joaquin's original text of his "Portrait of the Artist as Filipino," with Filipino translation by Bienvenido Lumbera, Spanish translation by Lourdes Castrillo Brillantes, and singing of selections from the musical version by Ryan Cayabyab and Rolando Tinio. During the performance, still photos from the original film adaptation directed by Lamberto Avellana were projected on screen.

"Contra Mundum" was performed by Dolly de Leon, Banaue Miclat-Janssen, Hazel Maranan, Teetin Villanueva, Romnick Sarmenta, Roeder Camañag, Menggie Cobarrubias and Guelan Luarca. Karen Fatima Francisco was again on the piano.

This May 26 to 27, Musica FEUROPA 10, an annual choral competition and festival in the Philippines, will be held by FEU in cooperation with the European Union. Now on its 10th year, competition will once again be the battleground of 18 choir groups from around the country, including those from various universities, high schools, churches, private companies and even government offices.

FEU has also partnered with the Maningning Miclat Art Foundation Inc., and District Gallery to hold an exhibit of the finalists of the 2018 Maningning Art Competition, side by side with the past grand winners of the biannual art award from 2004 to 2016.

The exhibit will culminate in the awarding of the 2018 winner back to back with the presentation at the historic Auditorium of "Ginugunita Kita," a musical rendition of poems by the late trilingual poet, prized artist and art teacher of FEU, Maningning Miclat, all set to music by Jesse Lucas and sang and performed by Aliw awardee Janssen.

The new FEU Auditorium performance in September, under the direction of Roeder Camañag, will feature additional Miclat poems set to music by Lucas. Interactive artwork will be provided by Celeste Prize-winning artist Nasser Lubay.

Lopez's vision of productions for the FEU community in particular, and for the metropolis at large, has at last begun anew in Nick Joaquin's beloved Morayta.

*This article originally appeared in the Philippine Daily Inquirer (<https://lifestyle.inquirer.net/293579/newly-restored-feu-auditorium-inaugurated-nick-joaquins-contra-mundum/>)*







*Detail on the FEU Auditorium lights*