



# the bedan today

a destiny of honor, service and excellence

Volume IX

The Official Publication of San Beda College Manila

May-November 2011



San Beda Red Cubs



Very Rev. Fr. Aloysius Ma. A. Maranan, OSB



San Beda Red Lions

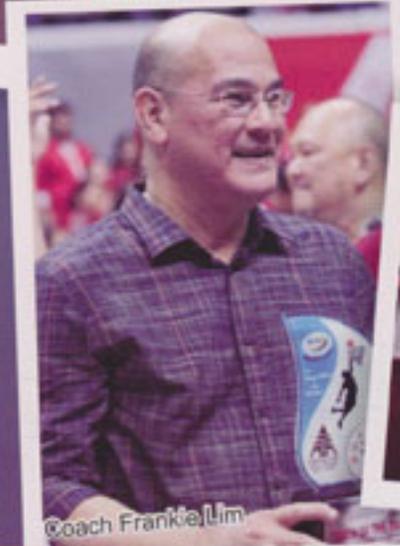


Justice Bojie Reyes

## San Beda's Movers & Shakers



Prof. Nancy Kimuell-Gabriel



Coach Frankie Lim



The Capt. Gregorio Oca Distinguished Professorial Chair



Seodel Hearty T. Pilapil



Dr. Manuel V. Pangilinan



New Bedan CPAs

Prof. Joffre M. Alajar



# Movers & Shakers

**C**elebrating achievements, positive developments and leadership--this issue of **The Bedan Today** sets its sight on these plaudits with the members of the San Beda College family as main actors. Undeniably, these are the characters who have contributed more in shaping the destiny of our San Beda College now celebrating 110th year of great educational service to the Filipino nation.

As we all celebrate another milestone year, we reap harvests of success as a result of the industry, commitment to greatness and ability to embrace change of the people who made the school what it is today. In this issue, we pay tribute to the Benedictines, past and present, under whose aegis this learning institution is able to give life to its mission; the school administrators, faculty members, and non-teaching personnel who serve the young with utmost dedication, commitment and competence; the students who are the very reason for San Beda's continued existence; and, the many alumni/ae who continue incarnating the essence of their Bedan education in the nation and the global community.

This **Bedan Today** issue celebrates their works, and the next pages are meant for them – *San Beda's movers and shakers* during the first half of the new academic year 2011-2012. Let their accomplishments be an inspiration and a legacy for generations of Bedans to emulate.

Here's to a good read, hoping that the next pages will inspire new hope, uplift one's spirit and nurture a passion to make a difference.



# the bedan today

a destiny of honor, service and excellence

*Publisher*

Very Rev. Fr. Aloysius Ma. A. Maranan, OSB

*Editor in Chief*

Prof. Joffre M. Alajar

*Managing Editors*

Rev. Fr. Basil Apostol, OSB

Ms. Ana A. Aberilla

*Staff*

Alexander Y. Jose

Juvy Fabro

Wilma Abellanosa

Rhed Tenebro

**THE BEDAN TODAY** is the official publication of San Beda College Manila, produced semestrally, with editorial and business offices at the San Beda College Public Relations Office, Mendiola, Manila.

Fr. Aloy is the fifth child among seven children of **Ismael G. Maranan**, 84 years old, a civil engineer, and **Gloria M. Albay**, an elementary teacher who passed away on January 2, 2005 at the age of 77. The father is a strict and fair disciplinarian, while mother was a loving gentle angel. His father dreamed of having a lawyer in the family. So he sent Fr. Aloy to study in San Beda College where eventually he finished his AB economics in 1983, a pre law course. He wanted him to proceed to take up law.

Ever obedient to his father, and with no question asked, he started to study law proper in San Beda in academic year 1983-84. He did not want to frustrate his father.

However, crucial moment of decision came into his life. It was a personal, final and life changing decision to enter the seminary came when he was a first year law proper student in San Beda. While enrolled at the college of law, and without telling his family, he was already spending weekends in the Abbey and observing the life of the Benedictine monks.

When Fr. Aloy finally told his father and asked for his permission that he would no longer continue to study law and would rather enter as postulant in the Abbey of Our Lady of Montserrat, his father was caught speechless. He could only say in Tagalog 'sige kung parpapari ang gusto mo, Decision mo yan. Siguraduhin mo lang na maging mabuting pari ka at hindi pari-parian. Ako magpapalabas sayo.' ('okay if you really want to be a priest, I will not stop you. That is your decision. But make sure that you really become a good priest and not an unfaithful one. Other wise, I will be the first to ask you to leave.'). And Fr. Aloy, was firm and certain in his shortest answer "Opo". From that time on, Fr. Aloy has faithfully kept in his heart this loving reminder from his father.

Meanwhile Fr. Aloy found out later that his father wrote in his fourth year high school diary that he himself had wanted to become a priest

He could only say after leaving law study in San Beda – not that I do not like to study the law of man, but that I love more to study the law of God.



What attracted to religious life, specially to Benedictine way of life, is itself a story worth telling. Well, it all began when the Benedictine fathers who taught in the college would invite students to make a search-in activity and he was one of the lucky chosen ones. From then on, he was enraptured by the rich male voices of the monk singing the Gregorian chant. He felt like being called to join in the singing even without understanding Latin at all.

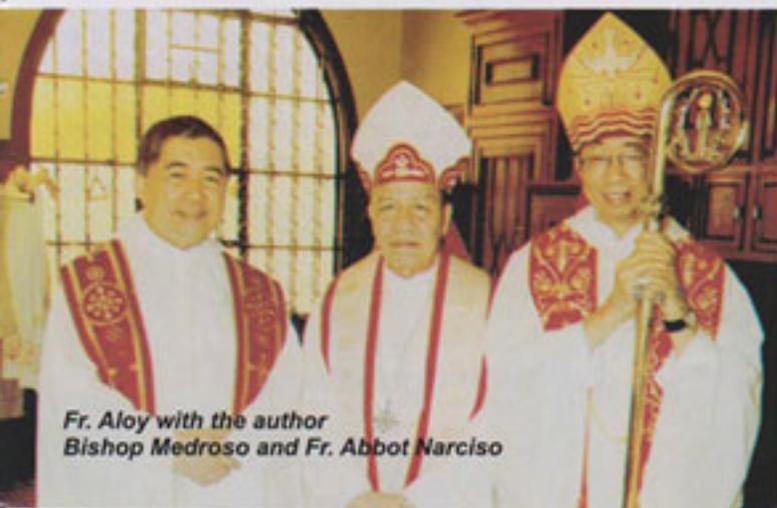
He was attracted by the monks' singing of the divine office and celebration of the holy mass. Of course, looking back to it, he also enjoyed partaking big portions of fried chicken and big scoops of ice cream prepared for the student searchers. Secular motivation no doubt, but it was part and parcel of the attraction to his vocation to a life of a monk.

Time moved fast. Before he realized it, on May 31, 1986, the feast of the Visitation of Blessed Virgin Mary, **Dom Aloysius Maria A. Maranan, OSB**, at the age of 24, made first monastic profession as a Benedictine monk. Since then, has lived to the best of his effort with God's grace to observe the Benedictine vows faithfully and joyfully. The monastic vows include vows of obedience, stability and *conversatio morum* which means conversion of life and consist poverty and chastity.

Obedience is expressed by fidelity to the Holy Rule of St. Benedict and the Gospel, to the Abbot (as the Christ), and to one another in the community in a spirit of fraternal love.

Stability, in one sense, is manifested by living and staying in one place of community life where one made his vows until death. However, where a monk may be assigned somewhere else, stability means stability of the heart which denotes a sense of community belongingness where one continues to follow the customs and traditions of the same monastery.

*Conversatio morum* means conversion of life which includes poverty and chastity. Poverty does not mean deprivation but more of detachment and sharing to communal goods where no one owns anything for himself but considers them all belonging to the community. Chastity means to love God purely and singularly and is



Fr. Aloy with the author  
Bishop Medroso and Fr. Abbot Narciso

observed fully by living a celibate life.

The past 25 years have been a joyful experience of religious life of Fr. Aloy both as a priest and as a monk. There have been challenges, big and small, that have come to his life. These however, have made him stronger in character and resolute in faith. Following the teachings and values of St. Benedict in living a balance life and taking everything in moderation, they continue to give him the support and hope that everything will be well. Thanks to the loving solicitude and patience of the Abbot and all the past superiors of the Abbey and to the fraternal support and understading of all the members of the community.

When he was chosen by the past Superiors and the present Abbot to serve in the educational apostolate of the community, he configured himself and sharpened his skills in educational management. He studied further by earning his masteral degree in theology from Maryhill School of Theology, licentiate in canon law from University of Santo Tomas, doctorate in educational management from De La Salle University and certificate



in educational leadership from Asian Institute of Management. He has experienced teaching in the classroom, serving as campus miniter, as principal in the high school, and dean in the college department. He has served in various capacities as board advisers and officers in different local and international educational organizations.

Living in community has not been easy for him. It has its share of difficult moments. But where charity and love prevail in the relationships of brothers, everything becomes a gift. It is an experience of joy and thanksgiving.

Authentic prayer both in personal and communal levels have been deeply experienced because his heart has been opened up to Jesus. Faith and life become one as they are made to connect and align in daily obeservances.

For Fr. Aloy the Benedictine Peace is not only a greeting, not even just a prayer, but a goal in life. A Christian must strive for peace, peace in the world, peace among human beings, peace in the inner world of the heart, and peace of eternal life. Peace is never static. It is dynamic and continuously evolving in the varying relationships of community members until harmony and joy are achieved. Peace is not something that we just wait for. It is something that we must work for and pray for. And here follows the rule of prayer and work.

Man must work, and through this, help to bring the world to perfection. Man must realize that work is a means of attaining holiness because it becomes a better world and a reflection of God's presence. St. Benedict in prescribing work for his monks affirmed the dignity of labor. But work is not enough. Man must pray. Man must realize his dependence on God and his need for communion with God. Only through prayer can man have a meaningful direction of his work in life.

A person's character is affirmed by his desires and wishes. The character, personality and inner desire of Fr. Aloy are revealed in the masteral thesis he wrote – entitled "the Structures of Caring in the Rule of Benedict", on March 1990. The thesis analyzed how the monasteries of St. Benedict are fully embedded with various support systems and structures for caring and solicitude. The Holy Rule of St. Benedict provides the members of the community all opportunities to develop and practice the value of caring for the sick, the elderly, the erring brothers, the pilgrims, the visitors, and the strangers; and the solicitude for the spiritual and material needs of others.

His extra ordinary interest in rediscovering and redefining the value of caring manifests who he is as a Benedictine priest and monk in relation to people and environment:

Fr. Aloy – CONGRATULATIONS.



## LIONS CLAIM 16TH NCAA CAGE CROWN

By *Jude P. Roque*

It was another amazing run for the San Beda Red Lions this year, even when they faltered twice during the 2011 NCAA Men's Basketball Season, and found themselves behind arch nemesis San Sebastian Stags for most of the tournament. The Red and White squad not only succeeded in winning back-to-back titles but also attained a record-tying 16th NCAA senior basketball diadem, the most in the 87-year old league. Letran College also has 16, a record it held since 2005 when the Knights won their last title.

The defending champions, unlike in their record-breaking 18-0 win-loss slate last season, absorbed heartbreaking defeats to the Stags and the Jose Rizal Heavy Bombers during the eliminations this year.

But after their setback to JRU, the Bedan cagers came roaring back with a vengeance, and swept their remaining games to seize the top spot going into the Final Four. They avenged their loss to the Stags by walloping them by 19 points in their second meeting, then by 3 points off a game-winning 3-point jumper by Mythical 5 awardee **Garvo Lanete** in their playoff for No. 1 duel.

And during the semis, the Red Lions likewise got back at the Bombers by a convincing 9-point victory that sent them to the championship round for the 6th straight year.

This set the stage for another SBC-SSC finale, the third since 2009. The Stags upset the Lions in 2009, but the latter got back the crown in 2010. So it was Round 3 of the epic battle, with SBC enjoying a 2-1 edge in their match-

up this 87th edition of the NCAA.

Game 1 of the Best-of-Three Finals was marred with several rough plays, especially as Season MVP **Calvin Abueva** of SSC resorted to dirty antics to intimidate. Rookie coach Topex Robinson of the Stags was even ejected late in the game as he continued to complain about the officiating. Lanete, the Lions' top gun, was limited to just 6 points. But sophomore player



**Mar Villahermosa** ably filled Garvo's shoes as he erupted with 15 markers, including a 3-point bomb that sealed the W for SBC. Eventual Finals MVP **Dave Marcelo** and workhorse **Jake Pascual** did the most damage to the Stags in the defensive end, finishing with a combined 5 blocks. Rookie Baser Amer likewise showed why he was last season's NCAA Juniors MVP with a lot of heads-up plays and terrific assists. The Lions beat the Stags for the third straight time this year, 75-63, and drew first blood in the title series.

As expected, Game 2 of the Finals saw another highly physical encounter. The Recto boys seized control early with the hot shooting of the SEA Games-bound **Ronald Pascual**, and the strong inside presence of Mythical member **Ian Sanggalang**. The Stags led at halftime, 32-27. The Bedans even fell as much as 8 points in the third canto after the Stags applied a stifling defense that kept the Mendiola boys at bay. But the Lions regrouped in time and countered with a fluid transition game to cut the deficit to just 2 at the end of the third period.

Then, in the final quarter, the character of the defending champs proved to be the difference in the game. Despite trailing for most of the second half, the Lions worked together to get back to the driver's seat, 57-53, with only 53 ticks remaining. The Stags had their chance to tie the count but missed several tries, including a potential game winning 3-pointer by Pascual, with 3 seconds left.

SBC earns its 5th championship in 6 years with a pulsating 57-55 win over the hard-fighting Stags.

**David Semerad** finally came out of his shell, as he impressed with a 6 out of 8 perimeter shooting to lead all scorers with 15 points. **Anjo Caram** was also brilliant in this game, scoring on back-to-back drives plus a clutch 3-point shot in the second half to score 10 points. Amer had 7 points and 5 assists. Marcelo only had 2 points but hauled down 16 rebounds. **Rome Dela Rosa** chipped in 5, while Villahermosa had another stellar performance with 8 markers.



So again, the Smart-Araneta Coliseum exploded with jubilation as the dominant red-clad Bedan die-hards whooped it up after the Stags' last miss. Two days later, a victory party and bonfire were held in the Mendiola campus.

This championship was particularly sweet as the Red Lions played minus the injured 2010 NCAA MVP **Sudan Daniel** and still successfully defended the title. Daniel sustained an ACL injury just weeks before the tournament. The American player actually suited up late in the second round but never got to play. Sadly, "Superman", as he is fondly called, can no longer make an NCAA comeback, as he would be over the age limit next season.

It's the first title since 2006 that SBC won without a foreign player. Nigerian **Samuel Ekwe** led the Lions to 3 crowns, from 2006 to 2008, alongside standouts **Yousif Aljamal**, **Pong Escobal**, **Ogie Menor**, **Bam Bam Gamalinda**, **Jay-Ar Taganas**, **JR Tecson**, **Chico Tirona** and **Borgie Hermida**. Then last year, Daniel, an American recruit from Los Angeles, propelled the Lions to regain the title they lost to the Stags in 2009.

This victory should somehow silence the Red Lions' "haters" after keeping the crown with an all-local crew. Will a 3-peat be in the horizon? The answer is a resounding yes, if we look at next season's possible roster. Only 4 Lions are graduating: **Lanete**, **Marcelo**, **Daniel** and **Villahermosa**. This means

that SBC will still have **Pascual**, **Caram**, **Dela Rosa**, the **Semerad** twins **Anthony** and **David**, **Melo Lim**, **Michole Sorela**, **Kyle Pascual**, **Ryusei Koga** and **Paolo Pontejos**. Expected to shine in 2012 are **Anthony Semerad**, equipped with a deadly long-range sniping, **Caram** with his leadership and improved offensive skills, **Kyle Pascual** with his souped up post and perimeter game, **Jake Pascual** with his ever reliable defense and clutch baskets, and **Dela Rosa** with his explosive penetrations and open-court savvy.

Also waiting to make waves are some key additions coming from the reigning Fr. Martin Division II titlists, San Beda's Team B. Nigerian **Olaide Adeogun**, a 6'8" rebounding monster referred by former Talk N Text coach **Bill Bayno**, can't wait to see action in the NCAA. Ola is like a quicker version of Ekwe. Another prize find from the U.S. is Fil-Am **Julius Armon**, who is a prolific scorer that made a good mark in the Fr. Martin Cup. Returning to SBC are former Red Cubs **Art Dela Cruz** and **Ludovice**, who played a season in the UAAP for the Ateneo Blue Eagles and National University Bulldogs respectively. Also in the pool are last year's campaigners **Dave Moralde** and **JP Mendoza**.

Head Coach **Frankie Lim**, the current and 3-time NC Coach of the Year, will definitely have a tough time choosing his final 15-man line-up for the 88th Season.

Another dynasty perhaps?

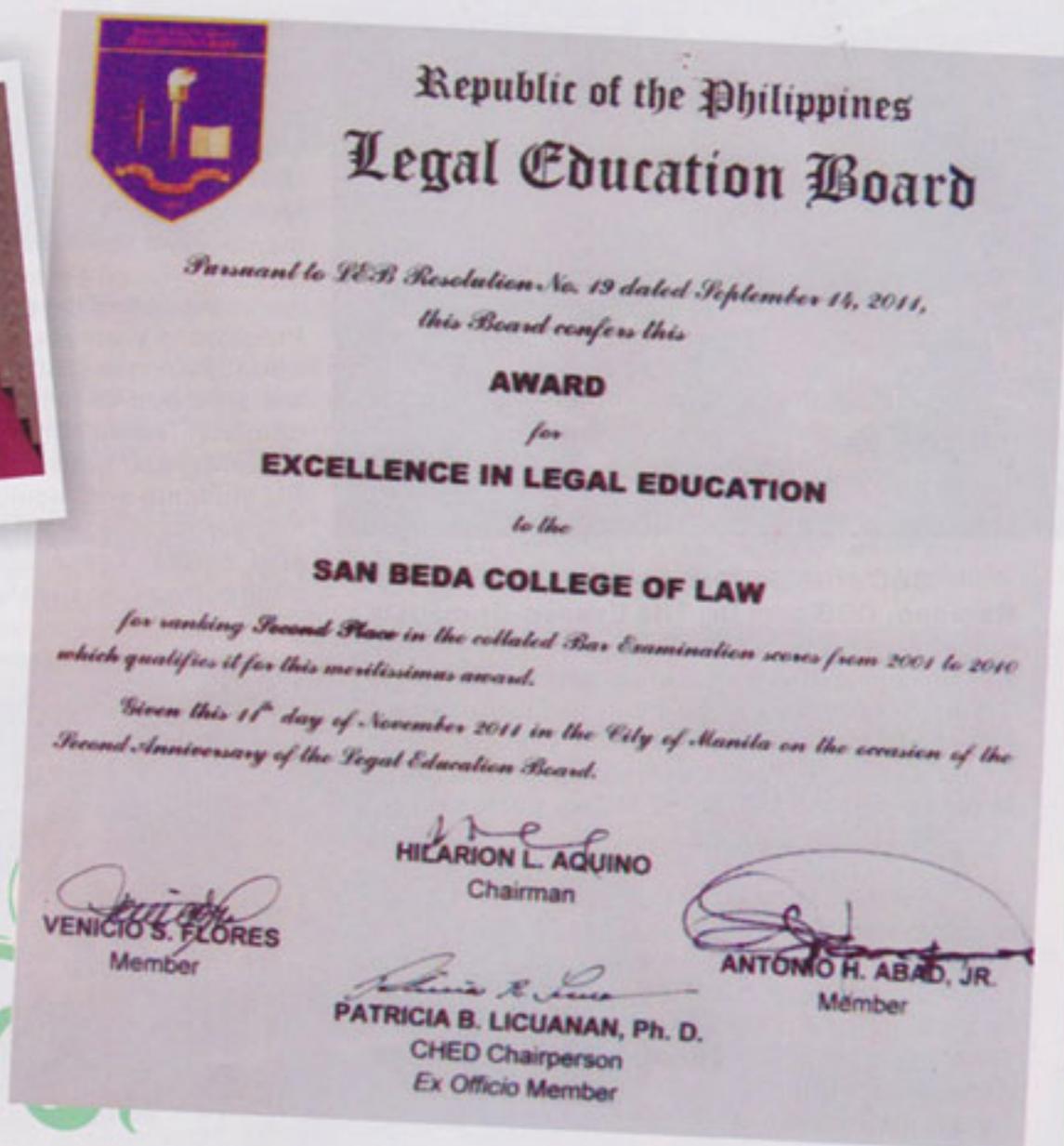
## SBC RECEIVES AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN LEGAL EDUCATION

*Dean Virgilio Jara is Outstanding Law Dean awardee*

The Legal Education Board chaired by Justice Hilarion L. Aquino conferred upon San Beda College the Award for Excellence in Legal Education for being one of the top best performing law schools in the bar examination over the last 10 years.

Rev. Fr. Aloysius Maranan, OSB, rector-president and Dean Virgilio Jara attended the awards ceremony last November 11, 2011, at the Manila Hotel in which the best performing law schools in the bar examination were given recognition.

Meanwhile, Dean Virgilio Jara received the Outstanding Law Dean Award together with the deans of other top performing law schools.



By Dr. Tita Branzuela

San Beda College is one of the five founding institutions of the ASEAN LEARNING NETWORK (ALN) together with Asia Research Center, University of St. Gallen Switzerland; Banking University of HCMC, Vietnam; School of Business Management, Institut Teknologi Bandung, Indonesia; and Universiti Malaysia Kelantan, Malaysia. The Memorandum of Agreement was signed last February 10, 2009. As founding member institution, SBC started participating in the Network's meetings and activities since summer 2011.

The Network's major thrust to help in the development of communities is its Social Enterprise for Economic Development (SEED) Program. Implementation of the program in the identified communities provide for a "living social laboratory" where the member educational institution integrates and at the same time develops related programs in the areas of instruction, research, and community extension.

## 8th ALN Council Meeting

April 13-16, 2011 hosted by the Banking University, HCMC, Vietnam with 9 participating institutions from 7 countries



8th ALN Council Meeting participants at Banking University, HCMC, Vietnam

learned in the classrooms in different contexts and real cases. Four SEED programs were already conducted by the Institut Teknologi Bandung (ITB) in Indonesia as of November last year. One program was concluded in Tumpat, Kelantan, Malaysia, last August 2010 and was hosted by the Universiti Malaysia Kelantan. Participants were faculty members and students from the ALN member and observer institutions.

As part of the preparation for the first SEED Program in Vietnam, the participants visited Binh Phouc Province (180kms away from HCMC) to see the area and to meet with the local government officials, administrators, faculty coordinators, students, and households. Different farms where BU students and faculty were doing research and helping the villagers in their small businesses were also visited. These included mushroom, cashew, poultry, frogs, and fish farms.

SBC's Rector-President, **Fr. Aloysius A. Maranan, OSB** sent **Dr. Tita Evasco-Branzuela**, research manager of the Research, Planning and Resource Development Center and **Dr. Christian Bryan Bustamante**, vice-dean of the College of Arts and Sciences to represent the College. Since AY 2007-2010, Dr. Branzuela took charge of SBC's linkages and the review of MOAs (including the ALN) prior to final signing.

From this first attendance in the ALN Council meeting, it was noted that the member institutions implemented the SEED Program as instructional, business, research, and community development package of innovations. It provided experiential learning opportunities to administrators, faculty members, staff, and students through exposures to communities and applications of knowledge





At the Cashew farm, Binh Phouc Province, Vietnam

Possible research topics and other areas for collaboration were identified during the said Council meeting. The following activities were also agreed upon by the members:

- July 2011 SEED Program in Vietnam. ALN member institutions sent faculty and student participants.
- July 2011 Follow-up SEED Program in Kelantan, Malaysia. ALN member institutions sent faculty and student participants to observe.
- October 2011 9th Council Meeting at the University of Brunei Darussalam, ALN member institutions sent representatives,
- 2012 SEED will be in Thailand to be hosted by Prince of Songkla University
- SEED Philippines to be hosted by San Beda College

### 9th ALN Council Meeting October 19-21, 2011 hosted by the University of Brunei Darussalam with 7 participating institutions from 6 countries

Dr. Tita Evasco-Branzuela, Research Manager of the RPRDC and Dr. James Loreto Piscos, Coordinator of the Institutional Community Involvement Center represented San Beda College. They attended the meeting in line with the needed preparation of SBC's hosting of an ALNC meeting, international conference, and SEED Philippines.

During the meeting, country reports as to nature, scope, benefits, problems encountered, and future challenges were presented on the

conduct of SEED in Vietnam, Malaysia, and Indonesia. Other matters related with the ALN were also discussed.

The University of Brunei Darussalam in turn brought the participants to their community outreach projects in the water village at Kampong Bolkliah and Ayer. The faculty and students are involved in the following: 1) Library/reading project for the children; 2) fish sausage and kropeck project; and 3) weaving project for women,



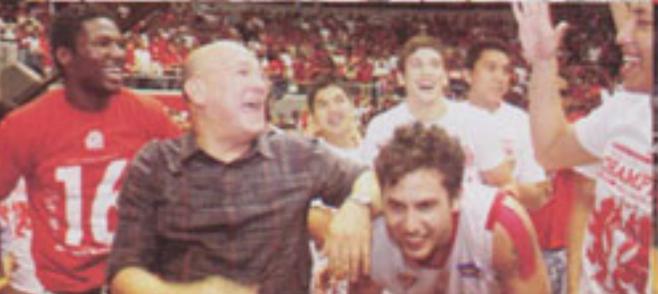
9th ALN Council Meeting participants at the University of Brunei Darussalam



At Kampong Bolkliah Water Village, with ALNC participants UBD faculty, students in their Library reading project site for the Village children



# A Perfect 87th NCA





# Best Moment A Season



## Observation Visit SEED2 Follow-up Program July 12-17, 2011 Universiti Malaysia Kelantan (UMK)

Dr. Tita Evasco-Branzuela represented the College to know more about the SEED1 experience of UMK last year and the innovations of UMK in integrating teaching, research, and community extension in its follow-up program. The aim of the visit was to immerse in the Program, learn from the experience, and gain additional insights in preparation for SBC's hosting of ALN's SEED Program in the Philippines.



*With industry expert discussing packaging and marketing of pineapple tarts at Pantai Sri Tujuh Tumpat Village*

UMK's follow-up program was conducted in the villages of Pantai Sri Tujuh, Tumpat, Kelantan. The 20 participants were mostly UMK students. Foreign participants were expected to come but they opted to join the SEED Program in Vietnam. The participants worked in teams, with a faculty facilitator. They went back to the village enterprises that UMK was involved with during SEED1 last year. These included small village producers of beef chips, fish crackers, sticky rice, handicrafts, pineapple tarts, egg tart, and catfish, and chilli farmers.

With the problems encountered during the SEED1 implementation, UMK added for SEED2, consultations with academe and industry experts, benchmarking with successful businessmen, and providing discussion sessions with the students, the faculty members and the concerned villagers.

Linkage related activities done at UMK include:

- Meeting with Director Wan Tik Sakinah Wan Mohd Zain of the Centre for Corporate Relations to discuss possible collaboration in addition to the ALN activities
- Participation in the international night sponsored by the Center for Language Studies and Gender Development headed by Director Dr. Farok bin Zakaria
- Meeting with administrators, faculty members and students of UMK and Prince of Songkla University of Thailand
- Preliminary discussion on joint UMK-SBC faculty research in the fields of business, entrepreneurship and psychology

## SEED 1 Program Participation July 18-31, 2011 Banking University, HCMC, Vietnam

Dr. James Loreto Piscos attended the SEED1 program in Vietnam. He represented the College to have a first hand experience of SEED implementation. With foreign participants from ALN member and observer institutions, village businesses and farms near Ho Chi Minh City and Binh Phouc Province were visited. They then had days of immersion in the mushroom, cashew, poultry, frogs, and catfish farms.

The entire process was guided by the ALN's SEED framework for development with the involvement of the Banking University administrators, faculty, staff, and students. The business plans and proposals which were prepared with the villagers themselves were then presented at BU on the last two days of the Program. Potential sponsors, businessmen attended the presentation.

In addition to the SEED Program, identified opportunities for SBC linkage with ALN member and observer institutions (University of Parahngayan, Indonesia; University of Malaysia, Kelantan; Prince Songkla University, Thailand; University of Brunei Darussalam; and Banking University, Vietnam, De La Salle University, Manila Philippines) are in the areas of joint research, publication, faculty and student exchange, and the conduct of international conference.



*At the village farm*

On his first year in office-

## The Rector-President delivers his State-of-the-College report



A year ago at my investiture as the 22nd Rector-President of San Beda College, I began with a quote from the Rule of Saint Benedict which rings true to this day:

*"Listen, O my son, to the precepts of your master, and incline the ear of your heart, and cheerfully receive and faithfully execute the admonitions of your loving Father, that by the toil of obedience you may return to Him from whom by the sloth of disobedience you have gone away.*

*To you, therefore, my speech is now directed, who, giving up your own will, take up the strong and most excellent arms of obedience, to do battle for Christ the Lord, the true King."*

Last year I said that *"university and college investitures are rare and bright occasions, awashed in touching rituals, colourful academic regalia, flowing hymns, roaring cheers, and deep symbols. In medieval fashion, it is almost like a prelude to a fight."*

But hindsight is always 20/20 and after a year of reflecting, I now know that leading this 110-year institution cannot be summed up as a "fight" as if there are clear lines of winning and losing and there are winners and losers. Indeed, nothing can be farther from this stereotype.

Academic leadership, I found out, is about living and opening up oneself to the everyday pains and joys, triumphs and struggles, hurts and affirmations, fears and faith within and beyond the walls of this campus. It is the ultimate humbling experience. Although I can say that a part of me is technically prepared for the demands of the job, another part of me, I must admit, continues to be unravelled before myself as well as in the eyes of many as I face daily the many-sided roles I have to play as Rector-President.

I come before you today not to talk about our collective accomplishments in the past year as these may be rather too presumptuous or too early. Allow me instead to share with you my thoughts about this journey of rectorship and how, in my view, these will guide and allow us to frame who we are and accomplish the goals we have in the immediate two years.

## Prof. Nancy Gabriel is Carlos Palanca Winner



The San Beda College Community beams with pride as **Prof. Nancy Kimuell-Gabriel**, chair of the CAS Social Sciences and Humanities Department, bagged the third place in the Filipino Essay Division of the 61st Carlos Palanca Memorial Awards for Literature competition. The Palanca award is the most prestigious and enduring literary awards in the Philippines.

Prof. Gabriel's winning piece entitled "*Kubeta*" is a personal and social confrontation of the disposal system in the Philippines. It is a testimony of how poverty can be so dehumanizing to people and how basic services, such as having a decent, functional comfort room are so neglected in the country. "The disposal system reflects the real socio-economic situation of the people and it is very well an indicator of

development or under development of a country. "*Disposal is as important as putting food in our stomach, they both give comfort. And if not properly taken care of, both give diseases. Indeed, it is a public health issue,*" said Prof. Gabriel.

Her first try in the Palanca competition, Prof. Gabriel remarked "I did not write to compete. My essay came first. I wrote *Kubeta* one dawn, with a strong feeling about a certain past that needed closure. Some writers have been saying, that when there is a creative force from within that once unleashed, can push us to unimaginable height. It's like the material assumed its own life and did the talking. It's very liberating."

The essay critiques how women are doubly burdened by the disposal system concern. As Prof. Gabriel puts it "the women usually bear the brunt of a poor toilet system. In our culture, since it is women who are expected to take care of the household, it is impossible to maintain a hygienic comfort room (if there is comfort room at all) when the water system is poor. And lack of water and poor disposal system breed all kinds of diseases. When a family member gets sick, it is also the mothers who first worry about the high cost of medicine and "hospitalization." This has always been the case of the urban poor women of Tondo where Prof. Gabriel did an extensive fieldwork.

Prof. Gabriel hopes to awaken Filipinos on the need to have a proper disposal system saying, "*kasama sa matuwid na daan ang pag-aayos ng mga palikuran.*"

Prof. Gabriel, a master in history degree holder from the University of the Philippines Diliman, earns the distinction of being the first faculty member of San Beda College to bring home the Palanca award.

Congratulations, and hope this will bear more prestigious awards for Prof. "Nak" Gabriel and other talented members of the Bedan Community.



# A GOOD REASON TO CELEBRATE

A **78%** San Beda Passing Percentage and an **88%** first-time takers passing percentage in the October 2011 CPA Board Exams are remarkable feats, and a good reason to celebrate.

Congratulations to our new Bedan CPAs for upholding once again the College's tradition of academic excellence:



AGATEP, DOMINIC LOREN R.  
AGUILA APRIL PEARL C.  
ALLAUGAN, CRISTY JOY S.  
ATIENZA, VIRGEL JOSE V.  
CASTILLO, CYRILL ANDREW A.  
CORO, ROMIEL B.  
CORPUZ, MARGARITA SOLEDAD M.  
CRUZ, PAOLO F.  
CUIZON, RUCHIE MARIAE M.  
DAMIAN, ROSELLE LYAN C.  
DE JESUS, KATHLEEN JOY Z.  
DOMINGO, KRISTOPHER SON G.  
DUEÑAS, CIELO MARIE P.  
FADERA, CINDY S.  
FARAON, EARL JAN R.  
FLORES, PATRICIA ERIKA O.  
GABAT, CHRISTIAN MARY C.  
GALANG, CZARINA KATRINE G.  
GALAPIA, JONATHAN CARLO, JR. Q.  
GALENO, ADONIS BRYAN M.  
GANDAMRA, ABDUL RAHIM G.  
GARCIA, POCHOLO B.

GO, RICHARD ARTHUR T.  
GREGORIO, JAZMINE V.  
LAZOL, PATRICK ARTHUR T.  
LUCMAN, PALAWAN III M.  
MACABUHAY, JUSTIN FRANCIS M.  
MARCELINO, MARY SUN M.  
MORALEDA, SEVERO L.  
ODSINADA, SHEENA C.  
PANTALEON, VISHNU JOHN I.  
PESA, MARIO CARMELO A.  
RAGAS, ROSCIEL CLEIA B.  
RAMIREZ, VEROMELO T.  
RAYNES, BLESSA MARUJA A.  
RIVAMONTE, LIEZL Z.  
STA. ISABEL, CARMELA JOYCE B.  
TAN, MONICA L.  
TIANZON, PATRICK S.  
TORIO, LIEZEL S.C.  
TORRES, NICK JULE B.  
VERA CRUZ, NICO T.  
VITUG, GEO ANDREW L.



**We are proud of you, for doing your best and achieving the highest !**



*San Beda College*  
**ACCOUNTANCY**

\* National Passing Percentage - 47%



**Being the best and achieving the highest**



**SEODEL HEARTY T. PILAPIL**  
*3rd placer*

**May 2011 CPA  
Board Examinations**

**SBC's Passing Percentage**  
**67.74%**

**National Passing Percentage**  
**40.50%**

Alberto, Kendall D.  
Ariza, Jienky Marie L.  
Bauzon, Leandro G.  
Borlongan, Kris S.  
Dela Rosa, Roberto Carlo M.  
Favorito, Bjone Carlo T.  
Galangam, John Carlos T.  
Go, Elyssa Marie G.  
Guzman, William Joseph B.  
Magno, Macgyver V.  
Maravillas, Dino Ricardo L.  
Mercado, Michael S.  
Pio, Rainier Rommel M.  
Ramos, Reizanie J.  
Salaver, Adzo A.  
Sangulingan, Janirah Azis  
Sy, John Henry G.  
Tabuco, Allan Roger N.  
Vitalicio, Jeanne Marie  
Velasquez, Ivy Maureen A.





## San Beda College at ACCSB Singapore

The Reverend Father Aloysius Ma. A. Maranan, OSB, Rector-President of San Beda College, Dr. Napoleon K. Juanillo, Jr., Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences and Director of the Research, Planning and Resource Development Centre, and Dr. Ramon Ricardo A. Roque, Dean of the Graduate School of Business attended the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB) Business Accreditation Seminar last May 22-23, 2011 at the Raffles City Convention Centre in Singapore. AACSB International advances quality management education worldwide through accreditation, thought leadership and value-added services.

Attended by over 150 top administrators of colleges and universities throughout Asia Pacific, the United States and Canada, the AACSB Business Accreditation Seminar featured immensely rich forums for collegial discussions, interactions, and learning on a) Strategic Management Standards, b) Improving Student and Faculty Relationships, c) Individual and Aggregate Faculty Educational Responsibility, d) Student Educational Responsibility, e) Management of Curricula, f) Assurance of Learning Standards, and g) Building and Sustaining a Research Culture.

Reflecting on his take home gains from the Business Accreditation Seminar, the Father Rector shares the deep sentiments of Dean Juanillo and Dean Roque that there is an imperative to institutionalize pivotal changes in San Beda College particularly in four areas namely, 1) faculty recruitment and development, 2) instructional innovations, 3) research productivity, and 4) assessment of student learning outcomes. There is no question San Beda College will have to institute system-wide reforms as well as establish a common mindset especially among its faculty if it were to embark on the long and arduous journey to performance excellence for business schools using AACSB roadmap. Dr. Juanillo believes that there is, indeed, much to learn from AACSB and thinks that once the school hurdles the more immediate PAASCU requirements, San Beda will be best served if it trains sight on global benchmarks for business schools. At the end of the seminar where was a call for volunteer accreditors that will go around business schools in the Asia Pacific region, Dean Cardie Roque signed up as a small but a significant step for the San Beda College to know more about the galaxy of stellar schools and how they work towards excellence.

## San Beda College at the 19th ASEACCU in Sophia University, Japan

The Reverend Father Aloysius Ma. A. Maranan, OSB, Rector-President of San Beda College, Dr. Napoleon K. Juanillo, Jr., Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences and Director of the Research, Planning and Resource Development Centre attended the 19th Association of Southeast and East Asia Catholic Colleges and Universities last August 25-26, 2011 at Sophia University in Tokyo, Japan. They were joined there by Dom Clement Roque, Rector-President of San Beda College Alabang.

The Association of Southeast and East Asian Catholic Colleges and Universities (ASEACCU) is a regional association of Catholic Universities in countries within this geographical area. The purpose of the organization is to promote Catholic higher education and to be a support for the local Churches. ASEACCU also aims to contribute to educational dialog on an international level beyond the Southeast and East Asian region.

Participants composed of school heads, administrators, faculty and students from nearly fifty Catholic colleges and universities from Southeast Asian countries, New Zealand and Australia convened for three days to hear from keynote speakers (Fr. Jose Ramon Villarín, S.J., President, Ateneo de Manila University and Fr. Jai-Don Lee, Dean of Graduate School for Life, The Catholic University of Korea) and scholars/scientists from Australia, Taiwan and Thailand and participate in small group discussions on the conference topic "Caring for God's Creation." Conference participants were galvanized by enthusiastic presentations and exchanges as well as commitments to building an ecological culture, shifting mindsets from democracy to biocracy, national economics to earth economics, anthropocentric and fragmented studies to integral studies and redemption-centered spirituality to creation-centered spirituality, developing green campuses, and integrating environmental education in college programs and curricula.

The 19th ASEACCU conference was also a period of fellowship even made more flavorful by authentic Japanese meals and cultural presentations made by students from various participating countries. The 20th ASEACCU conference will be held on August 23-25, 2012 in Taiwan.



## A testimonial reception to honor Justice Bojie Reyes



It was a gathering of who's who in the legal profession when the San Beda Law Alumni Association organized a testimonial reception to honor outstanding Bedan Hon. **Bienvenido "Bojie" Reyes** (Law Class of 1971), on his appointment as associate justice of the Supreme Court. This well-attended Bedan affair was held at Club Filipino last September 22, 2011.

Justice Reyes expressed elation over his appointment to the Supreme Court and the presence of his close associates in the legal profession, and members of his Bedan family. **Atty. Avelino Cruz**, SBLAA chairman, formally welcomed the guests led by **Chief Justice Renato Corona** and wife, Associate Justice **Estela Perlas-Bernabe** and husband, **Secretary Leila de Lima**, **Justice Midas Marquez** and a lot more prominent people in government and private law practice.

Secretary de Lima and Associate Justice **Antonio Eduardo Nachura** delivered messages, while Associate **Justice Jose Mendoza** and **Justice Noel Tijam** gave their testimonies of their classmate Justice Bojie. It was another highly successful Bedan event

celebrating the achievement of an outstanding Bedan in the Supreme Court. Cheers!



# CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEW BEDAN MEDICAL DOCTORS

AGUATIS, Christine Joy M  
AMLOS, Marie Anne F  
ANG, Willy R  
ANTONIO, Ma. Elizabeth G  
AQUINO, Claire Loren C  
ASILO, Joseph A  
AVELLANOSA, Herrone Jane A  
BALADAD, Lishery A  
BONDOC, Rocel Kristine S  
BONGAYON, Joseph-Peter M  
BURGOS, Maria Karina G  
CABBUAG, Maria Elizabeth A  
CALAVERA, Mheldy V  
CAMACHO, Marie Pamela Antoinette  
CORTES, Anne Marie E  
CU TIA, Teddy L  
D'ASIS, Maria Regina Pia R  
DAGCUTA, Jefrael B  
DE GUIA, Mary Ann C  
DE GUZMAN, Dan Christian B  
DE GUZMAN, Rico M  
DE LA CRUZ, Kathryn B  
DELA TORRE, Niño Jeryl S  
DUMAOAL, Messeah M  
DY, Ian Richard T  
EPRES, Jonna France I  
ETCUBAÑAS, Neil Karlo D  
FERNANDEZ, Richellu Crystal W  
FERRAS, Jessica V  
GALARPE, Rowena Fatima G  
GAMMAD, Jemilyn C  
GARRIDO, Marilyn B  
GASCON, Roberto Marcelo M  
GERVACIO, Lucille L  
GUINA, Joan Christine S  
HABEL, Girlie G

HERAÑA, Sunshine A  
HERNANDEZ, Merinel M  
HIZON-BOSE, Adaljiza T  
IBARRA, Josef B  
JOSON, Jesse Jerus Alem Gabrieli T  
LEABRES, Irish May B  
MAGNAYE, Renante Avril A  
MAGTOTO, Kathrina T  
MALABANAN, Marialina M  
MANGAHAS, Jeremiah D  
MARQUEZ, Allen R  
MARTE, Marcia Marie S  
MIRAVITE, Leonard S  
NAPA, Nathaniel C  
NAZAIRE, Sherman T  
OCONER, Evita E  
PAGAR, Norman D  
PALARCA, Reca Pamela R  
RAMON, Ruel M  
RAMOS, Eliezer T  
RECEDE, Vanesa Merlo E  
REDONDO, Quenny D  
ROSAS, Christienitz P  
SALGADO, Jennyleen B  
SALTING, Anna Liza V  
SARMIENTO, Leona Carmen R  
SAUZ, Rachel A  
SIERRA, Cherrie Anne T  
SIERRA, Ed Robinson M  
SORIANO, Ravelinda A  
TORRES, Anne Holofa S  
TRINIDAD, Aileen Grace P  
URRIQUIA, Ma. Claudethe R  
VALERIO, Robert James S  
VILLAMAR, John Oscar S  
YAP, Kristine Agnez M

## PROUD OF OUR NEW BEDAN NURSES

SBC Passing Percentage 66.51%  
National Passing Percentage 48.01%

- Abaya, Joseph Gerard  
Abuyo, Rizabelle Faye A.  
Acoba, Ella Marie I.  
Acosta, Princess Metharose I  
Allit, Ma. Rowena G.  
Almirez, Kris Daren  
Alzaga, Jeffrey P.  
Amorsolo, Aris Ainar A.  
Angeles, Jan Karl Roelhsen  
Anillo, Rosalyn B.  
Apostol, Ann Kristel Mae  
Baes, Marc Gemnard S.  
Balisi, Ama U.  
Barrito, Irish-Mae O.  
Bautista, Kristine Antoinette  
Bayonito, Joshua Andrew O.  
Bonoan, Nina Zoe G.  
Caballa, Pamela Sundae  
Calara, Ruby Anne D.  
Camba, Ralph Lester F.  
Castaño, Natasha Mae B.  
Castillo, Henessey Auda D.  
Castro, Joana Lyn R.  
Cataniag, Shereen I.  
Chan, Christine Grace  
Chua, Alexandra A.  
Ciceron, August Elvin P.  
Claveria, Joulle Cassmere  
Cordero, Krystlle Lyre  
Cruz, Edwina C.  
Cruz, Maria Karmina E.  
Cruz, Rafael C.  
Cua, Michelle Anne Y.  
David, Karla Gene U.  
De Ocampo, Roselyn Ann  
De Peralta, Antonio Luis L.  
De Vera, Charijo L.  
Delos Reyes, Crizza G.  
Demasu-ay, Vien M.  
Dizon, Mark Lorenzo Y.  
Domoguen, Mary Jane S.  
Duka, Ernest Ruellie A.  
Eboña, Kim Marie M.  
Ecom, Jacquelyn M.  
Eder, Cienna Ann Marie  
Erediano, Mark Joe Aris  
Ereña, Neil Andrew C.  
Espiritu, Michelle S.  
Eustaquio, Karina Krisha  
Flores, Honey Ruth Kristine  
Fong, April P.  
Galapon, Ross Gabriel D.  
Garcia, Joseph Dan H.  
Gatpandan, Marian L.  
Gelera, Jomar Paul A.  
Go, Kieffer G.  
Gomez, John Paul V.  
Gonzales, Arren G.  
Hernandez, Karl Jed S.  
Hibi, Daisuke D.L.  
Hora, Ma. Shiela Grace  
Huavas, Ivy B.  
Ignacio, Mark Joseph A.  
Jeanjaquet, Kathleen Leana  
Jimenez, Anna Feliz C.  
Jimenez, Vincent Patrick L.M.  
Joson, Melanie Triezl  
Jovellano, Siv Carlaisle  
Jovena, Ivan Rozen T.  
Juntilla, Kyen Angela B.  
Kiunisala, Precious Anne  
Lasam, Minehaha M.  
Leal, John Michael B.  
Leyva, Gene Kristine  
Limun, Roland Jhersey M.  
Lindo, Ulrick Lyndon P.  
Lufrangco, Genevieve  
Mcapagal, Don Richard Jugo  
Maderal, Alyssa Bianca J.  
Magallanes, Charlton Jonel  
Maldisa, Nadzzida H.  
Malto, Mariol I.  
Manasan, Rolando M.  
Maramba, Emmanuel John  
Marcelo, Nicanor Jr. I.  
Mariño, Precious James S.  
Martinez, Kervin P.  
Mejia, Ana Lorena G.  
Mera, Maureen Jill R.  
Montales, Don Lester  
Morales, Alexandre A.  
Nación, Aris Jasper A.  
Navata, Cathleen L.  
Noriega, Fe Lorraine C.  
Ong, Trisha Mae T.  
Ordoñez, Sheena Mae C.  
Pamintuan, Christian Jay  
Pangilinan, Angelie C.  
Pascaran, Ivyrose Lourdes  
Pascual, Jann Tricia R.  
Pasiona, Albert Joseph  
Paulino, Kim Kenneth I.  
Pereyra, Alyza Corina  
Peña, Ma. Luisa G.  
Potenciano, Jose Miguel  
Pua, Fernandine Joy  
Pulanco, Leslie Anne G.  
Queri, Robert Khristian  
Quimiguing, Ralph Raymund  
Ramos, Ana Patricia M.  
Ramos, Pamela Mariz D.J.  
Ranada, Krizzia Isabel C.  
Refina, Kristine V.  
Remalla, Bryan T.  
Reyes, Bradley C.  
Reyes, Dexter M.  
Reyes, Marquesa Lee C.  
Rocha, Rochelle R.  
Romero, Mary Hazel Joy  
Rosell, Maria Cecilia C.  
Rubio, Dianne T.  
Salandanán, Marina Vanessa  
Santos, Lyndon L.  
Serrano, Kaye Rilag S.  
Sibayan, Mary Mercelle  
Smith, Jessica Janine  
Sta. Maria, Faustino Jr.  
Tacalan, Maria Larissa  
Taccad, Jomini Evangel Marie  
Tamaca, Stephanie Kay D.  
Tamayo, Ma. Crisanta B.  
Tan, Dessica P.  
Tanhueco, Vina Kathleen  
Tremor, Jomar O.  
Tumanda, Harmony Grace  
Undug, Asherah Faye L.  
Viado, Priscilla V.  
Villafior, Carlo V.  
Villanueva, Fe Marie R.  
Villanueva, Marlon Cris T.  
Villanueva, Reanne Krystel  
Villostas, Yvette Kristine  
Yap, Niña Angelica B.

# In Memoriam

Three well-loved Benedictine monks of the Abbey of Our Lady of Montserrat strengthened by the sacraments, died recently. **Rt. Rev. Fr. Andres Formilleza, OSB, Rev. Fr. Dunstan Ma. B. Candol, OSB and Dom Henry Bagne Victor, OSB** completed their odysseys and moved on to their just rewards in the next lives.

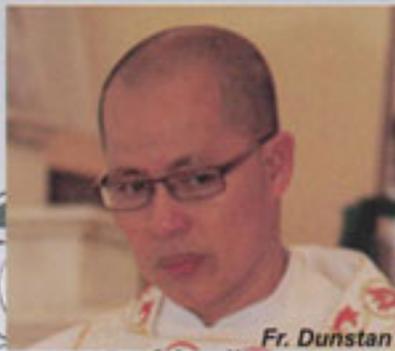
Fr. Andy, former abbot chancellor of San Beda College passed away last July 20, 2011 at the age of 71. Fr. Dunstan, coordinator of the Campus Ministry, San Beda Alabang died last October 16 at the age of 56. Dom Henry died November 2, at the age of 77 in the 51st year of his monastic profession.

They will live on, in the faithful memories of the members of the Bedan community for their good works and gifts of personhood.

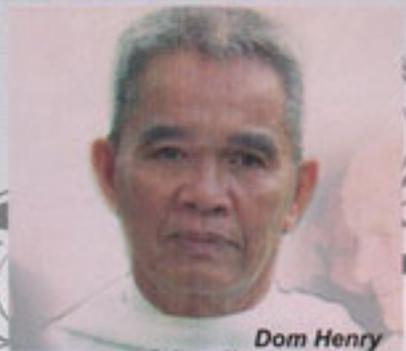
We pray for the eternal repose of their souls.



Fr. Andy



Fr. Dunstan



Dom Henry

*San Beda and UP Diliman –*

## A partnership in further developing the SBC IT Program

*By Prof. Diosdado M. Aler III*

The Academic Partnership-Mentoring Program between the UP Diliman System Information Technology Foundation Inc. (UPSTF) and SBC was recently formalized with the officials and faculty from both schools witnessing the signing of a memorandum of agreement in San Beda College Mendiola campus.

Said program is aimed at: a) further developing the SBC faculty through an extensive training in the theoretical aspects of computing; b) providing additional and supplementary learning opportunities for SBC faculty, students and staff; and, c) reviewing and auditing the SBC information technology curriculum and providing the much needed IT program direction for the future.



VP Palo, (third from left) and Dean Juanillo, (far right) with UP Diliman representatives

## The launch of the Capt. Gregorio S. Oca Distinguished Professorial Chair in Labor Relations

The San Beda College Alumni Foundation and the San Beda College Alumni Association launched last September 3, 2011 the subject professorial chair. The affair held at the SBC Heritage Center coincided with the wedding anniversary of the late **Capt. Gregorio S. Oca** and wife **Mercedes**. Members of the Oca family led by **Mrs. Mercedes Oca**, children **Dr. Conrad**, **Marissa** and **Migz**, and their respective families were present during the launch. Also in attendance were former classmates of Conrad belonging to High School Class'81, including friends and workers of Seamen's Hospital.

**Rt. Rev. Tarcisio Narciso, OSB**, abbot chancellor and **Rev. Fr. Aloysius Maranan, OSB**, rector-president, presented to the Oca family a special citation (posthumous) for the late Capt. Gregorio S. Oca. **CAS Dean Napoleon Juanillo** who is concurrently the director for Research Planning and Development office, discussed the College's research program development efforts.

**Dr. Jimmy Galvez Tan**, president of the SBC Alumni Foundation, and **Rev. Fr. Aloysius Maranan, OSB** expressed their profound gratitude to the generosity and kind heartedness of the Oca family for establishing a professorial chair in labor relations to perpetuate the memory of outstanding Bedan **Capt. Gregorio S. Oca**. The first recipient of this professorial chair will be a faculty member from the Legal Management Department of the CAS.



*Rev. Fr. Aloysius Maranan, OSB, rector-president, presented to the Oca family a special citation (posthumous) for the late Capt. Gregorio S. Oca.*





The Dean Ramon Ricardo Roque  
Graduate School of Business Room –  
“A first-of-its-kind in SBC”

In an effort to showcase what an ideal classroom should be for the twenty-first century Bedan education, **Dr. Ramon Ricardo Roque**, dean of Graduate School of Business, took it upon himself to donate a humble amount to help improve the school facilities of his alma mater.

A joint effort of the office of the Services Division headed by **Rev. Fr. Anselm Manalastas, OSB** and the Graduate School of Business (GSB), Dean Roque conceptualized a state-of-the-art classroom that will be functional for both the GSB and the CAS, in particular the accountancy classes. Customized red and white chairs with writing desks that fit well the yellow worksheets being used by students occupy the newly renovated classroom located on the second floor of the St. Bede's building. The new room also contains a plasma '32 inch television with an LCD in-focus projector permanently affixed to the ceiling. The professor's table and chair have a more professional bearing befitting a first class quality school. And an image of a Resurrecting Christ instead of a crucifix is well-placed on the wall, giving the room a serene ambiance.

*“I thought I'd do my share in improving our school facilities, I'm calling on the other alumni to do their share so we all can work together to upgrade our classrooms,”* said Dean Roque when asked what made him initiate this project.

In grateful appreciation, the school administration named the classroom the Dean Ramon Ricardo Roque Business Room. While visiting the room, one cannot help but take a second look at it, for this is a “first-of-its-kind” in SBC.





CAS faculty members and administrators with Dean Napoleon Juanillo, Jr.

Perhaps it may be best for me to use some images to encapsulate how I have approached and seen the job as rector-president of San Beda College.

First, the image of an architect comes into mind. I have heard people say that regardless of who the rector-president is, San Beda College, like a trusted train, will run because it is San Beda College. We don't really have to lift a finger. No matter what happens, students come because we are somehow always on top of the public mind. Let it be clear that thoughts such as these are unacceptable and not even the unprecedented surge of enrolment in the College of Arts and Sciences should delude us. It is my role as rector-president to shatter this myth and guard against every manifestation of hubris.

As stewards of the legacy bequeathed by the Benedictine fathers before us, we are called to work every day to surpass the flames of passion and commitment that they lit up a hundred ten years ago. False pride, indolence, self-absorption and a lack of curiosity will find us solitary and bereft as our peer colleges and universities explore new and exciting frontiers.

Over the past twelve months, I have worked periodically with the Vice-Presidents for Academic Affairs, Finance and Services as well as the deans of colleges and the director of the Basic Education Program in reviewing, examining and solidifying the infrastructure of the college and arriving at a blueprint for change. Specifically, we have created the Academic Council which has served as a common platform and space for advocating changes in institutional practices as well as rationalizing rules, roles, procedures, coordinating mechanisms, technologies and policies and aligning these with the school's mission, vision and purpose.

It has not been an easy task. After all, these blueprints for change magnify to us the layers of issues and problems that have summoned us to the planning table in the first place. Within the next few months, before the second semester of this academic year, we hope to put in synch the operations of the Finance division and Services with those of the Academic Affairs division and start documenting these in an institutional manual of operations.

Amidst these plethora of issues, let it be clear, however, that from my vantage point as architect, I fully acknowledge that central to building a solid educational infrastructure is having a bright and competent corps of faculty—they who are at the frontlines of teaching, conducting research and engaging in community programs.

Faculty development is pivotal to San Beda College's push for excellence, scholarly productivity, growth and competitiveness. If we are to be the best hospital, as it were, we have to get the best doctors. Within a reasonable and practical timetable, I hope to institute a rationalized faculty recruitment and development program that will allow us to attract the best teachers and researchers from the most respectable universities and colleges and have a share of returning Filipino scholars from abroad. As we place premium on faculty development, particularly through a rationalized ranking and compensation structure, the school benefits from the increasing quality and quantity of faculty research, top-rate instruction and meaningful community engagements that expand frontiers for our students and San Beda College as a whole.

# Conversation with the MVP

by Joffre M. Alajar

the **bedan**  
TODAY 31

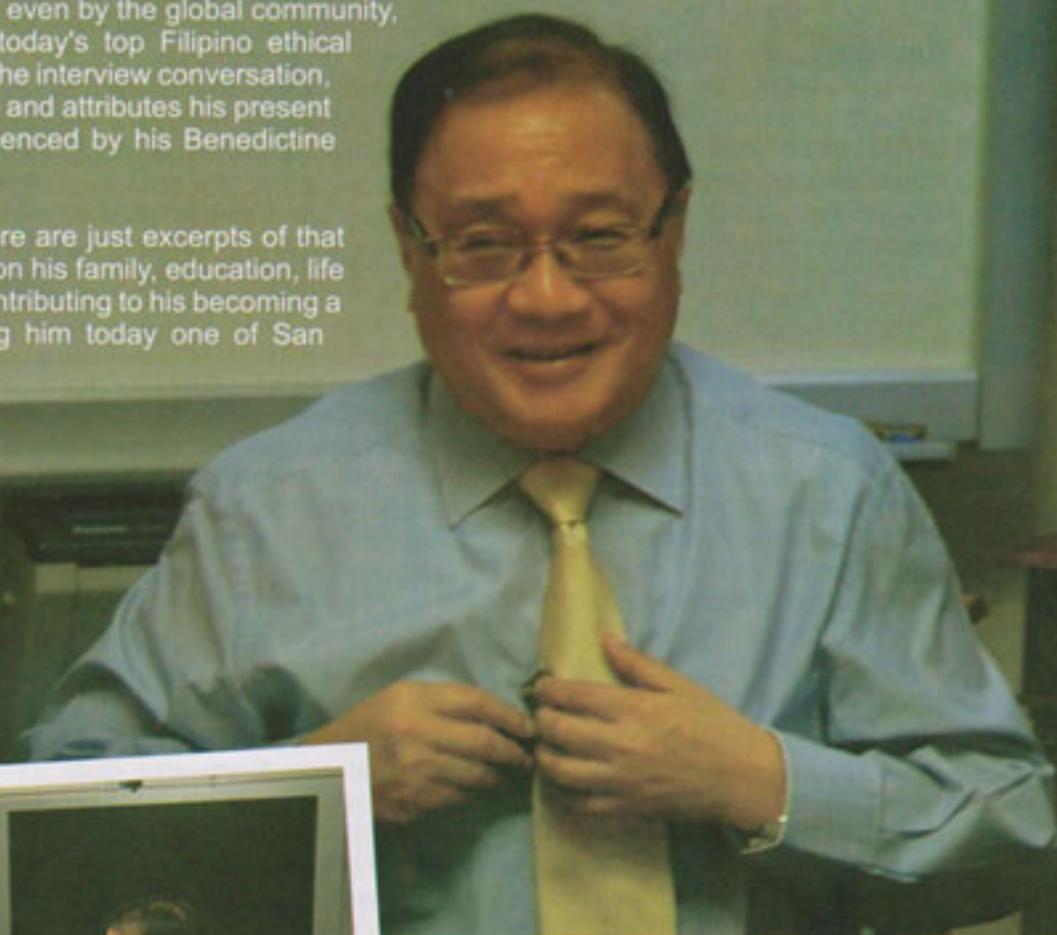
Once-in-a-lifetime experiences make one feel blessed and privileged. And when that rare enchanting experience is over, one is left awed, mesmerized, and eternally grateful for such a memorable occurrence.

These sum up how I felt after my one-on-one conversation with no less than **Dr. Manuel V. Pangilinan**, considered by many, as the most successful Filipino business leader of his time.

It was last August 23, 2011 4PM when I had a rare opportunity to interview Mr. Pangilinan, a.k.a. **MVP**, squeezed in between his usual toxic day in the office. With more than 18 corporations at his helm, MVP holds office at PLDT Makati, and in other parts of the metropolis.

The one-hour interview with MVP was insightful, introspective, intellectual yet down-to-earth. MVP was witty, articulate and self-deprecating. I appreciated him speaking casually in a measured tone that one would feel relax, forgetting momentarily that the man being interviewed is a powerful economic giant, a business empire builder who is dubbed as Asia's captain of corporate turn-around. His inspiring success story, achievements and extraordinary ability to transform his firms from a crisis mode to a high ground are well recognized even by the global community, believing that MVP is one of today's top Filipino ethical business leaders to emulate. In the interview conversation, MVP takes pride being a Bedan, and attributes his present leadership style as greatly influenced by his Benedictine education.

Due to limited space, here are just excerpts of that memorable interview with MVP on his family, education, life values, and his struggles-- all contributing to his becoming a well-accomplished man, making him today one of San Beda's movers and shakers.



**JMA** : During your formative years, who do you consider "*great influences*" in your character development?

**MVP** : Well, clearly my parents, particularly my mother. You tend to imbibe a lot of the traits they themselves have. And my environment then was driven mainly by the academic environment of San Beda. So I guess those are two of the great influences up to my high school years. For college, the

same thing – Ateneo and my parents. To a degree, my friends.

**JMA** : You are a practicing Catholic. How does your religion influence your life values, and the day-to-day decisions and choices that you make?

**MVP** : Well, that's true, especially the grounding I got with my San Beda education. At that time, the Benedictines were mainly Spanish priests and deacons. I think at that time doctrines were pretty dogmatic about things. In San Beda, we were taught that "*outside the Church there is no salvation*," which at the current times does not make sense. But we were taught that, so I think the discipline that San Beda inculcated in me, particularly with respect to one's own morals and religion are deeply rooted in myself, and that expresses itself in decisions I make.

**JMA** : What about the influence of your Jesuit (*Ateneo*) education?

**MVP** : It relaxed it a bit. It relaxed their (*Benedictine*) view. You tend to be a bit flexible, more broad-minded about things, and that you know, I know it is a cliché, but things are not necessarily black and white, especially when you get out there in the real world. So I am not saying that morality is a judgemental thing at all, but there are really many, many aspects of life that do not lend themselves to a black and white situation.

**JMA** : What about your Western education influence - your Wharton schooling?

**MVP** : You know I was too young when I went to Wharton, straight from college. I think I was only 19, the last teen

years of my life. It was just a requirement of the scholarship of Proctor and Gamble that you got to be a fresh college graduate to go to Wharton so I have no choice. In hindsight, I should have spent a number of years working first to learn the ropes of the practical side of business. Because in many respects, the numbers that I have learned, the lessons I imbibe in Wharton were inanimate, it was difficult for me to relate for example, merger accounting to the what the numbers relate in the real world. So may be the primary personal lesson or advantage was I learned to live alone, stand on my own, fend for myself and become independent, take care of my groceries, my laundry, my clothing, then of course, to be accountable for my education at Wharton.

**JMA** : You have travelled a lot, what particular cultures influenced you as a leader?

**MVP** : Well, I got exposed principally to the style of leadership in the Western world. We (*First Pacific*) owned corporations and banks in the States, and in Europe, so I got exposed to how the British run their companies, the Dutch, the Americans, the Canadians, so that you learn also how they manage it. Each system, each culture, is different. Each style is different, for example the Asian style of managing their corporation, the Indonesians, Thais, Chinese are different from one another.

**JMA** : Which of your life values have remained constant over time and which values have changed?

**MVP** : Well, you have to do the right things, in whatever you do, if you think that is the right

decision, the right thing to do, you should do it and, you should stand by that decision. And there are no short-cuts to success. There is a tendency to cut corners in order to achieve immediate wealth. I think for long-term welfare, long-term wealth is created by a lot of long-term hard work and effort. Any short-term gains have to be erased by the fact that it is a short-term thing.

**JMA** : You have been dubbed as the new "*Asian-Filipino Captain of Corporate Turn-Around*", because you have built an impressive reputation for bringing to success some of the problematic companies that we have here in the Philippines. Do you have any formula or rules for business success?

**MVP** : Well, to begin with, sure, no doubt, in some respects we have turned around a number of companies not only here but elsewhere in the world, in the States, a number of banks were failed banks, in Europe, Hagemeyer was a struggling global trading company at that time Tech-Pacific in Australia, and of course in Hong Kong as well. But people tend to ascribe some magical qualities about it, the Midas touch, and all that. I think it's all a matter of hard work, and a bit of luck. Getting the right people, combining your assets with your brains, there are no short-cuts, no silver bullet in these things. It is not a rocket science. You just have to focus on things, apply yourself seriously at the task on hand. Tech Pacific Corp. took us three years to turn around. Some are shorter like Makati Medical Center, or any of the hospitals that were in trouble. In about a year's time, we managed to



give it profit so it depends on the situation, but there are no short-cuts.

Well essentially, this is what I told the **Management Association of the Philippines** when I was awarded **Management Man of the Year** in 2006. There are three qualities of leadership that are essential: 1) focus, hard work and dedication that you have to bring to the job, and the competence. You know if you are brain dead, I don't think you can do it, if you are focused, work hard, dedicated and you have the skills needed to do it; 2) you have the integrity, financial integrity, you're honest, you don't steal from the company. You cannot be there, for example and do self-dealing. Like you sell goods to your company, and

make money. You cannot be a shareholder of the company, and then you supply them goods, and make money on the side. That is a no-no for us. And so financial integrity is important and as a corollary to that, is mental integrity, mental honesty, you have to tell us as it is. I mean if this is your view, that's your view. If it is an honest view, we will respect that so you tell us straight, do not beat around the bush, and we encourage people to say directly but not rudely because it saves time. I don't have to second guess what is your motivation. What you're trying to tell me, and I will tell you as candidly as I can. So, that financial honesty or integrity goes hand in hand with your mental integrity as well; and, 3) Passion, you have to bring passion to your job *kailangan*

*mayroong passion* for everything. If you have to put in the hours, so be it. You can't tell me that you are a 9 to 5. You can't tell me that I am more efficient than others because I put in only 10 hours while others put in 16 hours a day. If you need to stretch the hours go stretch it. I am not saying you should have to work everyday 16 hours or stay overnight. There is always a price you have to pay for the life you choose. There is always a price for success. Unless of course you are a member of the De Luxe Club. If your name is whatever, then you are fortunate to have been the beneficiary of an inherited wealth, that's a different stake. But for 99.9% of Filipinos who are not born with wealth or privileged, you got to strive. It's a tough life, you have to work harder.

# RED CUBS CLINCH 3-PEAT AND 19TH NC CROWN

By Jude P. Roque



A week after the San Beda Red Lions annexed back-to-back NCAA men's basketball titles, the Red Cubs completed its own magical journey after securing their third straight and a record 19th junior basketball crown in the country's oldest league last November 3.

Considered as the best high school basketball program in the land, San Beda's junior squad clobbered the hard-fighting College of St. Benilde-La Salle Greenhills Greenies, 69-61, in Game 3 of their championship series at the jam-packed San Juan Arena.

The Red Cubs actually swept the eliminations with a record 18-0 slate to gain a thrice-to-beat edge going into the Finals. The La Sallites had to get past the Emilio Aguinaldo Brigadiers and the Letran Squires during the stepladder semi-finals for the right to contend the Cubs for the title. And in Game 1 of the Finals, the Greenies shocked the Bedans with an 85-82 upset win that put a blemish on the latter's record for the first time this year.

But the defending champions roared back in Game 2 and escaped with a 74-73 victory on a crucial steal by **Antonio Bonsupre Jr.**

And in Game 3, the Red Cubs of Coach **Britt Reroma** displayed its old form and had control of the game for the most part, even leading by 18 points at some point in the third quarter. It's Reroma's second consecutive title as coach of the Cubs after succeeding the legendary high school mentor **Coach Ato Badolato** last year. The young Cebuano coach served as Badolato's deputy for many years and literally grew up in SBC. He came to Mendiola when he was 14 years old to play for SBC's Passerelle Team, and lived at the athletes' quarters. He was also part of the 1996 Red Cubs that similarly swept the NCAA junior division, with teammates **Ren-Ren Ritualo, Jenkins Mesina, Mark Jomalesa, Xavy Nunag, Jal Casio, Mico Roldan, Adrian Ronquillo** and **Mike Bravo**. Reroma was also the skipper of the 2001 Red Lions.

It was such an exciting championship series as the LSGH supporters also showed its might. The Arena was divided almost equally between the red and green crowd. It was the first time since 1978 that the Greenies played for the high school division plum. Then powered by now professional coaches **Jong Uichico, Junel Baculi** and **Tonichi Pujante**, the Greenies lost to the **Mike Advani** and **Joey Loyzaga**-led Red Cubs in the finals of that year, where the latter also accomplished a sweep.

SBC now establishes itself as the winningest team in NCAA Junior Basketball with 19 diadems. The Mapua Red Robins have 18, while Letran has 12. In the men's division, San Beda and Letran are tied with 16 crowns each. San Sebastian has 12 while former member Ateneo has 14.

**Francis Abarcar** was picked as the Finals MVP after firing 18 points in Game 3, while **Daryl Nazareno** and **Van Abatayo** delivered 10 and 8 points respectively for the Red and White squad. **Ranbill Tongco** was steady at the point guard position throughout the season. The other members of the victorious team are **Gideon Babilonia, Bonsupre, Kristoffer Dela Costa, Aldrin Lunas, Louie Macapayag, Lazlo Miranda, Francis Munsayac, Kevin Oleodo, Limuel Patenio, Mikael Tee** and RP Youth standout **Arvin Tolentino**.

Only three will remain in the cast for next year namely, **Tongco, Patenio** and **Tolentino**. But knowing the Red Cubs, you can bet that they will go for a fourth straight championship in 2012.

For the First Semester AY 2011-2012 -

## SBC enrolment up

While other colleges and universities reported a downtrend in their student enrolment, SBC registered a remarkable increase in its enrolment for the first semester, AY 2011-12, as compared to last year's figures:

	First Sem. 2011-12	First Sem. 2010-11	Increase/ Decrease
Basic Education Dept. (BED)			
Grade School .....	1002	1010	- 8
High School .....	939	832	+ 107
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>1941</b>	<b>1842</b>	<b>+ 99</b>
College of Arts & Sciences (CAS)	4321	3872	+ 449
BS Accountancy .....	868	649	+ 219
BS Economics and Public Policy .....	124	119	+ 5
BS Entrepreneurship .....	412	307	+ 105
BS Financial Management .....	9	109	- 100
BS Information and Communications Technology .....	611	608	+ 3
BS International Business & Entrepreneurial Management .....	52	213	- 161
BS Legal Management .....	646	553	+ 93
BS Marketing & Corporate Communications .....	38	155	- 117
BS Psychology .....	401	338	+ 63
BSBA Financial Management .....	353	262	+ 91
BSBA Marketing and Corporate Communications .....	602	414	+ 188
BSBA Operations Management .....	121	94	+ 27
BSBA Human Resource Development Management .....	81	46	+ 35
AB Philosophy (4th year) .....	3	5	- 2
College of Nursing (CON) .....	285	516	- 231
College of Medicine (COM) .....	539	430	+ 109
College of Law (COL) .....	1369	1228	+ 141
Graduate School of Business (GSB) .....	171	174	- 3
Graduate School of Liturgy (GSL) .....	25	24	+ 1
Graduate School of Law (GSLaw) .....	130	120	+ 10
<b>GRAND TOTAL .....</b>	<b>8781</b>	<b>8206</b>	<b>+ 575</b>

The Accountancy Program registered the highest increase with an additional 219 students, followed by the College of Law. The Nursing course program, as it is in other nursing schools, suffered a huge decline in its student population.

The over-all increase in enrolment in the first half of the semester is regarded as a vote of confidence in the present and future of Bedan education.

# 87th NCAA Basketball Champions

# FEAR THE ROAR



San Beda Red Lions



San Beda Red Cubs

# San Beda Red Lions and Red Cubs



San Beda College needs to be where the whole world is going in basic and higher education and we need a new game plan. I believe that a single-minded focus on faculty development, as a central and integrative component of our infrastructure, handles more than half of the battle for the college, not only in terms of the global expectations for sustained scholarly productivity, quality research and instruction but on the overall student learning outcomes. At a larger scale, it signifies our earnestness in the collaborations and partnerships we have forged in the past year such as with University of Newcastle in Australia, Universitas Widyatama, Universitas Persada, Universitas Padjadjaran and Institut

Teknologi Bandung in Indonesia, Manila Observatory of the Ateneo de Manila University, and the University of the Philippines, both in Manila and Diliman. Already there are on-going discussions for international linkages with universities in Vietnam, Malaysia, the Royal Institution of Singapore, National University of Singapore and the Catholic University of Louvain in Belgium. As we continue to venture beyond our campus and engage the world, we also have to ensure that our scholars can effectively join the global conversations and deliver the goods on behalf of San Beda College.

In light of this, may I ask the school administrators to lead the design of a comprehensive program for faculty development, gleanable adaptable best practices and lessons of leading universities in the country as well as abroad. Part of this mandate is to also identify potential resources that can be tapped to fund scholarships, research projects, laboratories, special libraries, instructional innovations, and possibly an endowment fund for salaries of outstanding faculty.

The second image that I use in living my work as rector-president is that of a community organizer, albeit perhaps on a much larger scale. San Beda College, like many campuses, is a web of complexity and uniqueness. Administrators, faculty, staff, students, and alumni mirror a diversity of values, beliefs, interests, behaviours, skills, goals, and worldviews. In the past twelve months, I have given impetus to the deans to celebrate this diversity, encourage questioning, and reward creativity and innovation. We have had candid conversations with the faculty through the faculty associations as well as the school union through its officers.

To recognize academic diversity, we have expanded the range of grant opportunities to allow faculty to develop and test new instructional methods and materials, attend local and international conferences, and support additional data analysis work for accepted research papers. As well, we have applied for new degree programs on Human Biology, Interdisciplinary Studies, and Sports Science under the College of Arts and Sciences.

Last year, we succeeded in opening up the campus as an arena of free speech as we revived the collegiate paper, *The Bedan*, and hosted forums on controversial social issues such as reproductive health and the peace talks between the Philippine government and the National Democratic Front. We have seen a flourishing of active student organizations across campus which we supported through the conduct of leadership development programs and witnessed a revitalized and raucous Christmas party and Frolics participated in and enjoyed by all, especially by the non-teaching personnel and their families.

The third image, which is close to my heart, is that of family. One of the hallmarks of the past year, I believe, is the significantly palpable atmosphere of campus peace and harmony. While it is true that we have to constantly check our alignment with the standards of the academic world, it is a remarkable source of pride for any institution to have caring and cooperative environments. I wish to qualify that I am not and will never be solely responsible for this, but it is YOU my dear brothers and sisters who have made it possible and let us all give ourselves a round of applause.

No event of the past year can be more indicative of our life as a family than on that fateful Sunday of September 26, 2010 when several of our students from the College of Law got seriously hurt when a bomb was hurled on innocent supporters of bar examinees. Bedans, old and young, stepped up to the plate. We all came as ONE to aid the victims and their families. It was, indeed, one of the proudest moments of our lives as Bedans.

A few weeks later on October 19th, we were united this time in euphoria as the school clinches the NCAA Basketball Championships for both the senior and junior teams, and made history for the 18-0 sweep.

On the academic side, we honoured our topnotchers in the CPA licensure examinations and proved to our peers that we have always been deserving of the PAASCU accreditation of our Accountancy program. Our College of Law proved once again its notable constancy and national renown in delivering high passing marks in the bar examinations. Our College of Nursing, even amidst a national downturn in enrolment, held on to quality as exhibited by the above national average passing marks of its licensure examinees, and is gearing up for a move towards accreditation.

Our Basic Education Department has strengthened the Math, Science and Reading programs through strategic partnerships with resource and training providers. Our Graduate School of Business recently graduated top MBAs, with two summa cum laudes and five magna cum laudes which demonstrates for us its thrust for excellence in business education. Our Graduate School of Liturgy continues its active public engagement through the Asian Liturgy Forum and the CBCP Episcopal Commission on Liturgy. Experiencing a historical rise in enrolment, our College of Medicine continues to attract some of the country's best applicants to medical schools.

Our beloved alumni have never failed to look back home. They worked with us tirelessly with donations for classroom renovations, building of lecture halls, professorial chair grants, community advocacies, academic scholarships for our top students, and financial support to our athletes. Bedan alumnus and UP Manila Chancellor Dr. Ramon Arcadio has moved levers of influence that enabled San Beda College to enter into a comprehensive program of collaboration in teaching and research with the Manila and Diliman campuses of the University of the Philippines.

These stories are the stuff of an institution living and throbbing as a family, and it is, for me, an indispensable frame through which to view and understand San Beda College. It is what enables me to love San Beda College.

Lastly, I live the image of a theatre coach immersed in a stage of imagination to get everyone create meaning, context, culture, commitment, and possibilities. It is one thing to get the San Beda College infrastructure running. It is a totally different story to get all of us to empathize with, feel, inspire one another, and continue to play our unique parts everyday with energy and soul. Part of our job, then, is to engender a culture that provides a symbolic bond to all our diverse contributions.

We do not have to start exactly at ground zero. By God's grace, San Beda College is connected to over a thousand years of Benedictine tradition of prayer and work. We are heirs to a tradition of excellence—to communities around the world that have produced great art, music, poetry, literature, science, philosophy, architecture, and other legacies that now provide joy and inspiration to many.

In the past year, we have identified twelve key areas where each of us is called to demonstrate and enrich this culture of excellence such as in Benedictine identity and mission, Leadership, administration and governance, Curriculum and program offerings, Instruction, Productivity, Assurance of Learning, Instructional Resources, Quality and relevant research and intellectual contributions, Engagement of faculty and academic support personnel, High involvement in extension services, Efficient student services, Value-adding linkages, and Recognition and accreditation.

We have tasked the RPDC to help us track our performance in each of these areas, the results of which form a basis for collegial consultations and conversations that should challenge our versatility, bring us out of our comfort zones, and discover new paths towards achieving our goals.

Like any theatre, San Beda College will have to be constantly animated and engaged with the world. Neither the popular marquee of the school itself nor its illustrious alumni will save the day for us. Moreover, running the school does not rest on me alone. I am part of the team and we have to work together seamlessly—breathing life on those who seem tired or discouraged, taking on the cudgels for peers when they seem unable, keeping the faith even if from time to time we make mistakes or fall flat on our faces.



The challenges of basic and higher education in the Philippines are already upon us—the competition for the best and the brightest students and faculty, the long marathon towards meeting national and global educational standards, the urgency to be a part of discourse on emerging trends in assurance of learning, thought leadership, performance excellence, and, sadly for us, the reality of meeting even the basic minimum wage for some of our non-teaching staff. We have not much choice but to do parallel and time-bound moves to address all of these because we can be overtaken by events if we slow down or make a different turn on any of these, as we had done so in the past and now feel the uphill climb in the present.

As I share with you now the frames I used to live and define academic leadership in San Beda College, I invite you to do the same—the technical frame of the architect, the social frame of the community organizer, the caring frame of family, and the inspiring frame of the theatre coach. And when you live through our own experiences of leadership in San Beda College, you may wish to add your own frames and when you do, let me know about it and how it has helped you.

We are all in this together. Certainly, we do this for San Beda College, but the good work we do here in campus must now resonate in the whole archipelago and throughout the world just as we sing:

*"Bring out the challenges, we'll win them all;  
And fear neither fire nor blood;  
Bedans will answer the clarion call  
For San Beda, our country, and God."*

Go San Beda Fight!



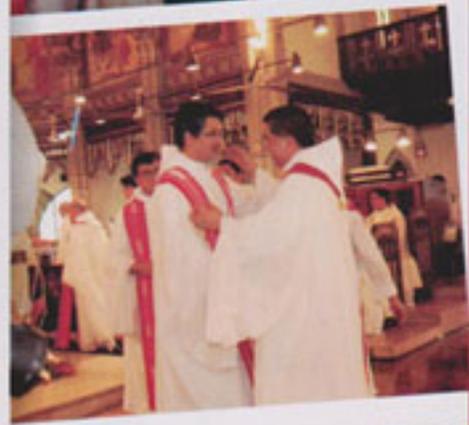
## *A Double Celebration*

**The 25th Anniversary of the Monastic Profession  
and the start of the 50th year of  
Very Rev. Fr. Aloysius Ma. A. Maranan, OSB**

Last September 21, 2011, Wednesday, the entire Bedan Community was in a festive mood as it celebrated the silver anniversary of the monastic profession and the start of the golden years of Father Rector, the **Very Rev. Fr. Aloysius Ma. A. Maranan, OSB**.

The affair was well-attended by prominent people in society led by former President **Fidel V. Ramos** and former First Lady **Amelita Ramos**, who incidentally, are like foster parents to Fr. Aloy. Other prominent personalities who attended the Eucharistic Celebration included Justice Secretary **Leila de Lima**; retired Justices **Antonio Eduardo Nachura** and **Angelina Sandoval-Gutierrez**; **Sen. Nikki Coseteng**; **Mrs. Sonia Roco**; Real Bank prexy **Jose Araullo**; Consuls **Louie** and **Mellie Ablaza**; ACCRA





founder partner and San Beda Law Alumni Association prexy **Ave Cruz** and wife **Helen**; **Manny Reyes**, founder chair of the Reyes & Tacandong audit firm, SBC Alumni Association prexy **Atty. Jonas Cabochan** and a lot more. **Rt. Rev. Tarcisio Ma. H. Narciso, OSB** was main celebrant while **Bishop Leonardo Medroso** of Tagbilaran City Bohol delivered the homily.

Fr. Aloy was very jubilant celebrating his milestone events with family, friends and members of the Benedictine and Bedan community.



SBCAA President **Atty. Jonas Cabochan**, Sec. **Leila de Lima**, and SBLAA President **Nick Acosta**

SBLAA **Atty. Avelino Cruz** and wife **Helen**



Former President **Fidel V. Ramos** and Former First Lady **Ming Ramos**

Justices **Antonio Eduardo Nachura** and **Angelina Sandoval-Gutierrez**

## Rediscovering and Redefining the Value of Caring

Homily of Bishop Leonardo Medroso (Tagbilaran City Bohol) during the Eucharistic Celebration of the 25th Anniversary of the Monastic Profession and start of the 50th year of Fr. Aloysius Maranan, OSB



Today is the 25th Anniversary of the Monastic Profession of **Very Rev. Fr. Aloysius Ma. A. Maranan, OSB**, Rector President of San Beda College, Manila and the start of his 50th year. In a more colloquial way of saying it, we celebrate today, first, the 50th birthday of Fr. Aloysius Maranan; and second, we celebrate his 25th year of his entry into the life of a monk. Each event may demand separate celebration, but in Fr. Aloy's case, the gift of life is so weaved harmoniously and artistically together with his vocation to the monastic life, that it deems proper to observe them together for us to appreciate how grace beautifully works with the freedom of man.

The Gospel of today's feast will shed an interesting insight into the dynamism of Fr. Aloy's life in his generous response to the call of God. Matthew is a man of the world; a wily man, shrewd in the ways of business. He became rich due to his profession as tax-collector, fleecing people not only of their taxes, but keeping to himself substantial sum of the taxes' money that is due to the Roman Government. He was a public sinner, a publican, a scandal to general mores of the people. Imagine, exacting taxes from the people just turn them over to the Emperor, when these taxes are due to God and to His service in the temple. He was then considered not only traitor to the people, but an apostate to the Jewish religion. Hence, it is unthinkable to take him as a candidate to the office of apostle. And yet, there he was. Jesus saw him not who he was, but what he could be – a power to see the infinite possibilities of a man who could cooperate in God's creative hand. Jesus called him; Matthew heard the call. He followed him. In a terse but dramatic account of himself, Matthew narrated: *"He saw a man called Matthew, seated at the tax-collector's table. 'Follow me,' he said to him; and he arose and followed him."* History has given us testimony of how a puny decision of a man could effect a repercussion that is global in scope and deeply penetrating in its effect. His handbook on the life and teaching of Jesus impacted so many lives through the centuries, inspiring people to worship God and to love others as Jesus loved him. To him is attributed the Sermon on the Mount, a detailed picture who Jesus really is, and who man is supposed to look. For him, the poor in spirit and not the rich is blessed because the kingdom of him is theirs; the meek possess the land and not the violent; the chaste of heart see God in the purity of their eyes. Yes, Matthew is a man who gave up his fortune, but found a destiny; who lost security of livelihood, but found an adventures of risk and meaning; who lost income, but found a destiny worth pursuing.

Fr. Aloysius too has a story to tell. It may not be as dramatic as that of St. Matthew's, but his response to the call of God has created a cyclone of activities that in time has drawn us into his life. His decision to follow Jesus and enter the monastic life may seem insignificant, but God in his breath-taking and intricate way, used this generosity to bring us to him and him to us.