

TAMBULI

• THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF FAR EASTERN UNIVERSITY •



Looking Back

CONQUERING CURVES:
EMPOWERED WOMEN

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AYKON
THE FEU CONVERSATIONS SERIES

24

CRACKDOWN
ART EXHIBIT BY DEXTER SY

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VOL 16
ISSUE NO.2
2016

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TAMBULI

Published biannually by
Far Eastern University
Nicanor Reyes Street
P.O. Box 609 Manila, Philippines
publications@feu.edu.ph
<http://www.feu.edu.ph>

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Front Cover:
Collage of the event highlights of 2016

Back Cover:
View of the FEU Garden
from the Education Building.
Photo by Ross Copiaco



PRESIDENT'S VIEW

The Joys and Triumphs of FEU

*It was the best of times,
it was the worst of times,
it was the age of wisdom,
it was the age of foolishness,
it was the epoch of belief,
it was the epoch of incredulity,
it was the season of Light,
it was the season of Darkness,
it was the spring of hope,
it was the winter of despair,*

we had everything before us, we had nothing before us, we were all going direct to Heaven, we were all going direct the other way – in short, the period was so far like the present period, that some of the noisiest authorities insisted on its being received, for good or for evil, in the superlative degree of comparison only.

– Charles Dickens, *A Tale of Two Cities*

This year Christmas comes early in FEU. In the last week of November, we ushered in the season – celebrated this year as “Pasko sa Piyu” – with our traditional Christmas tree lighting ceremony, which transformed the campus into a cornucopia of bright and festive lights. Barely two weeks later, we are holding our University Christmas Party. In any case, what is important is not whether we are celebrating early or late, but that the event itself is a festive fellowship. With one caveat: Our Christmas celebration cannot be complete without a reflective look back to the year that is ending.

How was 2016?

I hope you will agree with me that it has been a joyful and triumphant year for the Far Eastern University community. Not only did we get an affirmation of our academic ascendance in being re-conferred an autonomous university by CHED and

in the accreditation of our academic programs by PACUCOA and PAASCU, the quality of our program offerings was also validated by the performance of our first-time takers of various professional licensure examinations. Moreover, FEU High School successfully opened its doors to almost 2,000 Grade 11 senior high school students for AY 2016–2017. And we welcomed Roosevelt College to the FEU family.

In addition, we found triumphs reflected in the number of young leaders and exceptional faculty whom we have mentored to reach their dreams, realize their potentials, and open for them doors of boundless opportunities. Their names and faces now inspire others to follow in their footsteps and continue the FEU legacy of excellence and integrity.

Our achievements would not have been possible without the collective efforts of everyone. So allow me to extend our deepest gratitude to the people who have been the source of inspiration and strength for FEU. These include highly touted individuals we have recruited to beef up management as administrative and academic officers. They are: Julia Andrea R. Abad, Executive Director, Public Policy Center, FEU Makati; Fr. Edgardo D. Abaño, University Chaplain; Michelle B. Acomular, Director, Admissions and Financial Assistance; Michelle B. Bautista, Director, Alumni Relations and Placement Services; Ma. Theresa B. Blas, Assistant to the Senior Vice-President for Academic Affairs; Earl Joseph M. Borgoña, Associate Dean, FEU Makati; Marilou F. Cao, Director, Volunteerism Services; Melany E. Caperal, Manager; FEU Publications; Catherine M. Catamora, Director, Education Technology; Denise Joy Nicole R. Concepcion-Inocencio, Consultant, Institutional Curriculum Mapping; Aldrin Darilag, Dean of College, Roosevelt College; Olivier Dintinger, Executive Director, FEU Cavite; Marcon R. Espino, Dean of College, FEU Cavite, Jennifer S. Florida, Asst. VP for Academic Services; Maria Gia G. Gamolo, University Librarian; Atty. Santiago L. Garcia Jr., Corporate Secretary; Atty. Anthony Raymond A. Goqingco, Associate Dean, JD Program, and Administrator, FEU Makati, Joventina D. Madriaga, Director, General Education; Eliza Margarita E. Magkasi, Manager, Logistics Services; Jose Edwardo R. Mamat, Assoc. Dean, IAS; Elisa S. Mañalac, Dean, IE; Driselle P. Pajuyo, Associate Dean, ITHM; Dennis S. Pulido, Director, URC; Cynthia P. San Diego, Director, Accreditation; Grace Sipin, Registrar, FEU Cavite; Atty. Archiesyl S. Torres, Manager, Legal Services; Gerald L. Villar, Registrar, FEU Manila; Gillian Joyce Virata, Vice-President for Academic Affairs, Roosevelt College; and Sandra L. Yap, Research Fellow.

We also remember the people who were part of the FEU family but have retired and moved on to a new phase in life, namely, Jaime M. Mallari, Ma. Cristina S. Gervacio, Susan B. Abello, Mercedita P. Lopez, and Rafael E. Concepcion.

Then there are the losses that we can look back to with great fondness. We remember prayerfully the people who have joined our Creator. They are: Demerlito M. Tulaylay, Faculty, ITHM and Oscar C. Herrera, Dean, IL.

Notably, though we failed in our quest to repeat as champions in the UAAP men's basketball championship, we conducted our campaign with focus and energy, and we exited the tournament with our head held high. We were a young, inexperienced team. We will come back stronger next year.

In the final analysis, this year, as in every other year, we had our joys and sorrows. Christmas brings into perspective that, while our triumphs inspired us, our losses remind us to stay the course and to keep that sense of solidarity among us.

As we all come together in this celebration as one family, let us be grateful for both the high and low points that we've experienced this year. As in the psalm-prayer of the first psalm of Lauds during feast days, let our prayer to the Heavenly Father this Christmas be in the following words:

May our lips praise you, our lives proclaim your goodness, our work give you honor, and our voices celebrate you forever.

Merry Christmas!



Dr. Michael M. Alba
President

2016

Looking Back

**UNDENIABLY
ONE OF THE MOST
MEMORABLE YEARS,
2016 WAS A YEAR OF
SURPRISING WINS
AND LOSSES.**

In the political front, Rodrigo Duterte swept the Philippine election as the country's president, while Donald Trump was victorious in landing the highest seat of the land in America. From what seemed like an eternity of waiting, Leonardo DiCaprio finally won his first Oscar award.

The year was also marked with tragedy as the Syrian waged war against ISIS, and at the home front, the controversy of extrajudicial killings marred the Philippines's image.

Despite these, the country finds hope and inspiration from the triumphs of Kylie Versoza who showed beauty, grace, and wit during the Miss International 2016 beauty pageant. The Filipinos also witnessed the sheer discipline and grit of Hidilyn Diaz who bagged the first Olympic gold medal for the Philippines after 20 years.

In this issue, the Tambuli Team rounds up some of the highlights with interesting photographs and images that retell the stories of 2016 shared by the Tamaraw community.

January

Vows Renewed

Celebrating FEU's 88th Founding Anniversary with the theme "Lead the Charge," the university celebrated the Annual Founder's Wreath Laying to renew FEU's commitment in academic excellence and nation-building.



Music Meets the Academe

FEU held its annual concierto to culminate the university's 88th founding anniversary. The event heated up with big bands and artists of the country jamming with the campus' own talents.



February



Scream for the dream

Colors of student party alliances flooded the halls and grounds of FEU as the aspiring student leaders take on the stage for their Meeting de Avance hoping to get seat in the FEU Student Council (FEUCSO).

March



Heads Up

Dr. Michael M. Alba leads the ceremonial toss to kick-off the annual FEU's Athletic League. Joined by the different institutes of the university, the students showed their athletic side as they compete in the various sports such as basketball and volleyball.



Let's do the Z

Zumba Fever is on. Shaking, grooving, and moving with the beat, the Tamaraw community joins the Zumba session to promote a healthy and fit lifestyle.

April



Lawyers for Life

Welcoming the new lawyers of the country, the Institute of Law held the hooding for the latest bar exam passers. Our new Tam lawyers are now ready to take on the legal battlefield.



Strengthening Camaraderie

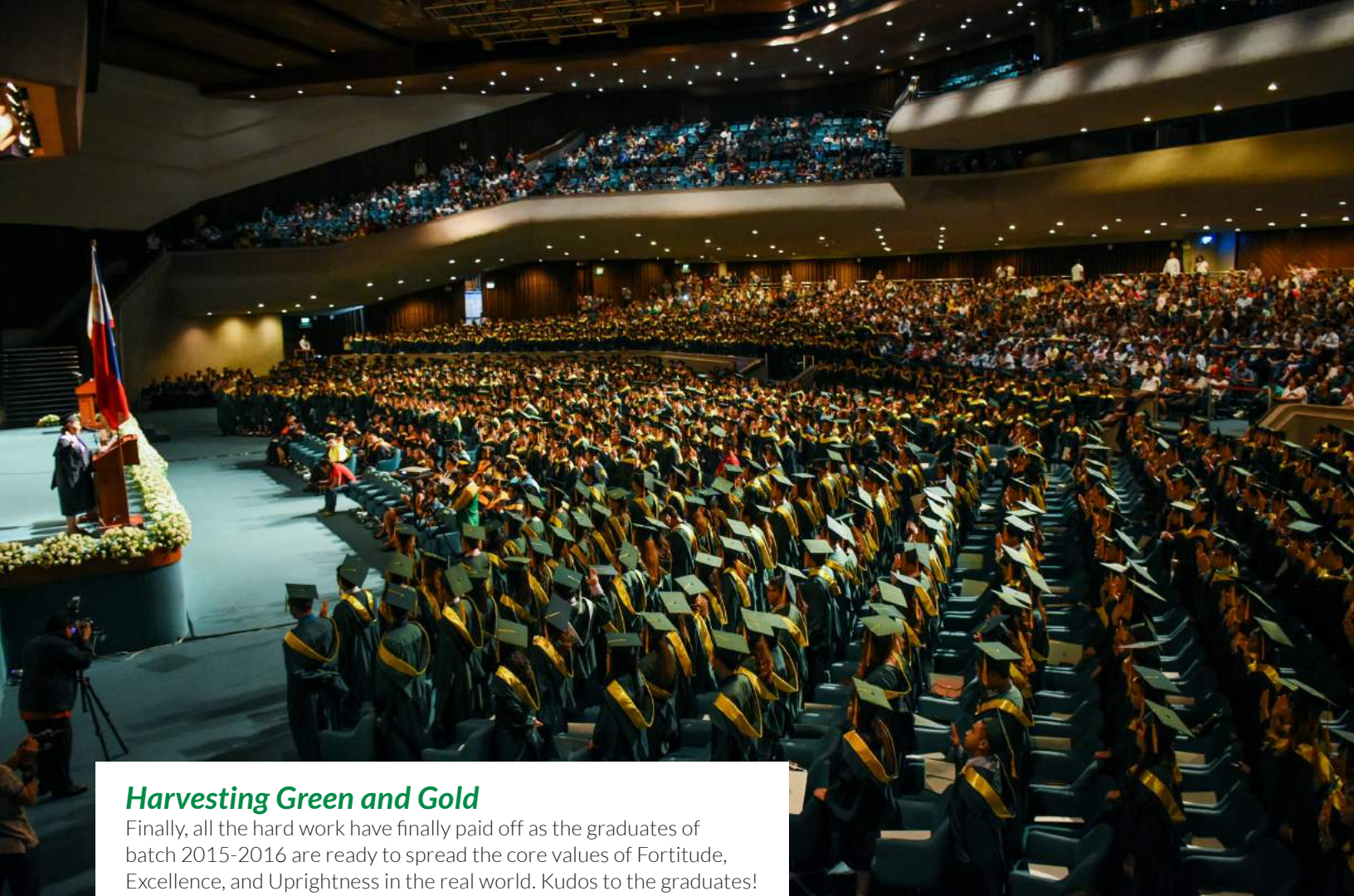
FEU Non-Teaching staff gather for the annual Fellowship that aims to reinforce teamwork and strengthen camaraderie. United in their “gold” FEU shirts, the group preps for the summer outing to kick some fun.

May



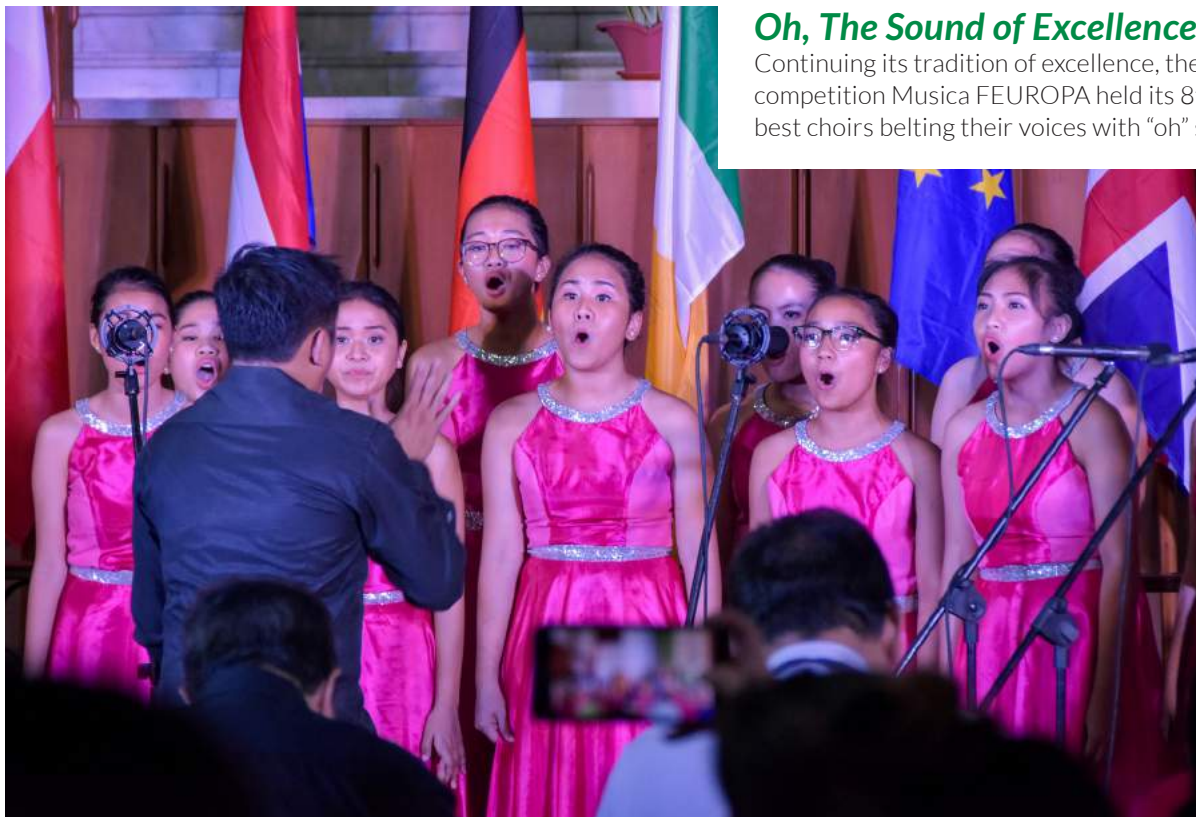
Holy Blessings

Graduating students attended the baccalaureate mass filled with gratitude along with their prayers for God’s blessings as they face the challenges in the real world after graduation.



Harvesting Green and Gold

Finally, all the hard work have finally paid off as the graduates of batch 2015-2016 are ready to spread the core values of Fortitude, Excellence, and Uprightness in the real world. Kudos to the graduates!



Oh, The Sound of Excellence!

Continuing its tradition of excellence, the annual choral competition Musica FEUROPA held its 8th season with the best choirs belting their voices with “oh” so much passion.

June



Pumping for Life

Duck, cover, and hold. The “Metroshake Drill” prepared the Tamaraw Community for the infamous “Big One.” Officers, staff, and students participated in the rescue simulations to educate and prepare everyone on what to expect and how to respond during an earthquake.

July



Embracing Cultural Diversity

Foreign students undergo the Intensive English Language Course (INTELAC) by exposing them to the English language and Filipino culture to help them cope and succeed in their academic life.

August



New Home of the New Breed of Tams

The FEU executives lit up their candles as a part of the ceremonial blessing of the opening of Senior High School Building in FEU which will serve as the new home of the young Tams.



Say Cheese

Everyone was all smiles celebrating the TamHunt which was made more colorful with the fun and unique photo booths.



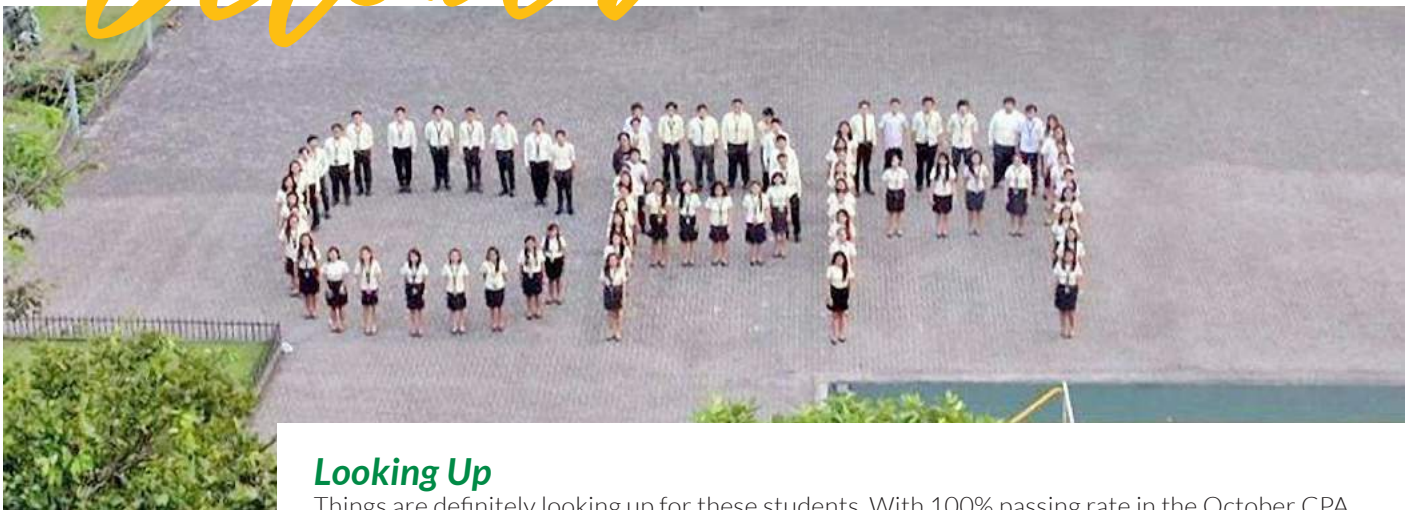
September



Cheering for Green and Gold

Recca, Recca, Summa FEU. The athletic torch was lit which signaled the beginning of UAAP season 79 hosted by the University of Santo Tomas.

October



Looking Up

Things are definitely looking up for these students. With 100% passing rate in the October CPA Board Exam, batch 2016 of the Bachelor of Science in Accountancy (BSA) program are now fulfilling their dreams. FEU- Manila registered as the sixth best performing school in the October 2016 Certified Public Accountants Licensure Examination with a passing rate of 82.35%.

November



Theatrical Romance

FEU's Presidential Committee on Culture brought Dramatis Personae's Production "Mishima: Confessions of a Mask" to the FEU stage as a part of the celebration of the 60 years of diplomatic relations between the Philippines and Japan.





Let's Paint these Tams

Different hues from green, pink, blue, yellow, and orange were painted on miniature tamaraw replicas. The Tamaraw community took part in this colorful event revealing their artsy side.





December

Let There be Light

The FEU Christmas tree at the Freedom Park is a spectacular sight in the evening that reminds every one of that wonderful time of the year. ■

Photos by Zymon Bumatay





CONQUERING CURVES:
EMPOWERED
WOMEN

*"If you want something said, ask a man;
if you want something done, ask a woman."*

– Margaret Thatcher

We have seen women climb the corporate ladder; women who tenaciously pushed their advocacies; and in the world dominated by men, managed to stand tall and excel in their respective field.

It is an exciting time for women at Far Eastern University as the year 2016 ushered in achievements and recognitions for women both at the leadership front and the student community. These are but a few of the women who made a mark in 2016. When provided with opportunities and equal access to education and information, women are capable of developing their competencies, hone their talents and widen their perspectives. They learn from the challenges, compete and even prove themselves as winners. In the end, they eventually become women leaders at the forefront of their chosen field who now have the opportunity to make their voices heard and become catalysts for change.

These women lead, contribute and inspire. Their success stories proved that they conquered the curves.



Ganiel Krishnan



Nicole Yu



Janelle Mae Frayna



Hazel Baek



JANELLE MAE FRAYNA

First Woman Chess Grandmaster (WGM)

She has made history after becoming the country's first ever Woman Chess GrandMaster (WGM). Janelle Mae Frayna demonstrated that it was possible to conquer a game dominated by men during the 42nd World Chess Olympiad in Baku, Azerbaijan. In the words of President Michael Alba, "... the fact that Janelle took on this challenge – in other words, dove deep into this chess rabbit hole – and came out on top as a grandmaster speaks volumes about her dedication and persistence, her intelligence, and, above all, her nerves of steel and mental toughness."



HAZEL BAEK

Student Leader and Global Development Advocate

She was selected as the lone student representative from the Philippines who joined the 49 delegates to the prestigious 2nd Youth Leadership Workshop on Global Citizenship Education (GCED) at the Busan University of Foreign Studies in Busan, Republic of Korea. She completed capacity building workshops and international dialogues with her counterparts from other countries. "I realized that no race, age, gender nor religion can hinder a global citizen to love and respect one another. We should always know our 'why' and 'for whom' we are doing selfless service in order to feel genuine happiness," she reiterated. Armed with these knowledge, she now has better understanding of leadership strategies to implement the GCED, and of the need to establish a GCED Youth Network.

MARIKIT MOVEMENT: EMPOWERING CHILDREN AND WOMEN

by Karl Libante

"Cat calling, molestation, and sexual abuses on women have been rampant," says Ronalyn B. Pordan, FEU graduate and women's advocate as she enumerates the reason she stood up and spoke her mind.

The 20-year old advocate has seen how women have been treated unjustly in the society, as she herself has experienced such horrific situations. "I know how most abused women feel as I myself was a victim—the inability to voice out, because every time you ask someone to narrate how they were abused, it's like you're reminding them what happened," she further explained.

Ronalyn has been very much sensitive in these issues and these problems break her heart. "I was in my first year as a high school student when I started joining Girls Scout; this has greatly helped me develop my passion towards women empowerment—since then, I always want to help girls and women," she stated.

As she became more matured, she, together with her colleague, Cleo Vaso, has begun volunteering in elementary and high schools where they had modules in order to teach young girls how to be confident and how to protect themselves from being abused.





GANIEL KRISHNAN

Beauty Titlist

Twenty-one year old Ganiel Krishnan was already a familiar face in the tube as a courtside reporter for ABS-CBN Sports, but the Communication junior had bigger dreams.

After landing second runner-up at Miss Manila 2016 she is now the newly hailed Mutya ng Pilipinas-Asia Pacific International 2016. "In today's society, people objectify beauty through good looking people and perfect body... I think that at the end of the day, we should all know that beauty of the face can last for years but beauty from within like your personality lasts for an entire life."



NICOLE EMELLIE L. YU

Fulbright Scholar

A national delegate to the prestigious Ayala Young Leaders Congress and AmCham Business Leadership Program and a consistent Outstanding Student Awardee, Nicole Emellie Yu perhaps just earned her greatest accomplishment yet – a Fulbright scholarship. She was one of the four recipients of the 2016 Global Undergraduate Exchange Program Award and the first FEU undergraduate student to receive such award.

"Through this scholarship, I will learn more about business, finance and accounting industries with a global mindset. This is essentially important for me as some of my careers plans include becoming a CPA Lawyer and setting up my own NGO that focuses on youth empowerment and financial literacy," said Yu.

In an etymological perspective, MariKit Movement, founded by Ronalyn Pordan and Cleo Vaso, can be explained in two ways.

First, marikit, if translated in the English language, means beautiful. One of the aims of the movement is to make females be confident on how they look by instilling confidence and boosting their self-esteem.

Second, marikit is coined from the combination of the phrase "MARIrinig KITa." Pordan said that it is stylized that way because the main objective of the movement is to give voice to abused children and women—thus empowering them.

MariKit Movement, currently situated in a barangay in San Jose, Del Monte, Bulacan, has started to teach young girls in the community about gender sensitivity. They call it "MariKit Sessions" which are done on Sundays.

Instead of directly teaching the children about the concepts of gender sensitivity, the movement creatively and indirectly

inculcates concepts through modules, games, activities, and short films in order not to disturb their innocence.

Recently, besides the MariKit Sessions, they have also started to have self-defense training program for teenage girls. "It's also important for them to learn how to defend themselves against," Pordan stated.



Climbing the Corporate Ladder One Heel at a Time

Speech delivered during the Women Stepping Up Conference (November 12, 2013)



by Gianna R. Montinola
VP for Corporate Affairs

In the Philippines, woman's career choices are still influenced by the many roles she is expected to assume. In her twenties and early thirties, she is able to focus on herself. Her choices are easiest during her college years and in the years devoted to her first job. She might even be able to complete a graduate degree.

But when she decides to have a family, she has to find the time and energy to be a wife, a mother, and a professional all rolled into one. Some women manage to adjust their work hours around their domestic responsibilities. Others make the tough choice of trying to do both, never quite convinced that they are doing either job perfectly. And many who choose to prioritize their families are resigned to the fact that this decision will be a setback to their careers.

In her article "Why Women Still Can't Have It All", author Anne-Marie Slaughter says, "It's time to stop fooling ourselves. The women who have managed to be both mothers and top professionals are superhuman, rich, or self-employed." Her decision to step down as director of policy planning of the US State Department so that she could devote more time to raising her 2 teenage sons sparked a series of sensitive discussions on the issue of work-family balance.

Ms. Slaughter feels that decisions to put family ahead of professional advancement are very much at odds with the social expectations on career professionals. In this prevailing culture, the pressure to work longer hours and to be available for work-related activities 24/7 can be very intense. The philosophy that more time spent at work contributes to larger profits makes it very difficult to integrate both work and family. She says, "Many in positions of power place a low value on child care in comparison to other outside activities."

On the other hand, Facebook COO Sheryl Sandberg, feels that the dearth of women in top jobs is caused by internal factors: they do not dream big enough, they are lacking in ambition, and they are afraid to commit.

She exhorts all to "lean in", to keep their hand up and to sit at the table. But it is never as simple as that. In my experience, no amount of ambition and support could ease the constant struggle between the time spent with the family versus the time needed to do my job.

My past professional life witnessed a transition from lawyer to diplomat to business manager and finally, to educator. I was tasked with heading the marketing and communication department of Far Eastern University and having to learn a lot on the job. This, in addition to leading 2 non-profits I co-founded in the Philippines: Hands on Manila Foundation, Inc., which focuses on volunteerism, and PeaceTech Foundation Inc. which concentrates on peace building by putting together large groups of people to dialogue on conflict or potential conflict.

Our conversation today is about management by women. Is it any different?

The findings of Catalyst, a research organization, show that companies with more women board directors experience a 26% higher return on invested capital, than those with fewer women. McKinsey & Company also reports that international companies with more women on their corporate boards far outperform the average company in terms of return on equity and other measures.

But what, exactly, do women bring to the table?

They bring diversity. A diverse team with members who complement each other allows for better problem-solving outcomes.

Women also bring different perspectives. Their instincts and insights are valuable. They are more sensitive to how others feel and are able to elicit information.

Perhaps because of their abilities to multi-task, women have a knack for detail. They can be very meticulous when they have a job to do.

What then, should women do to improve in their chosen professions?

It is said that a successful professional is someone who can climb the corporate ladder quickly and who will peak between the ages of 45 and 55 years. But who is to say that our professional lives cannot resume or begin in our 40s or 50s? Why can't we view 15 years of child rearing as a time to mature and prepare for re-entry into the corporate world? After all, the average life expectancy has increased. We have a good 20 to

30 years to be productive and still rise to the top after we have successfully raised our children.

We should not view this period as a hindrance, but rather as a momentary pause in pursuit of our respective careers. Ms. Slaughter refers to this as an “investment interval.” We should embrace these years and enjoy being with our children precisely because it is an opportunity to nurture them and help them grow.

Why not think of it as our chance to excel as CEOs in the domestic arena? There is experience to be gained in keeping to a budget, in teaching and inspiring children to be the best they can, in broadening perspectives and establishing different networks.

Cathleen Benko and Anne Weisberg, in their book “Mass Career Customization”, state that “today’s career is no longer a straight climb up the corporate ladder, but rather a combination of climbs, lateral moves, and planned descents.” Ms. Sandberg very aptly calls it a jungle gym.

Today, we have to strive to be the best role models for our daughters and for other women. I do not have to look very far for mine. My mother taught me to speak my mind, and to take charge. She encouraged me to dream big, but also to work hard to achieve my goals. Most importantly, she impressed upon me the responsibilities a woman has towards her family.

We must constantly invest in learning. Resources like Massive Open Online Courses, more popularly called MOOCs, abound at no cost. The Internet contains a vast source of material for ideas, views, opinions and perspectives in almost any field of interest. The media can instantly transport us to any part of the world. And witnessing our children grow gives us a front seat to our rapidly changing universe.

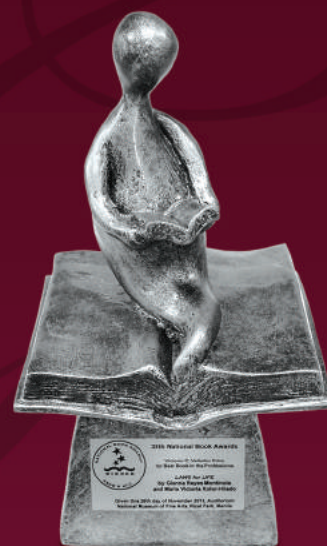
We must think globally to succeed in business. After I settled my second child in college, I set my sights on the graduate degree I could not do while raising a family. It was only in 2013 that I completed a Masters in Public Administration at the Harvard John F. Kennedy School of Government. My one-year stint as an Edward S. Mason fellow was challenging to say the least. Those of you in your fifties will attest to the fact that going back to school at this late stage in life can be daunting.

While the course sharpened my managerial skills and updated my understanding of technology and social media trends, it is the global perspectives I value most. And, of course, the friendships and networks I cultivated with over 200 classmates from all over the world.

Finally, we should learn to come to terms with the fact that being a woman in top management is never a breeze. Along the way, it might be helpful to remind ourselves, that “... Ginger Rogers did everything that Fred Astaire did. She just did it backwards and in high heels.” (Ann Richards) ■

ATTY. GIANNA R. MONTINOLA

National Book
Awardee for 2016



Vice President for Corporate Affairs, Atty. Gianna R. Montinola or GRM is one of the key leaders of Far Eastern University. She heads the Corporate Affairs Office which includes the President’s Committee on Culture, Marketing and Communications, Publications, Multimedia Center and the Bookstore. Her strong commitment to defining and building the FEU brand of quality education and excellence re-energized FEU’s image — translating to greater visibility of the institution in all platforms and maintenance of its credible reputation.

She remarkably manages her leadership responsibilities while being active with Hands On Manila Foundation, Inc., an organization dedicated to the advocacy of volunteerism in the Philippines and PeaceTech Foundation Inc. which concentrates on peace building and conflict resolution through the use of technology.

She obtained her Master in Public Administration at the Harvard Kennedy School. And while she admits that the task has been daunting, the global perspective she gained was most valuable.

On top of everything, she is able to pursue her love of writing. The practical, no-nonsense book *Laws for Life*, which she co-authored with Vicky Rotor Hilado also earned recognition from the National Book Awards for the category “Best Book in the Professions.”

In 2011, the book *Celebrations* which she co-authored also won in the 30th National Book Awards.

ALAGAD AT YAMAN NG KONKRETONG OBRA

AYKON

The FEU Conversations Series



It aims to inspire students by exposing them to people of passion and to encourage them to “be brave” and feel that they too can become agents of change.

Launched in 2015, AYKON is a program designed to introduce the FEU students to individuals who have, through their work and ideas, changed the terrain of Philippine art, science, business, or society. Its objective is for the students to have a memorable and concrete experience of these individuals and to come away with an understanding of how these individuals found their success despite struggling with and challenging existing norms, ideas, and practices and thus, in the process, brought about a change in Philippine society for the better. It aims to get students to think about the structures of repression and about the process of transformation. It aims to inspire students by exposing them to people of passion and to encourage them to “be brave” and feel that they too can become agents of change.

The concept of change is an important one, especially for our founder, Dr. Nicanor Reyes, who believed that in this society change happens through individuals who serve as models in their field.

The format of AYKON is casual and encouraging of *kwentong buhay*. Instead of asking our guest to give a formal speech, guests are asked to begin with a short talk about their passions and struggles. They will then be asked a series of questions which will allow them to share their ideas, theories, stories and vignettes, life experiences, interesting experiences of other Philippine luminaries, and the like.

The AYKON series is held at the historic FEU Auditorium, a one-thousand seat auditorium built in 1940 in the Art Deco style. The FEU Auditorium was the cultural center of the Philippines during the 1950s and 60s and, along with four other buildings, are recognized by UNESCO as an Asia-Pacific Heritage Site.

AYKON Speakers



Rajo Laurel

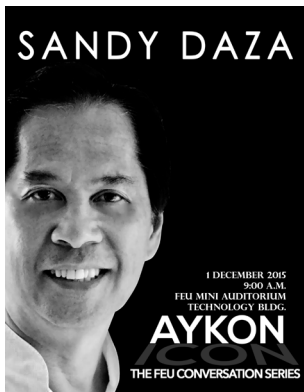
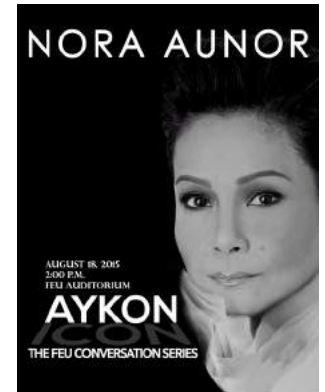
Fashion Designer
July 30, 2015

He is best known as a judge on Project Runway Philippines and the man behind the House of Laurel, a boutique fashion house in Makati City which he co-founded with his sister Venisse Laurel-Hermano. He has designed dresses for famous international clients, including supermodel Tyra Banks and Ms. Universe Dayanara Torres.

Nora Aunor

Actress, Recording Artist and Film Producer
August 18, 2015

She is Philippine cinema's "Superstar." With a multitude of international and local awards and nominations, she is known for her acting prowess having more than 180 films. Her careers spans for more than four decades since she started in the late 1960s.



Sandy Daza

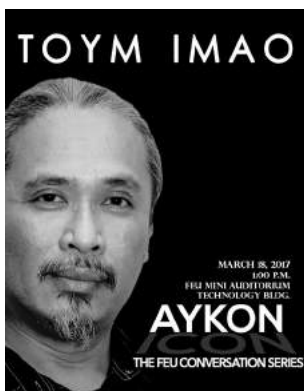
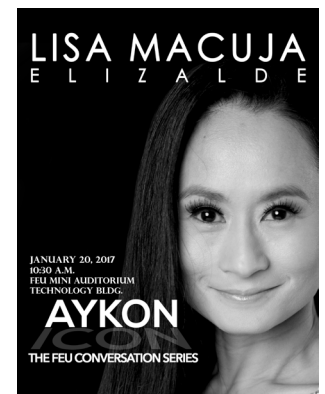
Restaurateur, Food Columnist and TV host
December 1, 2015

A renowned chef, he owns a chain of restaurants and has hosted numerous cooking shows: Cooking with Nora, Cooking with the Dazas, Eat Bulaga's Del Monte Kitchenomics, and Cooking with Sandy. He has a regular column "Word of Mouth" with the Philippine Daily Inquirer.

Lisa Macuja-Elizalde

Prima Ballerina
January 20, 2017

She is the first Filipina prima ballerina and the first foreign soloist to ever join the Kirov Ballet. The Artistic Director of Ballet Manila, Vice-Chairman of the Philippine UNESCO National Commission, she is also the Directress and faculty member of the Ballet Manila School.



Toym Imao

Artist, Sculptor and Painter
March 18, 2017

As a Fulbright Scholar with a Masters in Fine Arts from the Maryland Institute College of Art, he is known for his masterful craftsmanship in designing sculptures and monuments. Some of his works include the Tandang Sora National Shrine in Quezon City, the Andres Bonifacio National Shrine in Maragondon, Cavite, and the Dr. Jose P. Rizal statue in Carson City, California. ■

FEU PUBLICATIONS
AND TAMS BOOKSTORE

at the

Marilyn

INTERNATIONAL
BOOK FAIR
2016

By Jose Cabaltera



The 37th Manila International Book Fair (MIBF) marked FEU's sophomore year at the celebrated event which ran from September 14 through 18 at the SMX Convention Center in Pasay City.



Opportunity to showcase FEU

MIBF served as an opportunity to show the public and publishing industry that Far Eastern University has arrived with its growing collection of literary and trade books. Among the highlights during the event were the chance for celluloid fans to meet the renowned stage and movie actress Rustica Carpio as she promoted her book “Shuttling through Stage and Screen.” Filipiniana enthusiasts were treated with a rare gem of a find with copies of Nick Joaquin’s first edition of “The Complete Poems and Plays of Jose Rizal, an edition from the 1970s translated into English side by side with the original Spanish text.

It is More than just Books

It's the course dry hand of aged paper and the musky scent gently whirling forth as we turn the pages. MIBF is more than a haven for bibliophile. It poses as the venue which pushes reading and literacy advocacies, promotes the publishing industry and recognizes outstanding new work of the written word. Accolades that were awarded during this the nation's preëminent gathering for book enthusiasts and publishing industry leaders alike include the Gintong Aklat Awards hosted by the Book Development Association of the Philippines as well as the Asian Catholic Communicators Inc., which honors recent publications that promote liturgical studies, edify spiritual growth and celebrate family values. ■





THE FEU CULTURAL APP: THE ARTS IN YOUR HANDS



Far Eastern University's significant contributions to vibrant arts and culture life on campus can be experienced with just a few taps on one's mobile phone, especially by using the FEU Cultural app.

The University's official mobile app is not just informative but was also designed to be a fun and interactive tool. The app has nine sections, including but not limited to a campus map with the history and notable artworks of its various buildings, notifications to ongoing or upcoming arts events with a corresponding check-in mechanism, a community chat and the opportunity to earn reward points. Users can browse and add to the Gallery of Images and Videos so that their experience at a cultural event is enhanced and shared.

Martin Lopez, director of the FEU President's Committee on Culture (PCC) and the man behind the FEU Cultural App explained that "almost everyone spends a significant time using their mobile phones to use apps such as Facebook. Yet, these same students are hardly aware of arts and culture events on campus and therefore do not attend. Lack of time, conflicting schedules between classes and performances, awareness, and distractions like cell phones and social media are just some of the barriers to attendance. Arts events

on campus have many intrinsic benefits but are of no value if students do not attend to learn from and be inspired by them." Mr. Lopez lamented the situation to FEU President Dr. Michael Alba - who suggested an app. Lopez took to heart and created two years later with the help of Vibe Technologies, the FEU Cultural App which addresses the challenges of having today's millennial students attend cultural events.

Mr. Lopez is proud to say that the FEU Cultural App could be the first of its kind for an educational or cultural institution not just in the Philippines but the entire world. With an innovative approach that fosters active participation and increased attendance to cultural events, he was invited to speak as the only Filipino at the Classical Next Conference in Rotterdam, the Netherlands as well as in a panel discussion on Arts Marketing and Audience Building at the Federation for Asian Cultural Promotion's annual conference in George Town, Penang, Malaysia. In his presentations, Mr. Lopez reiterated the need for cultural organizations to use social media apps or to create their own to build audiences for live arts events.

"The arts are in OUR hands --- literally in the handheld devices that we use but also in the lifelong choices we make about engagement and participation." ■





FEU TECH WINS BEST SHORT FILM AWARD AT 38TH CATHOLIC MASS MEDIA AWARDS

i Tamaraws from the College of Computer Studies won the Best Student Short Film Award at the 38th Catholic Mass Media Awards held in CCP Complex last October 12, 2016. Patricia Gabrielle T. Guillermo, Maja Michaela F. Remon, Naomi V. Torrecampo, and Rio R. Ubaldo was joined by their adviser, Prof. Abigail L. Alix and their mentor Prof. Wilson Yu II when they received their award. Their entry is a full 3D-animated film entitled “The Prodigal Son”.

The 11-minuter film is based on one of the parables of Jesus written in the New Testament: Book of Luke 15:11-32. According to the students, they chose this story to portray the issues of today’s generation – materialism and self-centeredness. The film imparts the values of forgiveness, repentance, and love of the father to his sons.

These iTamaraws definitely proved their creativity by bringing home the award and the whole community can’t be more proud of their skills and their aim to promote moral responsibility. ■



The word “crackdown” refers to the heightened state of pursuing acts and behaviors deemed illegal, and the individuals that commit and perpetuate them. It conjures up images of strictly enforcing the law and exacting penalty to wrongdoers, a sense of urgency under severe conditions or situations. As such, the term potentially leads to reflections about notions of punishment, power and control.

Featured in this exhibition are old works from the artist’s collection spanning from 2014 to 2016 and shown in previous exhibitions, but now recontextualized and reinterpreted in light of recent events and political tensions. Here the artist gathers compositions that show dismembered bodies, severed heads, and scenes of torture — forms of punishment commonly practiced in the past but now regarded as barbaric and uncivilized by modern societies. Rendered in his signature of painstakingly layering figures, lines, pattern and textures, these grotesque images resonate well with today’s dilemma and intense debate on what is humane and inhuman in serving justice, on whether society is entering a better era or regressing to a darker past.



Crackdown

Art Exhibit by Dexter Sy

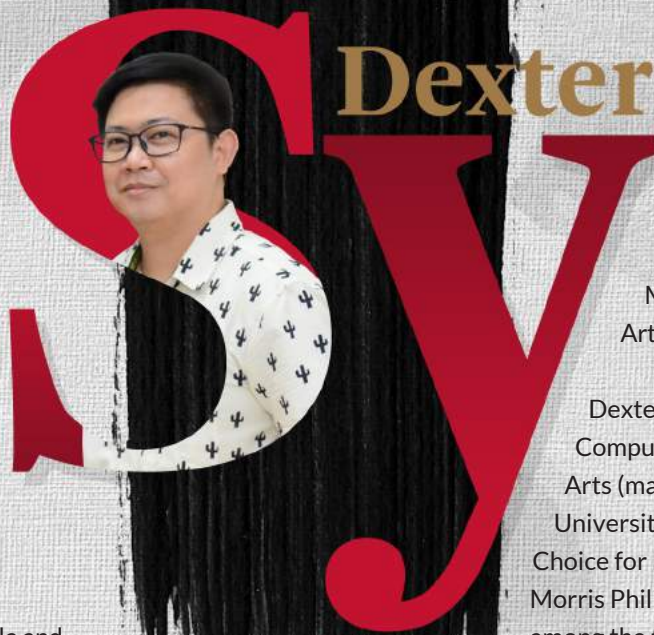
by Ryan Francis Reyes, Curator

Other images presented in the exhibition allude further to people who hold power and influence, outlawed practices, and the lives at stake amid conflicting standpoints: men in uniform, a gambling scene, and a group portrait which may represent our dear families and loved ones. A prizewinning piece offers yet another dimension to the theme of reward and punishment: the one that transcends the laws of man. Inspired by Dante Alighieri’s *Divine Comedy*, the work visualizes the metaphysical realms of eternal bliss or eternal suffering reserved for the soul. Finally, a two-headed portrait seemingly infested by maggots may remind us that inevitably, even the mightiest possessors of power and control will succumb to deterioration and decay.

These works, replete with symbolism and vast array of forms, highlight the immense power of images to remain relevant despite changing contexts and mileus, and further reinforced by the artist’s mastery of media and technique. ■



Ryan Francis Reyes, Dr. Lorelei De Viana, and Dexter Sy



Dexter

Artist Statement

I ndeed, it is true that the only constant thing is change. As an artist, I have evolved through time from my medium to my subjects. As I track down my progress, I believe I have started to understand my subliminal thoughts through ink on paper. Family beliefs and traditions basically mold my style and my focus. Eventually, these concealed my thoughts of fear, anger, mystery and morbidity which divulged themselves into my works. Curiosity also plays a big role in defining my subjects.

As the years passed, I have found a better medium for my thoughts to play on by exploring ink on canvas and eventually mixed media. A variety of ideas found a new playground on my canvas and then I grasped the idea of how reality encompasses most of our subconscious thoughts.

Though I may not fully understand how these thoughts happen, I just let them reveal themselves and let my audience interpret whatever they see in my work. I believe that through my art, I can communicate with my audience's dreams and memories.

Aside from my own experiences, I am truly influenced by the local and international artists from all walks of life who captures the intricate ideas of the human spirit: on how things are meant to be unexplained yet admired through people's art; how imagination made world infinite and tangible; and how history and people's own culture craft their own stories that often inspired me to create.

My drawings on canvas made me draft unconscious ideas of people and of myself. I create a cycle of havng a different kind of concepts but retaining the same style and technique I have known when I began as an artist. Through this technique, I have made my own mark and identity and thus, I was eager to evolve as an artist through my chosen art.

About the Artist

Dexter Mulato Sy, 1979, Born in Manila, Philippines, Bachelor of Fine Arts major in Advertising Arts 2005.

Dexter Sy holds two degrees: one in Computer Programming and one in Fine Arts (major in Advertising) in Far Eastern University. Sy was awarded the Jurors Choice for Excellence at the 2010 Philip Morris Philippine Art Awards. He was also among the top ten shortlisted finalist for the National Capital Region at the 2005, 2007, and 2009.

He is also recently named as one of the 10 winners of the 2011 Manila Art Awards of the Philip Morris Philippine Art Awards. He also took home the Grand Prize at several local art contest.

International exhibitions of his work have been held at the Asian Artfair in Korea. Last year, he participated in the Asian Art Fairnale at the Haslla Art World Musuem in Korea and the show nima Orientale at the Utterly Art Exhibition Space in Singapore. He was an artist-in-residence at Haslla International Open Air Museum in Korea and attended the Haslla International Open-Air Symposium. ■



