

ANINAW



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A MESSAGE FROM THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARIAN

The University Library at the University of the Philippines Diliman has had an eventful and transformative year in 2024, marked by innovation, collaboration, and meaningful outreach to the UP community. Here is a look back at the key accomplishments and highlights that made this year truly remarkable:

- **BUKLOD Platform Updates.** In 2024, the University Library made significant strides in enhancing its digital services. The BUKLOD platform, which is designed to streamline library processes, was proposed for systemwide adoption. With new features such as Google Drive integration, media streaming capabilities, and two-factor authentication support, BUKLOD continues to evolve as a valuable resource for both students and faculty.
- **The Great InfoHunt 2023: Padagos.** Kicking off the year, the library hosted The Great InfoHunt 2023: Padagos in February—a gamified library orientation aimed at engaging new students in learning about library resources. This creative and interactive approach helped ease students into their academic journey while making library services more accessible.
- **102nd Anniversary Celebrations.** The Library celebrated its 102nd anniversary with a series of enriching events, including the iLEARN program, which highlights the library's role in academic development. A lecture series also delved into various topics, showcasing the library's commitment to lifelong learning and academic excellence.
- **Employee Recognition.** In April, the Library held the *Daloy, Diwa, at Dunong* event to recognize employees who made significant contributions to the library's mission. Their dedication and hard work were celebrated, reinforcing the Library's core values of excellence in service.
- **AKDA AT HAYAG Talk Series.** From May to December, the AKDA AT HAYAG talk series explored the world of publishing, offering webinars and seminars that were well-received by the academic community. These events provided valuable insights on impactful publishing trends, and gave faculty and students a platform to learn from industry experts.
- **Assessment and Target-Setting Workshop.** In June, the Library team participated in an Assessment and Target-Setting Workshop to strengthen its strategic planning initiatives. This event was crucial in setting new goals for improving services and enhancing the library's role in supporting academic success.
- **Aninaw Newsletter Launch.** In July, the University Library revived the UP Library Bulletin by launching Aninaw, a new newsletter. This publication serves as an informative outlet for library updates, accomplishments, and ongoing projects, ensuring that the entire UP community stays informed about library developments.
- **Staff Training and Development.** The Library also invested in the growth of its staff through a series of training programs in July. These sessions focused on enhancing skills, ensuring that the Library's employees are well-equipped to serve the evolving needs of students and faculty.

- **Qualitative Research Workshop.** A Qualitative Research Workshop was organized in August specifically for librarians. The workshop aimed to enhance research competencies and foster a deeper understanding of qualitative methods in library services.
- **Exhibition of Salvador P. Lopez Papers.** In September, the University Library held an exhibition of the Salvador P. Lopez Papers, commemorating the UP Day of Remembrance. This exhibition was a testament to the Library's role in preserving and showcasing historical academic materials.
- **The Great InfoHunt 2024: UGMA.** In October, the Library launched The Great InfoHunt 2024: UGMA—the fourth edition of the library gamified orientation. This event continued the tradition of making library services both engaging and accessible for students and library users.
- **Learning Tour in Taiwan.** In October, head librarians and staff participated in a learning tour to Taiwan. The tour provided valuable insights into library management practices and trends, reinforcing the Library's commitment to continuous improvement.
- **SAGWANAN Book and e-Fair.** November saw the successful staging of the SAGWANAN Book and e-Fair, organized in collaboration with the UP College of Social Sciences and Philosophy. The event highlighted diverse range of books and e-resources, offering an opportunity for students and faculty to engage with new publications and expand their academic horizons.
- **Tagisan ng Talino: Bet on your Bestie Quiz Show.** Also in November, the Library hosted the Tagisan ng Talino: Bet on your Bestie Quiz Show to celebrate the 34th Library and Information Services Month. This lively and competitive event brought together students and library staff in a fun and educational setting.
- **Panagrabak: Pulong at Pista sa Aklatan.** The year concluded with the Panagrabak: Pulong at Pista sa Aklatan—the Library's Annual General Assembly and Get-Together. This event served as a fitting end to a year filled with achievements, fostering camaraderie and collaboration among the staff of the University Library.

Beyond the main library, individual unit libraries also made significant strides, with successful fundraising campaigns, new website launches, thesis marathons, and outreach programs. Many staff members were recognized with awards, while others presented research at both national and international conferences.

The University Library's accomplishments in 2024 reflect its ongoing commitment to innovation, academic support, and community engagement. With a year of continued growth, the Library is poised to face the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead, ensuring that it remains a valuable resource for the entire University community.

Elvira B. Lapuz, University Librarian

SAGWANAN 2024

by N.C. Marquez, Main Library

The University Library through the Information Services and Instruction Section, in partnership with the College of Social Sciences and Philosophy held SAGWANAN : The University Library Book and e-Fair 2024. It was conducted in on the first-floor lobby of Palma Hall last 14-15 November 2024.

As mentioned by the event organizers, the project centered on the theme SAGWANAN, a Filipino word depicting an image of people navigating, as if rowing through the crowd of library resources and people. It aimed to raise awareness of UP Diliman faculty, students, and staff of the existing resources and online databases subscribed to by the University Library. It also highlighted a discussion on artificial intelligence and media and information literacy.

Ms. Elvira B. Lapuz (University Librarian), Ms. Eimee Rhea C. Lagrama (Deputy University Librarian), Ms. Rizalyn V. Janio (Head Librarian, Information Services and Instruction Section), and Mr. Rhoel E. Rondilla (Head Librarian, College of Social Sciences and Philosophy Library) led the ribbon cutting ceremony.

The two-day event was made possible with the support of the partner exhibitors including Academic Paradigm Inc., Megatext Philippines Inc., Libtech Source Philippines, EBSCO, Forefront Books Co., Inc., CE Logic and many more.

On the first day, the event highlighted a special lecture from Asst. Prof. Karol M. Ilagan on Artificial Intelligence – which she defines “as many technologies loosely tied together with one commonality that are designed to mimic human capabilities.” On top of that, Prof. Ilagan also shared the key findings on her

case study about ride-hailing and food delivery services that use algorithms here in the Philippines, followed by a discussion on a framework for using AI in journalism.

While on the second day, a special lecture from Asst. Prof. Kara Patria C. David-Cancio on Media and Information Literacy was featured. She stated that technology is a tool, but in order for us to use it, we need to be educated about it. This consideration, along with the vast advancement in technology, especially in media, is the reason why they launched the Media and Information Literacy Project. Asst. Prof. David-Cancio also shared the results from the Focus Group Discussion with the MIL teachers and students, which was conducted in order to aid in the existing MIL curriculum.

Participants also enjoyed some freebies during the event such as coffee, taho, lunch, Ikot ride, and raffle.

Summing up, this event has been filled with excellent discussions and great promotions of online databases and existing library resources, providing participants with valuable takeaways that they can utilize and share with others.



Aninaw is a revival of the UP Library Bulletin, which was the official newsletter of the University of the Philippines Library System. It first saw light in 1956 and was published in print until 2002. Publication was in hiatus until it transitioned online to wordpress in 2006, but this time, it was mainly a newsletter of the University Library Diliman (other University Libraries have taken advantage of available social media platforms or have their own publications). The wordpress site was active until 2016. The Main Library currently maintains a blog in its own website where it is updated regularly.

Aninaw is a term in several Filipino languages which denotes an understanding of something; discernment, so to speak. It can also mean transparency or clarity. As a concept for this publication, it aims to present to the public the achievements and significant milestones of the University Library of UP Diliman, to make our presence to the community known, and to increase our engagement with the public by showing a spotlight on our projects, programs, and initiatives.

Moving forward, Aninaw will be the University Library Diliman's semi-annual report to the public, a way of maintaining transparency of our activities and actions, and a venue for understanding between us UPD Librarians and Staff, and the community we serve.

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PROGRESS, PLANS, PLAZA

An Update on the Gonzalez Hall Renovation

In our last update, we shared the progress and challenges of the Gonzalez Hall renovation. In the succeeding months, steady progress has been made in certain areas of the project. To further expedite the renovation, the Department of Public Works and Highway (DPWH) is set to formally take over the project in January 2025. Based on the timeline provided by the DPWH, the renovation is expected to be completed by November 2025. With a clear timeline in place, there is renewed confidence that the renovation will be completed before the year ends, ensuring that the Main Library will be able to provide the UP community with the best service possible.

Although the limited space and accessibility issues make it difficult to provide the full range of library service, the library staff remains committed to serving the UP community to the best of their ability while waiting for the building renovation to finish. Nonetheless, the anticipation of the Gonzalez Hall's renovation leaves the entire community thrilled and excited.

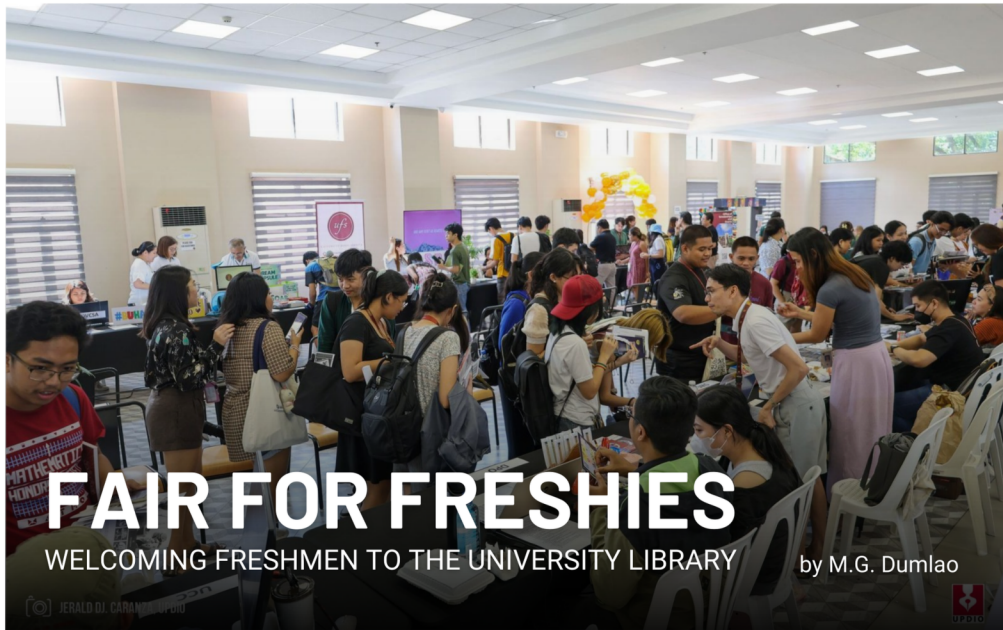


Amidst the setbacks with the building, there is good news regarding the plaza renovation in front of Gonzalez Hall. After delays, work on the plaza finally restarted in September 2024. So far, the project is moving steadily, though slightly behind schedule. As of 19 January 2025, the actual progress is at 37.54%, while the planned progress is at 37.58%. While there is a very slight delay, it's important to note that work is ongoing, and MDEC, the contractor, is committed to completing the project as soon as possible.

While it's clear that the building renovation has faced significant delays, the progress on the plaza renovation shows that improvements are still happening. Although slightly behind schedule, the steady work on the plaza gives us hope that with proper oversight and coordination, the Gonzalez Hall renovation can be accomplished on time. The involvement of the DPWH offers renewed hope that the project will finally move forward in 2025 and be completed as promised.

For now, we thank everyone for their patience and understanding. We know that the extended renovation has caused inconvenience, but we remain hopeful that the finished Gonzalez Hall will be worth the wait. In the meantime, the progress on the plaza gives us something to look forward to, and we are excited to see it completed in time for the Main Library's anniversary.

by M.G. Dumlaio, Building Renovation and Management Committee



The University Library has participated in various iterations of the welcome assembly for freshmen over the past three years. This year, the library joined the Freshie Orientation Fair (FOF), held at the Student Union Building Complex, Vinzons Hall. Initially scheduled for 3-6 September 2024, the event was postponed to September 17-20 due to inclement weather. The fair, which was part of the University Welcome Assembly, welcomed new students to UP Diliman and introduced them to the many services and resources available to help them in their studies.



The University Library's booth was one of the highlights of the event. Its goal was to help new students get to know the library, its services, and its upcoming events. Over the course of the four-day fair, nearly a thousand students visited the booth and learned more about what the library has to offer.

Students got a chance to interact with the booth through fun and informative activities. One activity involved tasking the students to locate the temporary location of the Main Library on the campus map. The purpose of this activity is to help students become familiar with this important space. After playing with the activity, the students signed up for "The Great InfoHunt 2024: UGMA," this year's iteration of The Great Infohunt.

Of course, what's a fair without prizes? Students who participated received numerous freebies, like notepads designed by the library staff, as well as items sponsored by database providers. One of the most sought after prizes were the totebags provided by the database providers. These giveaways added a touch of excitement while promoting the library's services.



Despite some challenges, such as limited booth space and sharing the area with other offices, the library team made the most of it. Posters, banners, and other colorful materials helped draw attention, and the booth's friendly and welcoming vibe ensured steady foot traffic throughout the event. The booth was fortunately placed in-front of the pillar which allowed the staff to set up the promotional banner for The Great InfoHunt 2024: UGMA, enhancing the booth's visibility.

A variation of the Freshie Orientation Fair is organized every year by the Office of the Vice-Chancellor for Student Affairs (OVCSA), with the University Library representing the Office of the Vice-Chancellor for Academic Affairs (OVCAA). The library's involvement not only introduced students to its resources but also emphasized its role as an important partner in their academic journey.

For many freshmen, the fair is their first look at university life, and the University Library was delighted to play a part in making that introduction meaningful and enjoyable. By connecting with students in a fun and interactive way, hopefully, the University Library was able to help them feel more at home and ready to start their academic journey in UP Diliman.

As the Freshie Orientation Fair came to a close, it was clear that events like these are an important part of building a supportive and engaging campus community. The University Library looks forward to more opportunities to connect with students and make their university experience even better.

Anong Hanap Mo, Teh?

by J.A. Domingo

Attending book fairs is an essential aspect of a librarian's role in enhancing and diversifying their collections. These events bring together publishers, educators, librarians, and book enthusiasts, creating a vibrant exchange of ideas and resources. For many librarians, book fairs have become more than professional events—they're akin to reunions, fostering connections while exploring new titles and materials for their institutions. With careful preparation and a strategic approach, book fairs offer invaluable insights and resources to enrich any library.

Book fairs are exciting, offering a wealth of literary opportunities, often at discounted prices. However, the vast array of choices and limited time can make them overwhelming. Preparation is key to ensuring that you leave with valuable additions to your collection. Here are some practical tips to help you make the most of your visit.

Know the Book Fair's Duration and Venue

Understanding the event's duration and location helps you plan your visit efficiently. This allows you to manage your time well and maximize your experience. Whenever possible, coordinate with colleagues or faculty to attend as a group. Group visits not only justify transportation arrangements but also foster collaboration, as faculty members can help identify materials that fit their specific needs. To maximize your selection, aim to arrive early. Early attendance gives you the advantage of exploring booths before the crowds build up and ensures you have first access to the most sought-after titles.

Build Strong Relationships with Suppliers

Librarians often build valuable connections with publishers and suppliers, which can be especially advantageous at book fairs. Many suppliers offer support during the event, including transportation and refreshments. Such effort is considered mutually beneficial for both parties. These gestures reflect the collaborative nature of the industry and can make your visit more convenient and enjoyable. Maintaining positive relationships with suppliers facilitates smoother logistics and enhances future acquisitions.



Collect and Evaluate Before Selecting

With an overwhelming selection of books, it is essential to adopt a systematic approach. Start by gathering titles you believe might fit your collection. Label them as 'For Evaluation' with your name and institution's details for easy delivery. Once the books arrive, take time to evaluate them. Involve faculty members as needed, ensuring the selections meet your library's needs and budget. After making your final selections, inform the supplier about any items that don't meet your criteria and request an updated quotation.

MSI Celebrates its 50th Anniversary: Go Beyond the Borders

by R.G. Dela Mata-Tabo, MSI Library

As the Marine Science Institute (MSI) approaches its 50th year, a series of lectures that began in September of last year, along with various library activities have been organized as part of the year-long celebration. Among these activities is a Training Workshop entitled **"Tips and Tools to Increase Your Research Productivity,"** designed for all College of Science graduate students and researchers seeking to enhance their skills and output. It was held at the MSI AV Room and via Zoom, letting everyone join in a way that suited them best. Two experts from Academic Paradigm Inc., Mr. Janus Grafilo and Mr. Pio Omana, led the training. Participants engaged in a hands-on learning experience that equipped them with strategies to improve their research productivity.



On the 18th of March, an Open House Exhibit **"Open Water: Beyond the Coasts,"** was organized for all UP constituents, including students, faculty, and staff. This event highlighted a collection of MSI-authored books and featured marine science-themed games with accompanying prizes for participants. Attendees had the opportunity to take part at the photo booth, book giveaways, and enjoy a variety of snacks and refreshments. This initiative enabled staff members to showcase their skills in delighting guests with cheerful, friendly greetings.

Moreover, the library hosted its first film showing on March 22, allowing students to unwind prior to the examination period. The films and documentaries shown focused on marine science topics, and complimentary hot chocolate, coffee, and popcorn were provided to all attendees.

The entire MSI community gathered for the renaming of the MSI building to Edgardo Gomez Hall on April 4. This event also celebrated the inauguration of the new Marine Biodiversity Resources and Information System (MBRIS) facility and commemorated MSI's 50th anniversary with a Thanksgiving dinner. A library staff member was appointed as the Floor Manager for this event. Throughout the occasion, more than 50 MSI intellectual works were exhibited.

On June 28, the Anniversary Sports Fest, themed **"Palarong Pinoy,"** was truly remarkable. The library staff and student assistants led the warm-up activity, which effectively energized everyone and created a lively atmosphere. Participants engaged enthusiastically in the games, experiencing a nostalgic return to their childhood.

MSI marked another breakthrough, the **All MSI Homecoming**, on October 26. This gathering brought together current and former staff, faculty, and students. The day began with an exhibit in the Edgardo Gomez Hall showcasing MSI's intellectual products including publications, photo albums, reports, and books. During the event, the library created and displayed a tarpaulin about MSI and Bolinao Publications. Furthermore, the library produced a video and designed a tribute tarpaulin in honor of Dr. Edgardo D. Gomez. In the afternoon, the library facilitated a contest entitled **"Anong Kwentong MSI Mo?"**, in which participants were invited to creatively express their narratives through dance, song, or acting. Cash prizes were awarded to all winners.

These activities show that a library is more than just what we think of. It's not just about books and services, it's a place where people build strong connections and create lasting memories.

For larger orders, consider requesting a Delivery Receipt instead of multiple shipments. This reduces logistical burdens and saves time by ensuring only the selected books are delivered.

Allocate a Budget for Personal Selections

Book fairs also present an opportunity to enhance your personal collection. In addition to books, many fairs feature items like magazines, educational toys, stationery, and other unique merchandise. To avoid overspending, set aside a modest budget for personal purchases. This allows you to indulge in items that fuel your passion for literacy, whether it's

a book for a loved one or a literary-themed tote bag for yourself.

In conclusion, book fairs are not just about acquiring new titles—they provide opportunities to connect, collaborate, and celebrate literacy. By approaching them with preparation, strategy, and purpose, librarians can ensure a productive and enjoyable experience. Whether it's discovering a new book, building relationships with suppliers, or indulging in a personal purchase, the rewards of a well-spent book fair extend far beyond the event itself.

UL ISAIS Hosts Faculty Advancement Program for Impactful Publishing

by E.M. Cruz

The academic culture has increasingly placed emphasis on the generation of new knowledge, highlighting the growing importance of research and innovation. Hence, it is integral for faculty to understand the research publishing process to enable them to produce impactful research publications and effectively disseminate their studies through appropriate channels.



The University Library Diliman, through the Information Services and Instruction Section (ISAIS), offered a faculty advancement program comprising a series of webinars and seminars in partnership with leading academic research databases such as IEEE Xplore, Web of Science, SAGE Publishing, Emerald Publishing, Elsevier, Taylor & Francis, and Springer. With the aim to empower the faculty with publishing knowledge necessary to connect research efforts with achieving impact, the monthly hybrid

talk series was open not just to the faculty of the University of the Philippines, but also to faculty of state universities and colleges (SUCs), local colleges and universities (LUCs), and public and private higher education institutions (HEIs).



The series generally aimed to discuss the publication process; however, each session uniquely shared specialized knowledge and perspectives on different facets of academic research and publishing.

The first session of the series was held on May 24 with the IEEE Manager for Client Services in Asia, Mr. Alex Liu Yupeng. The session focused on guiding authors on preparation, submission, and peer review process for papers targeted specifically to IEEE journals or conferences. The second session held on June 26, led by Ms. Dju-Lyn Chng, Senior Customer Success Consultant at Web of Science, explored journal impact metrics and trends, to help authors identify the most suitable venues for their research publications. It was immediately followed by the third session on July 3 held at the DGE Theater of Melchor Hall.



The session was graced by Dr. Hiram Ting, Emerald Publishing's Brand Ambassador, with topics focusing on empowering authors with the knowledge to disseminate their research and achieve impact beyond academic circles. The fourth session on August 5 with Ms. Rosalia da Garcia, the Managing Director of Sage Asia-Pacific and Central Asia, delved into different topics related to publishing research articles and writing business cases. This whole day-event, held at the Conference Room of the Environmental and Energy Engineering Building (Main Library's temporary location), was specifically catered to those who are new to writing cases or are aspiring authors in business cases. The fifth session was held in IESM Auditorium of College of Science facilitated by Elsevier's Customer Success Team Manager, Mr. Nicholas Pak. This was dedicated to discussing the fundamental concepts related to Generative AI and how it is used in the publishing industry. The sixth one held on October 18 with Director of Research Development & Outreach of Taylor & Francis Group, Ms. Victoria Babbit, talked about navigating and assessing quality open access journals. The seventh session on November 8 with Ms. Kane Kang, Author Services and Asia Training Executive of Cambridge University Press, provided authors with essential insights into the publishing process at Cambridge University Press which includes transformative agreements for Open Access. Lastly, the eighth session discussed deeper by providing a comprehensive overview of the editorial process for an international scientific publication. This session led by Ms. Mabel Tang, Marketing Director of Springer Nature, provided participants with key aspects that they should pay attention to when publishing an article.



The monthly hybrid series undoubtedly kept the UL ISAIS team busy, but they are positive that its impact extends beyond the publishing talks, as participants gained the skills to produce impactful and influential academic research publications.



LEARNING FROM KAOSHIUNG

Navigating the Transformation and Innovation in Libraries

by: M.G. Manalo- Eclar

UP Diliman head librarians and staff, led by Ms. Elvira B. Lapuz, University Librarian, embarked on a comprehensive learning tour to Kaohsiung, Taiwan, from 11-16 October 2024. Organized by Edu-Connect Southeast Asia Association, the tour aimed to facilitate knowledge exchange between educators in Southeast Asia and Southern Taiwan.

The program "Educational City Learning Navigation for Librarians," utilized Dr. Eing-Ming Wu and Dr. Juvy Gervacio's "Conductive Learning Tool" methodology. This approach leverages the city itself as a classroom, allowing participants to learn about local educational practices, entrepreneurship, and livelihood opportunities. Experienced civil servants, public servants, and community leaders also provide valuable insights through lectures and discussions.

Under the guidance of Dr. Wu, a visiting professor at UP NCPAG, and his mentee, Mr. Dexter Lloyd C. Sularte, the UP Diliman delegation explored Kaohsiung's rich cultural heritage and cutting-edge educational facilities. Dr. Wu's engaging and interactive approach enabled the librarians to gain valuable insights into the latest trends in library management and educational technology.



Highlighting Renowned Universities and Libraries

A central focus of the program was visiting renowned universities and libraries. The delegation was warmly welcomed by staff at each library. They received tours of the facilities and participated in dialogue sessions, fostering best practices and knowledge exchange.

- Lee Ko-Yung Memorial Library: Donated by the Lee Ko-Yung Foundation, the library provides public reading services and is a pioneer in inclusive toy lending services.
- Kaohsiung Main Public Library: The delegation marveled at this library's unique design – a suspended structure with no internal beams or columns, creating a spacious and green reading environment. The library's popularity was evident as students eagerly awaited its opening, even on a weekend.

The trip coincided with the Kaohsiung Film Festival, allowing the delegation to attend a forum on the works of renowned anime director Makoto Shinkai. Some of his popular works are: Your Name, Weathering With You, and Suzume.



Experiencing Kaohsiung's Education Ecosystem

The group primarily used Kaohsiung's efficient MRT system for city exploration. However, a visit to National Sun Yat Sen University (NSYSU) involved a 45-minute uphill trek, highlighting Dr. Wu's philosophy of incorporating "conductive learning experiences" through physical activity. NSYSU's scenic campus, with its breathtaking coastal views, offers a unique learning environment. Dr. Chun-Wei Tsai, Associate Vice President of the Office of Library and Information Services, personally guided the delegation through the library, showcasing its transformation into a technologically advanced space focused on innovation and information security.

The Wenzao Ursuline University of Languages welcomed the delegation by displaying their Filipiniana books at the library lobby. The university's well-organized campus and fluent English-speaking library staff further enhanced the experience.

National Kaohsiung University of Science and Technology (NKUST) offered a picturesque campus with manicured lawns and a You-bike rental system for exploring the expansive grounds. The delegation was particularly impressed by the newly renovated library's modern interior, spacious browsing areas, and dedicated exhibition space, where they exchanged ideas with NKUST library staff.

The final stop was the National Kaohsiung University of Hospitality and Tourism. Despite its humble library, the university's dedication to promoting its programs was evident. The library's unique board game educating students on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) exemplified their innovative approach.

A Transforming Experience

The learning tour proved to be an unforgettable experience for the UP Diliman delegation. They gained valuable knowledge not only from fellow librarians but also from Dr. Wu, Mr. Sularte, and the welcoming Taiwanese people. The insights gleaned from Kaohsiung's diverse educational landscape will undoubtedly contribute to the development of UPD Libraries, shaping future learning experiences for the academic community.

ULGA 2024: CELEBRATING SUCCESS, GRATITUDE, AND TOGETHERNESS

by the ULGA 2024 Documentation Committee



The University Library's annual celebration is a cherished tradition, bringing together personnel to commemorate the year's accomplishments and welcome new members to the team. This year, the much-anticipated event embraced the theme *Panagrambak: Pulong at Pista sa Aklatan*. "Panagrambak," an Ilocano term meaning celebration, aptly captured the festive spirit. Held on 13 December 2024, at the UP Diliman Environmental and Energy Engineering Building lobby, the event embraced the spirit of a Filipino fiesta, fusing Filipino traditions and festivities into one event, and highlighting the vibrant, colorful Filipino culture.

Highlights of the Celebration

The event unfolded in two parts. The first part began with opening remarks by Deputy University Librarian Ms. Eimee Rhea C. Lagrama, followed by the *Talumpati sa Kalagayan ng Aklatan 2024* delivered by University Librarian Ms. Elvira Lapuz. The report highlighted key projects and achievements, including:

- Notable Initiatives:
 - The Great InfoHunt 2024 by the ISAIS
 - Akda at Hayag: A Talk on Impactful Publishing
- Individual Recognitions:
 - 2024 ULirang Kawani Awardees:
 - Jerald Denise C. Evangelista (Administrative Personnel Level I)
 - Therghie I. Ablin (Professional Level I)
 - Chito N. Angeles (Professional Level II)
- Acknowledgments:
 - The successful launch of ANINAW, the rebranded official newsletter of the University Library.
- Awardees:
 - Therghie I. Ablin, Michelle Ann G. Manalo-Eclar, Eunice Ann Y. Chua (REPS Awardees)
 - Sharon Maria S. Esposito-Betan, Rizalyn V. Janio, Chito N. Angeles (REPS Chair Awardees)

- College of Engineering Library Campaign: *I Need. I Value. I Love My Library.*
- College of Education Library Outreach Program: *Books As Bridges: Building Bonds Through Sharing Stories*
- Tagisan ng Talino: Bet on Your Bestie! – A quiz show celebrating the 34th Library and Information Services Month by AASDI in collaboration with the University Library's Strategic Communication, Research and Marketing Section.



Part Two: Games, Performances, and Giveaways

For the second part of the program, various activities such as games, performances, and giveaways were held to entertain the audience. Mr. Marzo Meco Alfonso showcased his saxophone skills, the bindery boys performed a dance number, and the new staff delivered a vibrant dance performance.

The games were both fun and exciting, with winners receiving prizes. Additionally, Bingo was played in three sets, and monetary rewards were given to the winners. Participants wearing the best costumes were also recognized, with three individuals receiving special prizes namely Anthony N. Atuel from Main Library (3rd), May Anne F. Ramos from the College of Engineering (2nd), Anthony A. Atibagos from the School of Statistics (1st).

Throughout the event, food and refreshments were readily available. Traditional Filipino treats such as biko, taho, bibingka, and sorbetes were served, adding to the cultural ambiance. Likewise, Juan Gabriel A. De Leon brought his homemade brownies and shared them with everyone. The event radiated a truly traditional Filipino vibe from start to finish.



A Time to Celebrate and Look Ahead

This year's General Assembly was a perfect occasion for people to celebrate their achievements, reminisce about joyful memories with friends and acquaintances, and look forward to brighter years ahead. This successful program was made possible by the University Library General Assembly Committee 2024, led by Ms. Michelle Ann G. Manalo-Eclar as Chairperson, along with the dedicated efforts of the committee members and subcommittee members.



Upskilling and Engagement Initiatives

Several committees organized training programs to enhance staff skills and foster development:

- Staff Training and Development Committee (STDC):
 - Skill UP: Maximizing Staff Potentials – A week-long series covering financial literacy, business communication, practical Filipino language application, and social media content creation.
- University Archives and Strategic Communication:
 - SP Lopez: The Radical President – An exhibit showcasing the Salvador P. Lopez Papers in partnership with PCCA and UPD OICA.
- Information Services and Instruction Section (ISAIS):
 - SAGWANAN: The University Library Book and E-Fair 2024 in collaboration with the College of Social Sciences and Philosophy.

Celebratory Events

Other noteworthy programs included:

- CHE Library: *SALAMISIM* – Honoring past CHE deans' contributions and legacy.
- UP SLIS Library: *BTS: Run Born to Sablay: Research Unlimited* – A thesis marathon activity for UP SLIS students.
- Library Extension Committee: *iLearn LEADers*
- University Library Research Committee (LRC):
 - *Diving Deep: A Sandbox Training-Workshop on Qualitative Research for Librarians*

HAGDAN NG PAGNINILAY

by the 2024 Lantern Committee

The UP Diliman Lantern Parade is a yearly event that showcases the creativity and collaborative efforts of everyone in the UP Community. The Office of the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs (OVCAA) has joined the parade this year with their lantern, "Hagdan ng Pagninilay." The design of the lantern shows the academic journey of UP's scholars in achieving success in their academic life through reflection and hard work, similar to our theme of "Nilay at Sikhay."

The lantern's design is a spiral staircase leading to the Oblation at the top. This symbolizes the university's pursuit of excellence. Along the spiral staircase are the eight offices under the OVCAA. This highlights how these offices work together in order to support the academic needs of the UP Community. What makes the lantern design different is not just its symbolism but also its sustainability. The lantern was built using bamboo, recycled cardboard, and plastic. The use of recyclable materials shows the commitment of the OVCAA in enacting eco-friendly practices.

The lantern received mixed to mostly positive feedback from staff and community members who saw it. The positive feedback praises the lantern for following the theme, saying, "Maganda at match sa theme." Some also liked parts of the lantern and said, "Good, it's so nice. I love the hagdan." Another comment stated, "Hindi ka mahihiyang sabihin na amin 'to," which shows the staff's pride in being part of the office that produced this lantern.

One detailed feedback mentioned how the lantern has successfully shown the theme of reflection and hard work. The staircase, which

was illuminated by the Christmas lights, and the silhouettes of the students who are about to climb the stairs, shows the students' journey of growth, understanding, and reflection. The offices, being the stairs, is an effective way of showing the role of the offices in supporting students throughout their journey. However, the same feedback also mentioned that while the message is clear, it is familiar and predictable. It might've been better to have an element that is thought-provoking that will lead viewers to reflect on what they have seen.

The lantern of the OVCAA is more than just a decoration, it is a reminder that shared effort and collaboration of many is needed to achieve success. Each part of the lantern's design showcases this collaborative nature of the offices in the university. It is a visual expression of the idea that progress and success is not achieved alone, it is achieved by the combined effort of many.

Creating the lantern "Hagdan ng Pagninilay," took hard work, creativity, and the collaborative effort of the OVCAA team. Their thought-provoking and eco-friendly design shows a commitment to both artistic expression and environmental care. The positive feedback from the staff shows the pride and appreciation for this effort. The suggestions for improvement is something to take into consideration for next year's lantern. As it shined during the parade, hopefully it made the UP community reflect on the importance of hard work and collaboration needed in helping the UP community achieve excellence.





PLAI CONGRESS ADDRESSES THE FUTURE

2024 PLAI CONGRESS AND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Knowledge Integration: Connecting Minds, Empowering Communities

Grand Menseng Hotel
11.19-22.24
DAVAO CITY

Collaborative. Transformative. Empowering. These three words resonated in Davao City as delegates from all over the country gathered at the Grand Menseng Hotel on 19-22 November 2024. For librarians and information professionals, this wasn't just another conference – it was the **PLAI National Congress and General Assembly**, a hallmark event organized by the Philippine Librarians Association, Inc. (PLAI), the PRC accredited professional association of librarians in the country. It served as a platform to reconnect, redefine, and refuel the passion for the Library and Information Science (LIS) Profession.

The four-day event brought together an inspiring group of delegates, including a prominent contingent from the University of the Philippines Diliman (UP Diliman). Librarians and information professionals from all over the country engaged in plenary sessions and parallel presentations, all designed to discuss pressing concerns and endless opportunities in the library profession. The theme of PLAI 2024, *"Knowledge Integration: Connecting Minds, Empowering Communities"*, was more than just a catchphrase; it was a call to action. Throughout the congress, the transformation of libraries from quiet repositories of books into dynamic, forward-thinking spaces for learning, inclusion, collaboration, and empowerment was in the vanguard of every conversation.

The UP Diliman delegation was, unsurprisingly, at the heart of the action – from plenary to parallel sessions, they were active and present in sharing their knowledge, experiences, and expertise.

The plenary sessions collectively underscored the objectives of the congress, emphasizing libraries as dynamic agents of change. It began with a call for more powerful and louder initiatives for sustainable libraries and community engagement.

Representing SDG Sulong, an advocacy group advancing libraries' contributions to the SDGs in the Philippines, Ms. Sharon Maria S. Esposito-Betan led her team – Mr. Martian A. Jinio and Ms. Eunice Ann Yutuc Chua – to discuss the evolving roles of librarians and libraries in sustainable development through their presentation titled, *"Keeping up with the SDGs: PH Libraries Edition."* SDG Sulong seeks to celebrate and amplify the vibrant stories of Philippine libraries that are making significant strides in promoting the SDGs. With the call to action, *"Lumikha, Kumilos, at Magbahagi"*, the initiative aims to inspire libraries to design, act, and share innovative and meaningful contributions to the SDGs.



Another significant session centered on the role of libraries in championing diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI). The presentation titled, *"Libraries Role in Promoting Information Equity and Inclusion,"* delivered by the University Librarian, Ms. Elvira B. Lapuz emphasized that libraries serve as hubs that embrace and reflect the diversity of their communities. That by offering accessible resources, inclusive programming, and safe spaces for marginalized voices, libraries actively foster equity and belonging. Ensuring that collections, services, and staffing represent diverse perspectives is essential to creating environments where all users feel seen, valued, and represented.

The parallel sessions complemented the plenary discussions by offering institution-centered approaches and practices on topics such as cultural heritage preservation, digital transformation, community engagement, professional development, and advocacy for marginalized groups.

The Deputy University Librarian, Ms. Eimee Rhea C. Lagrama, engaged the audience with her presentation, *"Documenting Filipiniana Collections Abroad: A Research Project at the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor."* This shed light on the methodologies and challenges of identifying, preserving, and making accessible Philippine collections in cultural institutions in other countries, emphasizing the role of academic libraries in safeguarding the nation's heritage.

Adding depth to the congress, the Information Literacy Core of the University Library—Mr. Nikko Angelo Lastimosa, Ms. Eunice Ann Yutuc Chua, Mr. A.B. Gideon N. De Castro, Mr. Mark Xavier G. Dumlaog, Ms. Ma. Christine G. Hernandez, Ms. Jessica M. Tumlos, Mr. Marzo Meco B. Alfonso, Ms. Michelle Anne S. de Leon, Ms. Alessandra A. Guimba, Mr. Martian A. Jinio, and Ms. Rizalyn V. Janio – highlighted the evolution of their initiatives through *"Building the Core: A Longitudinal Study of the University Library, UP Diliman ISAIS IL Initiatives Across Learning Modalities."* This longitudinal study highlighted the transformative impact of information literacy programs across learning modalities.



Meanwhile, a sense of nostalgia filled the room as Ms. Ericka May R. Fernando, Mr. Lucan L. Eugenio, Ms. Maria Criselda D. Pabalan, and Ms. Eimee Rhea C. Lagrama of the University Archives Division shared *"Unveiling Philippine Library History: An Overview of the UP-Library Bulletin Digitization Project."* Their work provided an overview of the UP-Library Bulletin Digitization Project, aimed at preserving and showcasing the history of UP and Philippine libraries.

Creativity took center stage when Ms. Aiza V. Palaya, along with her team from the College of Mass Communication Library—Mr. John Christian A. Abalos, Ms. Angela Faye I. Aquino, Mr. Calvin P. Guzman, Ms. Anna Mae H. Manalo, and Ms. Jamela C. Tolentino—presented **“What Do You Meme? Positioning Content Creation in Libraries 4.0.”** Their lively session explored how digital media, particularly memes, can revolutionize audience engagement in libraries, offering a playful yet meaningful glimpse into Libraries 4.0.

Lastly, Mr. Emmanuel Uriel G. Solmirano from the School of Statistics Library explored how academic libraries can support emerging industries through his presentation, **“E-Sports: The Familiarity Levels of UP Diliman Librarians with the E-Sports Industry in Southeast Asia.”**

While these represent some of the presentations, the PLAI Congress also proved to be a valuable venue for networking. It brought together librarians, educators, and information professionals from diverse backgrounds — spanning academic, public, school, and special libraries — and from different parts of the world. Engaging conversations with senior librarians offered mentorship opportunities and insights into career development.



Finally, before the congress concluded, two shining stars from the UPD Libraries were recognized for their exceptional dedication and contributions to the profession. Mr. Chito N. Angeles, Head Librarian of the Information Technology Division, was honored with the 2024 PLAI **“Gawad Parangal sa Natatanging Laybraryan,”** while Ms. Sharon Maria S. Esposo-Betan, Head Librarian of the College of Engineering Library, received the same prestigious award for 2023. This accolade is reserved for librarians who exemplify excellence, innovation, and transformative leadership in librarianship.

Indeed, it was clear that by adapting to change and embracing new opportunities, libraries have always stood at the forefront of continuous progress — bridging gaps, recalibrating minds, and transforming challenges into countless possibilities that uplift and connect communities, inspiring individuals to do the same. With the discussions and ideas shared, it is evident that the future of libraries in the Philippines is bright and, ultimately, unstoppable — confronting challenges of our time, positioning libraries as dynamic forces driving cultural preservation, digital transformation, and empowering communities to take charge of their futures.

This is just a testament to the limitless possibilities of what Philippine libraries can become.

by M.A. Jinio and N.D. Lastimosa

University Library Diliman Library goes to 5th Conference on Library and Information Studies

by A.A. Guimba

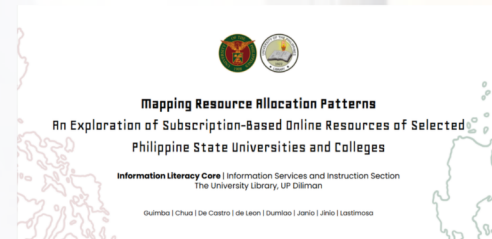
A two-day online conference on *Tapping the Uncharted: Advancing Library Practices in Evolving Landscapes* held 1-2 August 2024 was hosted by DLSU Libraries, in collaboration with the Philippine Normal University Library and Information Science Alumni Association (PNULISAA). The conference gathered local communities of library and information professionals to discuss often-overlooked topics in the field of library and information studies. The conference was designed to equip and inspire library professionals in navigating sub-themes on unbounded knowledge, uncharted user groups, unconventional library services, and uncontested landscapes; each of which consisted of interesting knowledge domains. All papers were presented online during the conference proper on 1-2 August 2024.

A pre-conference learning challenge on 31 July 2024 at 14F Henry Sy Sr. Hall, De La Salle University, Manila, Philippines was accepted by six librarians from the University of the Philippines Diliman. With lecturer Ms. Marian R. Eclevia, the event aimed at developing research questions, designing effective search strategies, evaluating critically relevant studies and integrating results to yield comprehensive research findings.

Following the face-to-face lecture, twelve papers which underwent careful examination took center stage, allowing the presenters to listen and take in valuable insights from the panel of experts who critiqued the papers. The University of the Philippines had two papers qualified for the colloquium.

Mapping Resource Allocation Patterns: An Exploration of Online Database Subscriptions of Selected Philippine State Universities and Colleges set out that libraries need “... to adapt to the changing paradigms and emergence of new studies”. Nineteen (19) state universities completed the SUC Online Subscription Needs Assessment Survey. Towards the conclusion,

“a comprehensive approach to planning and implementation of proactive measures to address the needs of the library users against the challenges surrounding the academic libraries” is recommended. To strengthen the findings, the paper should have expanded its participants to ensure an accurate picture.



Under the uncontested landscapes theme, the paper *Optimizing Strategic Communication: An Assessment of the Effectiveness of UP Diliman University Library's Approach* explored strategic communication to refine internal communication processes in the context of academic libraries. Because 39 head librarians responded in the questionnaire distributed by the researchers coming from the StratComm, the findings equipped the University Library and its personnel with the information needed to fulfill its mandate effectively.



Attendance at conferences offers a venue to disseminate the results of completed research and contribute to the growing number of librarians participating in research. This is a step forward in encouraging the pursuit of research interests and effecting a change in the community.



LIBRARIANS SHINE AT SULONG REPS:

A CELEBRATION OF EXCELLENCE AND PROGRESS

by M.A. Jinio

The highly anticipated UP Diliman REPS General Assembly and Colloquium, with the theme *SULONG REPS: Sama-samang Uunlad at Lalakas ang Organisadong REPS*, marked a significant milestone for the Research, Extension, and Professional Staff (REPS) community. Held on 10 December 2024, at the GT-Toyota Asian Center Auditorium, the event was graced by the presence of UP President, Atty. Angelo A. Jimenez and UP Diliman Chancellor, Edgardo Carlo L. Vistan II recognizing the valuable role of REPS in the University's academic and research landscape. Organized by the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research and Development (OVCRD) and the REPS Welfare Council (RWC), the program celebrated the outstanding contributions of its members and fostered a day of inspiration and collaboration.

Discussions centered on development plans and featured poster presentations, along with the recognition of individuals who have excelled in their respective fields. During the ceremony, the UP Diliman REPS Chair and REPS Awards were introduced to honor outstanding achievements in research, creative work, extension, and professional public service. According to Ms. Sarah Andrea Briones Yan, a member of the REPS Chair/Awards Ad Hoc Committee, these awards aim to recognize REPS' vital contributions to knowledge advancement, the development of new programs, and the overall mission of the University of the Philippines as a research university.

Beyond celebrating accomplishments, the assembly provided a platform for forward-looking initiatives such as the REPS Mentorship Program, designed to empower the REPS community. It also encouraged open discussions, the sharing of knowledge and experiences, and the forging of meaningful connections – all of which strengthen the collective voice and action of the REPS.

Librarians in the Spotlight

The event's highlight was the recognition of the REPS Chair and Awardees, which included seven librarians. Among them, four librarians received the **REPS Chair Award**, and three librarians were honored with the **REPS Award**.

REPS Chair Awards recognizes the highest-performing REPS personnel with Salary Grade (SG) 18 and above, accompanied by poster presentations showcasing their careers and achievements. This year's distinguished awardees from the University Library (UL) were:

- Mr. Chito N. Angeles – Former University Librarian and current head of the Information Technology Division
- Ms. Sharon Maria S. Esposo-Betan – Head of the College of Engineering Libraries
- Ms. Jessie Rose M. Bagunu – Head of the School of Library and Information Studies Library
- Ms. Rizalyn V. Janio – Head of the Information Services and Instruction Section

The REPS Award, meanwhile, is presented to the highest-performing REPS personnel below SG 18. This year's recipients from the UL were:

- Ms. Michelle Ann G. Manalo-Eclar – Head of the Strategic Communication, Marketing and Research Section
- Ms. Therghie I. Ablin-Constantino – Head of the UP Integrated School Libraries
- Ms. Eunice Ann Yutuc Chua – College Librarian from the University Library



Poster Presentations

The colloquium featured an impressive selection of poster presentations from REPS who responded to the call for papers. Among the accepted submissions was from the UL, titled *Bridging Decades of Timeless Knowledge: The Gonzalez Hall Building Renovation Progress*, which documents the renovation of Gonzalez Hall since it began in 2019. While the completion date remains uncertain, the anticipation continues to grow for a sustainable and significantly enhanced facility, featuring improved security, quality library resources, and services, all aimed at benefiting future generations of scholars.



In addition, REPS who previously received travel grants to attend national and international conferences shared their insights through poster presentations. The UL staff members who presented posters include:

- Ms. Therghie I. Ablin-Constantino, whose poster highlighted the *ItenZfied School Libraries: Fostering Diversity and Inclusivity* conference and how the insights gained can be applied to UPIS Libraries. The conference was held from 26-28 June 2024, in Baguio City, organized by the Philippine Association of School Librarians, Inc. and Saint Louis University.
- The poster by Ms. Sheryl T. Gerodias, Rheabelle R. Velasco, Emar G. Pascual, and Melvin A. Melencio focused on the *Shh..ift Happens: Academic Library Leadership Challenges and Opportunities PAARL (Inter)National Summer Conference*, held from 23-26 April 2024, in Cagayan de Oro City.
- Ms. Grace Garcia's poster discussed the leadership training she attended at the *Emerging Library Leaders' Summer School for Asia-Pacific*, held at Singapore Management University from 7-12 July 2024.



Plenary Sessions

The event also featured presentations showcasing the research, public service initiatives, and professional development efforts of five REPS Chair recipients and five REPS Development Fund (RDF) grantees.

One of the REPS Chair Awardees, Mr. Chito N. Angeles, took a unique approach during the plenary session by delivering a presentation titled *Transforming Libraries: The Evolving Roles of Information Professionals in the Digital Age*. Rather than focusing solely on his personal achievements, his talk underscored the transformative journey of libraries and the roles of librarians in a digital world. He discussed the skills librarians must acquire to stay relevant and shared the University Library's digitization efforts, as well as in-house systems designed to meet diverse needs. Additionally, he presented his recently published journal articles, underscoring his commitment to lifelong learning and continuous scholarly development.

Mr. Martian A. Jinio, from the Information Technology Division and an RDF grantee, shared key insights from his participation in the PLA National Congress and General Assembly held from 19–22 November 2024, in Davao City. His presentation offered a participant's perspective, covering topics such as the evolving roles of librarians, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI), community engagement, and digital literacy.

Election Results of RPFC and RWC

The assembly marked the transition of leadership in the RWC and REPS Personnel and Fellowship Committee (RPFC), with outgoing members bidding farewell and new members taking on their roles. Among the members from the UL, who have accepted these undeniably challenging but fulfilling roles are:

- A.B. Gideon N. De Castro (College Librarian, University Library) – RPFC
- Sharon Maria S. Esposo-Betan – RWC (Head Librarian, College of Engineering)
- Aiza May V. Palaya (College Librarian, College of Mass Communication Library) – RWC

The UPD REPS General Assembly and Colloquium is a testament to the collective voice and action of the REPS community. Despite some technical glitches, the event successfully provided a platform for REPS to network, share ideas and knowledge, and raise concerns. While REPS are divided into various sectors and fields, this diversity represents their equally significant roles within the University. It emphasizes the importance of looking beyond these classifications toward unity, collective growth, and improvement. The assembly reflected the journey of each Research, Extension, and Professional Staff member in achieving common goals and driving progress for the entire UP community.



HIGH RISK, HIGH REWARD: AN INSIDE LOOK INTO THE UL RPFC

October marked both an end and a beginning for the University Library REPS Personnel and Fellowship Committee (UL RPFC). For Ms. Irene B. Sia and Ms. Michelle Ann G. Manalo-Eclar, it was the end of their term of office, but for another pair, it was the start of something new.

On 18 October 2024, the University Library welcomed Ms. Grace A. Garcia and Ms. Eunice Ann Yutuc Chua as the newest members of the UL RPFC with their term of office from 26 October 2024 to 25 October 2026.

The RPFC oversees the review, evaluation, and endorsement of recommendations for the appointment, tenure, and promotion of REPS personnel in the University Library. Although the review, interview, deliberation, and selection process of the RPFC remains confidential, we can offer an insight into what it is like to be part of the committee.

Former member, Ms. Mitch, shared how she offered several people a nomination for the position. The majority, however, declined. When asked why, she suspected they may have been wary of the workload of being part of the RPFC which, she assured, was warranted. With the recent increase of open positions and applicants nearly every month, the RPFC had its hands full. This includes preparing and conducting the exams, interviews, and everything else that came after. Ms. Mitch also shared how the RPFC was prone to unavoidable abrupt rescheduling as all members of the RPFC needed to be present during the interviews and the deliberation process. Among these, she shared that finding the right tricky question during the interviews was uniquely difficult.

Though Ms. Eunice had only recently begun her role with the committee, she shared a similar concern.

On occasions when the job openings were for a higher position, she would have to interview applicants whose personal and professional experiences outnumbered her own. In these situations, what could she ask someone much older and with more extensive credentials than her?

Despite these, they both enjoyed interviewing applicants. Even with back-to-back interviews and fatigue written on their faces, it was a chance to meet people from different backgrounds, see their past achievements and experiences, and pry more into their strengths and specialties. There was much to learn from the applicants and even from their fellow committee members as they each leveraged their unique strengths, and professional and personal experiences to assess each applicant thoroughly. Together, they ensured a meticulous and objective process even toward their fellow staff or acquaintances.

When asked if she would be willing to be part of the RPFC again, Ms. Mitch was enthusiastic. Despite the fatigue she experienced during her term, it was a fun experience, and with her knowledge of the RPFC processes, she knew well where she needed to focus her efforts when improving her credentials for a possible promotion.

As for Ms. Eunice who accepted the nomination despite the warnings, she saw her role as an opportunity for professional growth that is impossible to ignore. Ms. Mitch can also attest that these opportunities offer a lot to learn and experience, no matter how daunting they may seem. By embarking on something new, stepping beyond our comfort zones, and keeping our eyes on professionalism and learning, the UL RPFC is just one example of the avenues the staff can take toward growth.

by Z.C. Garcia





THE 2024 PHOTOVOICE PROJECT: Participation by The University Library

by M.B. Alfonso, CSSP Library

Last November saw the launch of the 2024 Photovoice Project by the National Committee on Libraries and Information Services of the National Commission for Culture and the Arts. Part of the 34th Library and Information Services Month (LISM), themed "LibVOCACY: Unity towards Inclusive and Empowered Libraries," the initiative aimed to showcase local heritage collections from libraries and learning resource centers nationwide through an accessible online photo exhibit.

The 2024 Photovoice Project included the collections of ten participating institutions, including four divisions/sections under The University Library: the Filipiniana Books Section (under the name of The University Library), the Special Collections Section, the College of Social Sciences and Philosophy Library, and the University Archives Division.

The Filipiniana Books Section featured three titles, including a 1946 treaty between the United States of America and the Republic of the Philippines regarding air routes and services. Similarly, the Special Collections Section featured two rare books, as well as the first volume of *Islas Filipinas*, a three-part map made in the mid-19th century; it is the first modern topographical map of the country. This was

not the first time the Filipiniana Books and Special Collections Section joined the Photovoice Project, having also contributed to the submission of The University Library the previous year. Aside from them, the UP Asian Center Library and the UP Integrated School Library also participated in the 2023 Photovoice Project.

The College of Social Sciences and Philosophy (CSSP) Library and the University Archives Division, on the other hand, were new participants in the initiative. The former featured three hundred-year-old books from the Daniel Boone Schirmer collection, which is located at the CSSP Reading Hall inside the Palma Hall. The latter featured three volumes of the *Philippinensian*, the seniors' souvenir yearbook of the University of the Philippines, which discontinued publication and was replaced by college-based yearbooks; it recorded student life, activities, and other notable aspects of the University culture. The volumes featured were from significant years in the history of the University: (1) 1915, the inaugural issue of the publication; (2) 1942-46, which featured the effects of World War II in the University, including the post-war realities its graduates faced; and, (3) 1949, the first issue released after UP transferred to its Diliman campus. In the exhibit, each featured title was described in

terms of its basic bibliographic details, its mode of acquisition, its physical condition, and its significance to its institution's immediate community.

As recognition for their diligent participation in Photovoice Project, the four divisions/sections of The University Library were presented with plaques of appreciation during the Awarding Ceremony in Davao City on 20 November 2024 and also during the Joint LISM-NBW 2024 Awarding and Closing Ceremonies at the National Library of the Philippines on 29 November 2024.

It would not come as a surprise that a colorful variety of materials makes up The University Library, with every section housing its own valuable, significant collection. In the midst of our iridescent collections, however, are individual materials with their own unique stories. The 2024 Photovoice Project served as a reminder to still mind them one title at a time.

The online exhibit can be accessed through the following link: [2024 Photovoice Project](#).



WHAT'S NEW:

UPGRADED INFORMATION LITERACY PROGRAMS FROM THE INFORMATION SERVICES AND INSTRUCTION

Reference service serves as a cornerstone of the University Library's mission to provide the best to the research and learning requirements of the academic community. As a new semester begins, the University Library, through the Information Services and Instruction Section (ISAIS), continues to enhance its information literacy program. The ISAIS has launched two exciting new programs: **RMEkot: Bringing Research Made Easy Closer** to Colleges and the revamped library orientation and instruction program, **TALASIK: The Library Orientation and Instruction Program of The University Library**.

RMEkot is an innovative library orientation caravan inspired by the iconic UP Ikot jeepney. This library orientation program is designed to make academic support more accessible. Instead of requiring students and faculty to visit the University Library, the reference librarian will deliver hour-long orientation sessions directly at their respective college unit libraries, either face-to-face or via Zoom. RMEkot's goal is to familiarize the users with the library services and resources in the user services division. This allows students and faculty to explore and utilize the resources, thus empowering the UPD community to navigate the University's Main Library offerings effectively.

Collaboration from eight college unit libraries is crucial to the pilot program's success. These libraries span various disciplines, including the Cesar E.A. Virata School of Business Library (VSB Library), College of Education Library, College of Social Work and Community Development Library (CSWCD Library), College of Home Economics Library (CHE Library), College of Human Kinetics Library (CHK Library), SOLHEIM Library (UP School of Archaeology), College of Music Library, and the Technology Management Center Library (TMC Library). This initiative equips students, faculty, and library staff with the essential skills to effectively navigate the university's diverse academic resources—from specialized databases to library services—thereby enhancing their research and academic success.

TALASIK: The Library Orientation and Instruction Program of The University Library program, revamped to deepen research skills and optimize the use of library resources. The name **TALASIK** is derived from the words *talas* (keenness) and *saliksik* (research or exploration), reflecting the program's goal of fostering "sharpened research" by helping users critically evaluate information and efficiently navigate library services. **TALASIK** improves upon the previous "Research Made Easy

(RME)" orientation by dividing it into two components: **TALAS** and **SALIKSİK**. **TALAS** is a 30-minute orientation session designed to introduce users to the UP Diliman Main Library's services, spaces, and resources. Delivered via Zoom, it aims to familiarize users with the various academic and research tools available to them.

SALIKSİK, an hour-long customizable session, offers in-depth training on the library's resources, such as local databases, online subscriptions, and digital tools. Currently, it offers targeted instruction on Local Databases, Online Subscriptions, Microfilm, and Digital Tools. **SALIKSİK** will also include modules on Media and Information Literacy (MIL), Data Privacy and Research Ethics, Research as Inquiry, and Artificial Intelligence (AI) in the Second (2nd) Semester of the Academic Year 2024-2025.

To date, **TALASIK** has assisted 52 faculty members, and the program continues to adapt the instruction to meet the diverse needs of its users. Overall, the new and upgraded information literacy programs from ISAIS significantly strengthen the ability of librarians to support and empower both students and faculty in their academic pursuits. These initiatives develop essential research skills and equip the UPD community with practical tools to navigate the challenges of scholarly research in today's fast-changing landscape.

by J.M. Tumlos, Main Library



DOCUMENTING FILIPINIANA MATERIALS: A RESEARCH PROJECT IN ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN

In August 2024, I undertook a project in Michigan, to document Philippine materials housed in the Bentley Historical Library (BHL) at the University of Michigan - Ann Arbor (UMAA). This initiative was spearheaded by Dr. Ricardo Punzalan, a faculty member of the University of Michigan School of Information, and Dr. Alexis Antracoli, the director of BHL. They invited me to serve as the library's resident researcher for this endeavor. The Bentley Historical Library serves as the institutional archives of both the University of Michigan and the city of Ann Arbor.

The project aimed to identify, evaluate, and document the extent, condition, and content of Filipiniana materials within BHL's collections. These materials, while significant in research and historical value, had previously been underexplored. Although Filipino scholars and researchers had visited the library and used these collections in the past, their focus on specific projects often precluded a comprehensive understanding of the collections' scope and significance.

This initiative was significant due to its:

- Documentation of existing Filipiniana materials in a foreign institution to improve access for current and future researchers.
- Provision of more specific and accurate subject descriptions for identified materials.
- Identification and correction (if any) of errors, misleading information, biased, outdated, or harmful descriptions.
- Suggestion of more appropriate language for documenting and describing these collections.

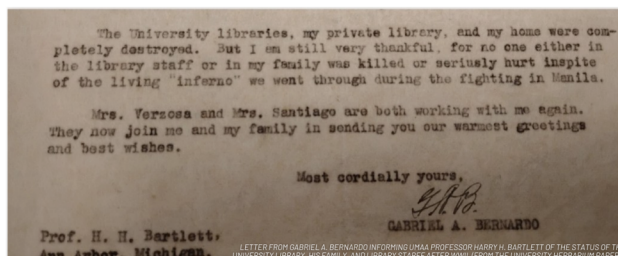
The findings of this project will aid the BHL in designing a robust preservation program and prioritizing digitization efforts. Moreover, it will enhance researchers' ability to locate relevant materials and support the culturally responsive and historically informed goals of the University of Michigan School of Information's **ReCollect/ReConnect** project. This initiative focuses on fostering better stewardship of Philippine collections at UMAA.



Key Collections Discovered

Among the valuable collections identified at BHL were the **Harley Harris Bartlett Papers** and the **University Herbarium Papers**. These include:

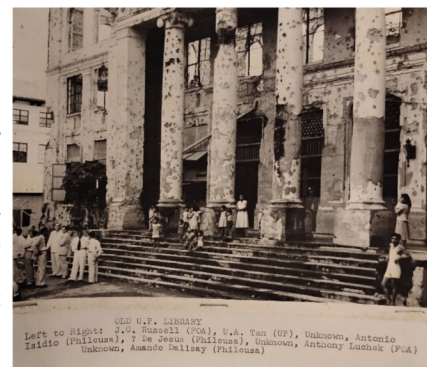
- Photographs, diaries, and correspondence by Prof. Harley Bartlett, who served as an exchange professor from the University of Michigan to the University of the Philippines (UP) during 1934-1935. Despite his short tenure, Bartlett maintained a detailed daily diary, recording his experiences, observations, travels, and activities as a professor at UP. His collection also features photos, event programs, clippings, and correspondence with notable UP faculty, such as Prof. Gabriel Bernardo of the University Library and UP President Bienvenido Gonzalez.
- Correspondence from Bartlett's post-World War II tenure as the director of the University Herbarium at UM, detailing collaborations with Prof. Bernardo and UP alumni on efforts to rebuild UP's library after its wartime destruction.



Another collection of particular interest was the Gerald Ford School of Public Policy's materials, which include:

- Correspondence, documents, and photographs chronicling UM's role in establishing UP's School of Public Administration post-WWII and the study of Public Administration and Governance in the country. UM's support as a "sister school" to UP was instrumental in the latter's recovery after the war.

Additional collections of value to researchers included the papers of **Frank Behner** and **John C. Early**, American educators (Thomasites) who played a crucial role in establishing educational institutions in the Philippines during the early years of U.S. occupation.



Continuing the Work

The documentation of Philippine materials at BHL is only the beginning. The University of Michigan's broader archival holdings, spread across multiple libraries and archives, contain additional Filipiniana materials waiting to be explored. Comprehensive documentation is essential to making these collections discoverable and accessible to researchers for years to come. This project marks a significant step toward that goal.

by E.C. Lagrama

CHE LIBRARY PRESENTS:

SALAMISIM

SALAMISIM:

The Legacy of the College of Home Economics through an Online Archival Exhibition

The College of Home Economics (CHE) boasts a rich history that embodies the legacy and identity of the institution, evolving from the Department of Home Economics at the College of Education in 1921 to its establishment as a college unit in 1961. To honor and recognize the College's historical value, the College of Home Economics Library launched a series of online exhibitions titled "SALAMISIM" in June 2024 featured on the CHE library Facebook page. Salamisim is a Filipino word derived from a Spanish word that means reminiscing events from the past. This initiative aspires to bridge the generational gap and reconnect students, alumni, scholars, and researchers with the College's past by showcasing invaluable archival collections including photographs, documents, and artifacts. These archival collections highlight key events, achievements, and contributions of notable figures in the College's history, emphasizing the evolution of home economics in the Philippines and its global impact.

The Salamisim series features weekly posts on the College of Home Economics Library Facebook page every Friday. The first exhibit was about the story of the first Dean, Dr. Presentacion T. Perez, focusing on her life before she became the Dean and her accomplishments throughout her Deanship. The second exhibit featured the history of the establishment of the College of Home Economics—from being a department of the College of Education, until it was established as a college unit in 1961, with the efforts of Dean Perez. The starting years of the College offered only two (2) undergraduate programs—BS in Food Technology (BSFT) and BS in Home Economics (BSHE), major in any of the following fields: Nutrition and Dietetics; Home Arts; Clothing, Textiles, and Related Arts; Family Life and Child Development; Clothing, Home Furnishing, and Crafts Merchandising; and Food and Equipment Merchandising. With continuous development, the College of Home Economics expanded its curriculum offering a wider range of programs to facilitate more students, adding five (5) undergraduate programs, and nine (9) graduate programs. In the succeeding years, the College also developed five (5) college departments based on their existing programs.

An ongoing Salamisim exhibit, launched in October 2024, highlights the inspiring stories of the 13 CHE Deans, while future features will delve into the history of the CHE logo and its faculty through the decades.

The eight subject-featured Facebook insights showing higher-than-typical reach, impressions, and interactions indicate that the content resonates well with the audience.

As part of acknowledging the significance of history, the UP CHE Library aims to commemorate the rich history of the College of Home Economics. Indeed, the SALAMISIM reflects the UP CHE Library's commitment to preserving and honoring the College's history, ensuring that its legacy is remembered and appreciated.



by G.A. Garcia, J.T. Tawaken, and B.P. Ferrer, CHE Library

Preserving the Rich and Varied Past:

CHE Library Receives NCCA Technical Assistance Program Grant

The College of Home Economics, founded on 27 July 1961, has a rich and varied past as it is one of the representations that paved the way for the development and enrichment of home economics education, research, and community service. Over the years, this institution has built a sizable collection of historical materials that trace its history, accomplishments, and contributions. The archival collections from 1936 to 2020 are currently housed in the CHE Library. The archival materials constitute the College's permanent records such as reports, directives, policies, correspondence, ephemera, memorabilia, artifacts, photographs, and other documents deemed necessary to preserve. However, the collections have deteriorated due to lack of suitable space and storage facilities, improper organization and management, and limited skilled personnel to work on the library. These challenges drove the College of Home Economics Library staff to seek assistance from government organizations/agencies and this initiative was supported by the College administration.



On 10 September 2024, the National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA) approved the application of the CHE Library for a Technical Assistance Program (TAP). The grant was approved by Honorable Eric B. Zerrudo, PhD, the NCCA Executive Director. The resource person assigned to undertake, execute, and implement the program is Ms. Denise Marie Cruz Betia. Ms. Betia is the current President of the Society of Filipino Archivists and has a seat in the National Committee on Archives (NCA). She visited the CHE Library and made an inspection of the collection last 4 October 2024 and was

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The CHE and the Library in particular are deeply grateful to NCCA—this will mark a significant milestone in the efforts to preserve the rich history and heritage of the College and will undoubtedly have a lasting impact on our archival management and preservation initiatives.

by G.A. Garcia, CHE Library



ISU librarians with Mr. Eclevia from Wiley, Mr. Panlilio from Forefront, and Ms. Chua from ISAIS at the Environmental and Energy Engineering Building

From UP to SUCs: Bridging Resource Gaps through the University Library's 'e-Padaloy'

Like a stream that brings life through its continuous flow, the University of the Philippines through the University Library, channels knowledge and resources beyond its boundaries through the transformative 'e-Padaloy' initiative.

In 2024, the University Library through the Information Services and Instruction Section (ISAIS), and in coordination with the Office of the Vice President for Academic Affairs, has launched the e-Padaloy Resource Sharing and Allocation Project—a strategic initiative aimed at promoting resource sharing and enhancing research capacity across the higher education sector in the Philippines by extending UP's e-resource access to State Universities and Colleges (SUCs).

The project was initiated in July 2023 under the directive of VP Leo D.P. Cubillan to explore the feasibility of resource sharing among SUCs across the country. A needs assessment conducted by ISAIS, and led by Ms. Rizalyn V. Janio, revealed disparities in access to academic resources, prompting the identification of potential electronic database subscriptions suitable for sharing.

By April 2024, ten SUCs were identified and subsequently invited for the pilot phase based on criteria such as low library usage and insufficient subscription funds. These were Agusan del Sur State College of Agriculture and Technology (ASSCAT), Camiguin Polytechnic State College (CPSC), Caraga State University (CarSU), Cotabato Foundation College of Science and Technology (CFCST), Eulogio "Amang" Rodriguez Institute of Science and Technology (EARIST), Iloilo Science and Technology University (ISATU), Isabela State University (ISU), Occidental Mindoro State College (OMSC), Samar State University (SSU), and Southern Leyte State University (SLSU).

By extending access to Wiley Academic Digital Books, an extensive collection of over 22,000 scholarly and professional titles, e-Padaloy enables these institutions to enrich their academic resources and strengthen the research capabilities of faculty, students, and staff. This project reflects UP's vision as a leading national university, digitally transforming its resources and services in line with its mission of "Honor and Excellence in the Service of the Nation."



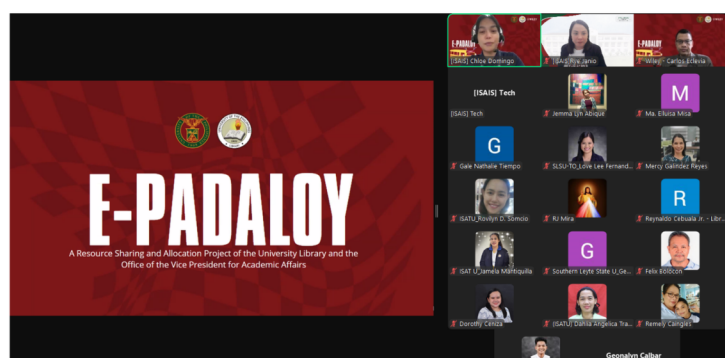
Onsite training with ISU librarians last September 11, 2024



To ensure the seamless integration of the shared resources, ISAIS organized online and onsite training sessions from August to October 2024. These sessions, led by Mr. Carlos Eclevia from John Wiley & Sons, Inc., who served as the sole speaker, focused on features and optimal usage of Wiley Academic Digital Books. They were attended by librarians, faculty, and even students from the participating SUCs.

The e-Padaloy initiative will culminate at the end of UP's subscription to Wiley Academic Digital Books this December 2024. Prospects for the continuation of the project in the coming years remain promising, contingent upon review and renewal.

Indeed, the University Library through ISAIS has extended its impact and supported the broader academic community by sharing valuable resources in pursuit of academic and research excellence and in furtherance of UP's goals and objectives as a national university.



Online training with CarSU, ISATU, SLSU, and EARIST librarians last 15 August 2024

FROM LAW TO PRACTICE: IMPLEMENTING RECORDS MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

On 25 September 2024, the Records Management Committee (RMC) hosted a half-day seminar orientation at the Conference Room of the Environmental and Energy Engineering Building. The speaker for this event was Ms. Christin E. Licopit, a Senior Records Management Analyst at the National Archives of the Philippines (NAP). Eleven participants, including RMC members and two librarians, attended the informative event.

Ms. Licopit began the seminar by discussing Republic Act 9470, the National Archives of the Philippines Act of 2007. She highlighted key sections of the law, including Article III, Section 18, which pertains to the Disposal of Public Records; Article VI, Section 40, concerning Offenses; and Article VI, Section 41, outlining Penalties for Violations.

Pursuant to Paragraph 3.4 of Article III in the National Archives of the Philippines Circular No. 1, issued on 20 January 2009, each government unit is required to establish a Records Management and Improvement Committee composed of unit heads. This committee serves as the policy-making body for records management, responsible for appraising records, determining retention periods for each record series, and recommending the approval of the Records Disposition Schedule (RDS). Ms. Licopit also mentioned that the NAP is in the process of formulating a RDS specifically for State Universities and Colleges.

Ms. Licopit emphasized the importance of conducting regular records inventories, as mandated by Rule 25 Art. 39 of the Implementing Rules and Regulations of RA 9470. All government offices are required to conduct an annual inventory of their public records, which is defined as a descriptive list of record holdings typically organized by record series or generic titles. To facilitate this process, NAP Form No. 1 is utilized for both records inventory and appraisal. During the seminar, Ms. Licopit provided guidance on how to accurately complete this form.

The procedures for disposing of records involve several key steps to ensure compliance with legal, regulatory, and organizational requirements. These steps range from requesting authorization to dispose of records to issuing a Certificate of Disposal.

The Records Management Committee has been established to create, develop, and implement an effective records management program for the University. This orientation seminar aims to inform the committee about the latest updates on the General Records Disposition Schedule (GRDS) and Records Management policies from the National Archives of the Philippines. Following this event, the committee plans to conduct training sessions for library staff responsible for managing records, to guide them in the effective implementation of records management practices.

For further information on records management guidelines, please visit the official website of the National Archives of the Philippines at <https://nationalarchives.gov.ph/>.

by S.T. Gerodias, Records Management Committee

From Vision to Symbol: The Story Behind the CSSP Library Logo

For decades, the College of Social Sciences and Philosophy (CSSP) Library served the College community without a visual tag to call its own. Although, a logo is more than a mere image for identification; it is a representation of an organization's mission and values. It is the first impression one makes, a symbol that conveys a wealth of information in a single glance. Recognizing this, we at the CSSP Library recently embarked on a journey to create one that embodies our dedication to serving the College.

Our initial vision was an ambitious one. We envisioned a logo that captured the library's role in supporting the college's mission and fostering a welcoming space for exploration and learning. This vision manifested in a design featuring nine human icons, representing the college's departments and the diversity of humanity. The interplay of colors further enriched the symbolism, with light blue and light yellow reflecting the college's branding and much deeper hues recalling the university's identity.



However, through insightful discussions and valuable feedback from the College Executive Board, we refined our initial vision. While the initial design held merit, the Board suggested a simpler approach to more effectively communicate our visual alignment with the College. This led to a subtle but significant shift: incorporating the word "Library" directly into the College's logo. This straightforward addition ensured clarity and maintained consistency with the College's identity, all while honoring still the essence of our library.

The path to our final logo was not a straight line. The timeline reveals a thoughtful, collaborative process across various levels. From initial design submissions in September 2023 to the final revisions approved in 16 April 2024, the logo underwent careful consideration by Head Librarian Dr. Rhoel E. Rondilla, the College Executive Board, and Dean Ruth R. Lusterio-Rico. Each stage brought valuable insights that ultimately led to a logo which, we believe, truly reflects the essence of the CSSP Library.

Our final design is a symbol which we are proud to carry forward. It transcends a mere collection of books, instead representing a vibrant space where scholars and researchers of all backgrounds can embark on their journeys of discovery.

Celebrating Progress: Updates from the CSSP Library

Beyond the logo, the CSSP Library has been buzzing with activity, marking several milestones that highlight its growing impact on the academic and cultural communities. Here's a closer look at what's been happening:

A Fresh Look for the Library Online

Navigating the library's resources just got easier. The revamped CSSP Library subpage on the CSSP website now offers a more user-friendly experience, complete with updated information.

Spot.ph Puts the Spotlight on CSSP Library

In a nod to its cultural significance, a book from the CSSP Library was featured in Spot.ph's article, "The UP Libraries' 10 Important Cultural Treasures." This highlights the library's role in preserving and sharing pieces of our collective heritage.

NCCA 2024 Photovoice Project

The library's participation in the 2024 Photovoice Project brought its commitment to inclusivity and empowerment to the forefront. Organized by the National Commission for Culture and the Arts, this year's theme, "LibVOCACY: Unity Towards Inclusive and Empowered Libraries," resonated deeply with the CSSP Library's values. It's a proud moment to be part of a national conversation about the transformative role of libraries.

Sagwanan: Library Book and e-Fair 2024

November 14-15 saw Palma Hall's first-floor lobby come alive with Sagwanan: The University Library Book and e-Fair 2024. Co-hosted by the CSSP, the event was more than just a showcase. From browsing books and exploring online databases to attending thought-provoking talks on media and information literacy and artificial intelligence, the fair was a vibrant hub of learning and connection.

These achievements aren't just milestones: Every step forward reflects CSSP's commitment to preserving the past, embracing the present, and shaping the future of learning and culture.

by M.B. Alfonso and M.B. Tutor, CSSP Library



by L.L. Eugenio, University Archives Division

UP LIBRARY STAFF PARTICIPATE IN THE 8TH NATIONAL ARCHIVES CONGRESS

Staff from the University Archives Division of the University Library recently attended the 8th National Archives Congress, held on 27-29 November 2024, at the Training and Development Center 2, Lingayen, Pangasinan. Representing the University Library were Ms. Eimee Rhea C. Lagrama, who was a speaker on Disaster Risk Assessment; Ms. Sheryl T. Gerodias, an officer of the UP Library Science Alumni Association, Inc. (UP LSAA) and the working committee; and Mr. Lucan L. Eugenio, who participated as a volunteer.

Organized by the UP Library Science Alumni Association (UP LSAA) in collaboration with the UP School of Library and Information Studies (UP SLIS) and the Society of Filipino Archivists (SFA), and hosted by the National Commission for Culture and the Arts - National Committee on Archives (NCCA-NCA), the Congress provided a platform for archivists, records managers, librarians, museologists, and other heritage practitioners to exchange best practices in managing archives and records, particularly in the context of disaster and emergency management.

Libraries and archival institutions were at the forefront of the event, showcasing their vital role in preserving and providing access to records during times of crisis. The Chairperson of the National Historical Commission of the Philippines, Regalado Trota Jose Jr., gave an inspiring keynote address that marked the beginning of an impactful gathering. The Congress featured insightful sessions and workshops led by experts in disaster preparedness and disaster management. Mr. Jose Abraham C. Ongkiko of the UP Resilience Institute opened the event with a presentation distinguishing hazards from disasters and emphasizing that hazards alone do not always result in calamities. Following this, Mr. Karl R. Baroro presented strategies for enhancing post-disaster resilience and discussed the role of private archives and government agencies in recovery efforts. Finally, Ms. Eimee Rhea C. Lagrama ended the first day with a lecture and workshop on risk assessment, highlighting the importance of assessing specific risks which not only saves time and resources but also ensures that all staff members are well-prepared to respond in the event of a disaster.

On the second day, Dr. Heather Brown of the Australian Library and Information Association discussed disaster management plans for physical and digital collections, referencing ALIA resources and UNESCO's toolkit. Dean Rhea Rowena U. Apolinario and Asst. Prof. Mary Grace Golfo-Barcelona from the UP SLIS facilitated a workshop on creating disaster management plans for archives and records. Hon. Yolanda Granda, Chairperson of the Professional Regulatory Board for Librarians (PRBFL), delivered a lecture on recovering paper-based records, followed by a practical workshop on salvaging damaged materials led by Ms. Emma M. Rey of the NCCA-National Committee on Archives.

The Congress concluded with a cultural tour, featuring visits to the Pangasinan Provincial Library, Banáan Pangasinan Provincial Museum, and the Provincial Archives and Records Center. These institutions displayed the province's dedication to maintaining its rich cultural and historical heritage, leaving participants inspired by the intersection of disaster resilience and cultural preservation. This Congress not only brought attention to the critical role of disaster management in archives and libraries but also fostered meaningful connections among professionals dedicated to preserving the past for future generations. With its well-rounded program and enriching cultural experiences, the Congress proved to be a milestone in advancing best practices in archival and records management nationwide.



UP Diliman Librarians Dive Deep into the World of Qualitative Research

With the advent of innovative technologies and the growing demand of the present times, librarians are becoming increasingly closer to the conduct of research.

by C.L. Domingo, Library Research Committee

The University Library Research Committee holds an intensive research training program for UP Diliman librarians with the title "DIVING DEEP: A Sandbox Training-Workshop on Qualitative Research for Librarians" last August 9, 16, and 30 at the Student Union Building and last 13 September 2024 at the Environmental and Energy Engineering Building.

The training-program aimed to enhance the participants' knowledge and skills in conducting qualitative research through a "sandbox" model, which sought to encourage active participation and collaboration, foster a safe space for exploration and learning, and give a platform for participants to conduct healthy discourse.

Seventeen (17) librarians and library staff participated, which were Yedda Marynel U. Arce, Anthony N. Atuel, Chelsea Anne Q. Bonifacio, Elaine Barbara M. Cruz, Jo-Anne A. Domingo, Gladys A. Florendo, Michelle Ann G. Manalo-Eclar, Arthur Bryan C. Mariano, Frederick G. Velasco, Aries Joy T. Ventura and Maria Criselda D. Pabalan from the Main Library User Services Division, Chito N. Angeles and Marian A. Jinio from the Information Technology (IT) Division, Nikko Angelo D. Lastimosa and Jet T. Tawaken from College of Home Economics (CHE) Library, and Aiza May V. Palaya from College of Mass Communication (CMC) Library and Ces Archae D. Buenavista from College of Science (CS) Library.



Asst. Prof. Kathleen Lourdes B. Obille, former dean of the UP School of Library and Information Science, facilitated the said training-workshop.

Asst. Prof. Obille led the three-day workshop delving into the intricacies of crafting qualitative research, starting with a session on fundamental concepts and refining research questions on the first day. On the second day, Asst. Prof. Obille covered theoretical frameworks and data collection techniques, with participants developing research designs aligned with their qualitative inquiries. On the third day, advanced data collection methods and qualitative data analysis were explored, including the use of coding software like Dedoose.



Each day included interactive workshops where participants applied their learning and crafted their paper for presentation and for submission to pertinent scholarly journals. The workshop fostered a collaborative and exploratory environment, engaging the participants in hands-on activities, simulations, role-plays, or exercises with the goal of completing their paper.

The training concluded with a hybrid colloquium where the participants presented their research. Asst. Prof. Yhna Therese P. Santos, Chair of the UPD Task Force for Research Integrity, served as the sole reactor for the presentations.

The colloquium was personally attended by University Librarian Ms. Elvira B. Lapuz, Deputy University Librarian and Vice Chair of the Library Research Committee (LRC) Ms. Eimee Rhea C. Lagrama, ISAIS Head Librarian and LRC Chair Ms. Rizalyn V. Janio, other members of the LRC and virtually attended by an audience of 48 individuals.

The event culminated in the awarding of the speakers and participants. As an incentive, the participants who completed the training were awarded 32 Continuing Professional Development (CPD) points, as the program is a PRC-accredited CPD program.

The DIVING DEEP training-workshop exemplifies the evolving role of librarians as active participants in research within academic institutions. By equipping them with essential qualitative research skills in a collaborative environment, the program fosters a culture of continuous learning and intellectual growth. This initiative enhances professional competencies while underscoring the vital contributions of librarians to advancing knowledge and research in their fields.

Indeed, such programs are essential for adapting to the contemporary demands of the information landscape, empowering librarians to thrive in an ever-changing academic world.



FROM STORIES TO CELEBRATIONS: UPCED LIBRARY'S MILESTONES IN 2024

by C.J. Garcia-Atuel, College of Education Library

The UP College of Education (UPCEd) Library proudly reflects a memorable and impactful second half of 2024, which included meaningful outreach programs, enriching staff activities, and a grand celebration of its Diamond (75th) Anniversary. Here's a recap of our notable accomplishments:

1. The UPCEd Library expanded its reach outside the university by launching the 'Books As Bridges: Building Bonds Through Sharing Stories' Library Outreach Program in Lasam, Cagayan.

Phase 1, conducted on 27-28 June 2024, aimed to empower educators through storytelling and simulation training. Facilitated by the Reading, Early Grades, Art, and Language Education (REGALE) team—Asst. Professor Maria Hazelle Preclaro-Ongtengco, Dr. Ana Maria Margarita S. Salvador, Asst. Prof. Marie Yvette C. Alcazar, and Dr. Leonor E. Diaz—the session provided valuable insights and hands-on experience. The participants, comprising representatives from primary school teachers, Child Development Workers (CDW) of the 30 barangays in Lasam and the NATALGED Storytelling/Reading Caravan Team were trained where the facilitators shared their expertise to improve literacy instruction and promote child-centered education practices.

Phase 2, conducted on 23 September 2024, brought these lessons to life with a community storytelling immersion. Educators trained in Phase 1 led heartwarming and engaging sessions with children and families in the community, fostering a love for stories and education.



2. Peer Teaching Activity for Refreshers at the UPCEd Library

On 15-16 August 2024, the UPCEd Library conducted its Peer Teaching Activity, in which staff members demonstrated their expertise and shared insights on their specialized roles. This collaborative endeavor served as both a refresher and a learning opportunity for all team members, fostering seamless library services and strengthening camaraderie within the team.

3. Empowering UPCEd Library Staff via Leadership and Mental Health Training In keeping with its commitment to overall staff development, the library held two essential training events. The Leadership and Team-Building Workshop last 19 April 2024, led by EDAD faculty members, Assistant. Prof. Emmanuelle C. Manalang and Dr. Joel C. Javinier provided staff training in leadership and management. Meanwhile, Dr. Lorelei C. Vinluan, an EDCO faculty member, hosted the Mental Health Workshop last 19 June 2024, which emphasized self-care and mental well-being, fostering a healthier and more resilient workforce.



4. Celebrate 75 Years of Service and Excellence.

The UPCEd Library celebrated its Diamond (75th) Anniversary from 2-7 December 2024, capping off the year. The week-long event, themed, "UPCEd Library's Diamond Year: Responsive and Relevant Service for Quality Teacher Education and Beyond," celebrated the library's rich legacy and unwavering commitment to excellence.

The festivities included student-centered activities such as a Quiz Bee, Amazing Race, and Video Reels Competition, as well as daily Kapihan Sessions—a cozy time to share stories and coffee within the library. The highlight was the Culmination Day on 6 December 2024, featuring a reunion of past and retired library staff and heartfelt testimonial speeches.

These milestones underscore the UPCEd Library's dedication to fostering a love for learning, enhancing staff capabilities, and building meaningful connections within and beyond its community. Here's to another year of excellence, innovation, and service!

Over and Beyond: A Recap of StratComm's Accomplishments in 2024

by R.R. Cabrera & Z.C. Garcia, Main Library

The Strategic Communication, Research and Marketing Section (StratComm) is commonly known among the library staff for their work with disseminating emails, handling the University Library's social media pages, and assisting non-UP researchers. As individual employees, their members are often a go-to for various creative, research, or IT-related work in their respective committees or departments. This team, headed by Ms. Michelle Ann G. Manalo-Eclar, has had one of its busiest years to date as they took every opportunity to elevate the University Library as an institution.

Under the communications arm of StratComm, the section organized and managed the University Library 2024 Assessment and Target-Setting Workshop on 20-22 June. Attended by the main library section heads and the unit head librarians, the workshop concluded with the library's new vision, mission, and core values formulated through an intensive discussion among the attendees.

With the marketing arm of the section, StratComm has assisted in producing various marketing videos for the library, including the profile video for the OVCAA and the "Piliin Mo" promotional video, which garnered 60,000 views on their Facebook page. The section has also supported monthly posts for various holidays and celebrations, among other initiatives. One of the section's most significant contributions to marketing was the production of a publicly accessible instructional video on salvaging or recovering water-damaged library materials or paper-based records following the aftermath of tropical storm Leon in late October. The video is accessible for use and dissemination by anyone as needed.



However, compared to these achievements, it is under the research arm where StratComm truly excelled. As of writing this article, the section has presented two research papers one of which is due for publication, one research article, and one research poster.

On 7 May 2024, under the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA), the article titled 'Transforming Spaces, Enriching Minds: A Journey through the Renovation of Gonzalez Hall, UP Diliman's University Library', was published. This article highlighted Gonzalez Hall through its beginnings, the plans for its renovation, its delays, and in particular the stained-glass windows that will soon become a highlight upon its completion.

In August, the section was busy with two presentations of research papers for the Conference of Library and Information Studies (CLIS) and the Philippine Association of Academic/Research Librarians, Inc. (PAARL) Research Colloquium.

The paper presented in CLIS was titled 'Optimizing Strategic Communication: An Assessment of the Effectiveness of UP Diliman University Library's Approach' which discussed the impact and usefulness of having a section dedicated to strategic communication among library institutions. The second research titled 'The Library on the FYP (For You Page): A Narrative Analysis of UP Diliman Librarians' Experiences in Visual Marketing Content Production' evaluated the shifting practices of online marketing as it moved from the traditional straightforward posts to the now trendy engagement posts and modern reels. This paper was among the few selected articles for publication in January 2025.



Lastly, StratComm caps the year with a research poster titled 'Bridging Decades of Timeless Knowledge: The Gonzalez Hall Building Renovation Progress' for the UPD REPS General Assembly and Colloquium. The poster provides a concise overview of the renovation of Gonzalez Hall, enumerating the planned improvements to enhance library services and the respective achievements and challenges encountered along the way.

StratComm prides itself on its innovative and critical approach to research papers and articles, emphasizing not only the University Library's progressive practices but also the potential of becoming the model from which other libraries could follow. And although the year is ending, there is much in store for StratComm and their team will surely rise for research opportunities to come.



Shaping Tomorrow's Library Leaders: Highlights from ELLSSA by J.A. Domingo

The Emerging Library Leaders' Summer School for Asia-Pacific (ELLSSA), developed in collaboration with the SMU Academy of Singapore Management University (SMU), was held from 7-12 July 2024, in Singapore. This exclusive program brought together 28 delegates from the Philippines, Indonesia, Cambodia, Thailand, and Malaysia, including two delegates from the University of the Philippines: Ms. Rizalyn V. Janio, Head Librarian of the Information Services and Instruction Section, and Ms. Grace A. Garcia, Head Librarian of the College of Home Economics Library. Ms. Janio was also recognized as one of the Taylor & Francis ambassadors for the event.

The summer school commenced on Sunday, 7 July 2024, with a welcome reception, program onboarding, and a tour of the SMU Libraries. The following day, the event kicked off with an opening keynote address delivered by Professor Timothy Clark, Provost of SMU. He shared the university's digital learning strategy, which seeks to enable "ambidextrous" learning for students, ensuring a seamless transition between face-to-face (F2F) and digital learning formats. The strategy aims for flexible curriculum content that is adaptable for both in-person and online delivery, empowering instructors with the skills and support necessary to deliver engaging lessons in both modes. Ultimately, SMU envisions these ambidextrous skills becoming deeply embedded in its students and faculty, positioning them to thrive in a digital-first world.

Throughout the week, delegates participated in workshops and discussions covering a range of topics, including digital transformation in libraries, emerging trends in the library sector, and the management of e-resources and research publications. Special focus was placed on digital, AI, and information literacy. Delegates also visited prominent libraries in Singapore, including those at Nanyang Technological University (NTU), the Central Public Library, and the Singapore University of Technology and Design (SUTD).



A key highlight of the summer school was the panel discussion on the digital transformation of libraries, featuring library leaders from across Asia-Pacific. Among the distinguished speakers was Ms. Elvira B. Lapuz, University Librarian of UP Diliman, who delivered an insightful presentation on the opportunities, challenges, and critical skills required for the University Library's transformation efforts. This particular session was held in a hybrid format, with speakers joining in via Zoom.

Another notable aspect was the launch of a mentoring program, pairing delegates with mentors for ongoing consultations throughout 2024. Additionally, Taylor & Francis assigned ambassadors, including Ms. Janio, to complete a scholar coursework and produce a blog post and video teaser addressing a relevant library topic. These were to be submitted by the end of October.

The participation of UP Diliman librarians in ELLSSA reflects the University Library's commitment to professional development, global collaboration, and innovative practices. The program provided invaluable insights into international best practices for library transformation and highlighted UP's leadership in shaping the future of libraries in the digital age. The knowledge and networks gained will undoubtedly enhance library services and strengthen a culture of adaptability and excellence within the UP Library System. For more insights from the delegates, you can view their interview [here](#).



The 2024 American Library Association (ALA) Annual Conference and Exhibit – one of the largest library events in the world, boasted a wide array of presentations, exhibits, and activities for the expanding field of librarianship. In order to accommodate 13,500 attendees from North America and abroad, the conference was held at the San Diego Convention Center which happens to be the same venue wherein another annual noteworthy event is held – the San Diego Comic Con. Aside from the usual plenary sessions, the conference featured simultaneous sessions organized by the divisions under ALA such as the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) and the Asian Pacific American Librarians Association (APALA) to name a few. Each of these symposiums provided a sufficient and dynamic platform to address pressing issues directed towards a specific library function and theme.

Upon submitting our posters, we were fortunate that all were accepted. Through the timely support of the administration, we were able to participate in the said conference, representing not just the university but the Philippines as well. Our first poster, Halina't Makipag-Ugnayan: Reflecting on the roots of Philippine Librarianship during the American Colonization (1898-1946) showcased the American efforts to formally introduce librarianship in the country.

The research also underlined ALA's direct involvement by providing technical assistance in the creation of a graduate program in Library and Information Science during the 1960s. The second poster titled Tuesdays are for Conspiracy Theories: A Media and Information Literacy Activity for School Libraries highlighted the design and implementation of an unconventional activity which sought to motivate high school students in developing their critical thinking skills through the discussion of a widely known conspiracy theory in the country.

The careful examination of information was intended to debunk any fake news in order to unveil the truth. Lastly, the poster Your Roots in Pages: Decolonization through Collection Development Plan in Libraries sought to provide a guide and model on how to select, organize, build, and provide access to a collection anchored on national identity, collective memory, and cultural significance as a decolonization initiative.

In addition to the highly anticipated sessions, a significant appeal to the conference was the opportunity to personally meet authors and illustrators along with their recently published works, akin to a book signing. Despite the huge crowd, one doesn't need to ask where such a sensational moment will take place as you'll easily observe queues forming at the Exhibit Hall ahead of an author's arrival. But what's most surprising is that they are actually giving the attentive participants a copy of their books entirely for FREE. Taking it up a notch, the authors affixed their personalized autographs while the illustrators painstakingly drew entertaining caricatures based on the subject or protagonists of their books. At sunset, it became a common sight to see librarians tugging jam-packed trolleys with a haul of intellectual and creative works for the benefit of their libraries and the community whom they serve.

Overall, our ALA experience is memorable. Hopefully in the coming ALA conferences, more UP librarians will have the opportunity to present their respective research papers. The ALA Annual Conference and Exhibit 2025 will be held in Philadelphia.

UPCOMING EVENTS FOR 2025

FEBRUARY

- Health and Wellness Committee Valentine's Day Wear Your Relationship Status

MARCH

- Staff Training and Development Committee - University Library Anniversary Weekly Lecture Series
- Health and Wellness Committee Seminar on Stress Management
- Library Awards and Recognition Committee - Talas, Talino, at Tagumpay: 2025 Pagpupugay sa ULirang Kawani at Gawad para sa Katapatan sa Serbisyo

APRIL

- AASDI Lecture Series
- Health and Wellness Committee Crafting Day

MAY

- AASDI Cake Raffle (Year 4)
- Health and Wellness Committee PWD Massage Therapy in observance of Cervical Cancer Awareness Month

JUNE

- 2025 UP Librarians Conference

CELEBRATING OUR
DEDICATED RETIREES OF 2024

LEONIDA A. DELA CRUZ

College Librarian IV, Head Librarian College of Mass Communication Library

AMALIA R. JAVIER

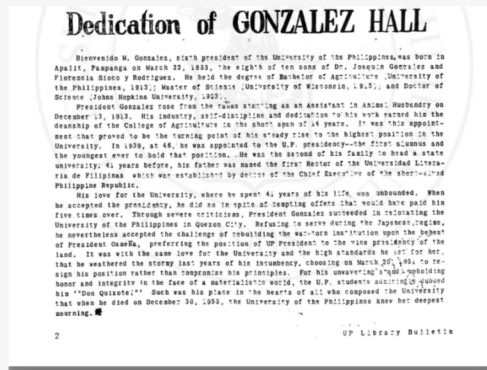
College Librarian II, Head Librarian Main Library, Special Collections Section

WELCOMING NEW STAFF 2024

Eunice C. Pombo, Admin Aide VI
Calvin P. Guzman, Librarian I
Rochelle Maica R. Cabrera, UEA I
Jessica M. Tumlos, Librarian I
Deniere Zaint C. Garcia, Admin Aide VI
Marzo Meco B. Alfonso, Librarian I
Chloe Maeve L. Domingo, URA I
Richard T. Hermonso, UEA II
Anna Mae H. Manalo, Librarian I
Nica Neri C. Marquez, Librarian I
Mark Geneson P. Hernandez, Librarian I
Cayetano L. Pabiona, Jr., Admin Aide IV
May Anne F. Ramos, College Librarian II

MULA SA BAUL

(digging into the proverbial past)



by E. C. Lagrama, University Library

While we (patiently) wait as the Gonzalez Hall is being retrofitted and renovated, it is worthy to note that the building was not "officially" dedicated as the Buenvenido M. Gonzalez Hall until 1963. In this article from the [April 1963 UP Library Bulletin](#), the editorial board eulogized President Gonzalez and his time when he was at the helm of the University. He served two terms; 1939-1943 and 1945-1951 (Antonio Sison served in the interim). His second term was marked by extreme difficulties, having to lead a university with hardly any funds, a destroyed main campus, and critics who were unsupportive of his programs and plans to relocate from Padre Faura to Diliman.

Despite all of these, the transfer to a spacious and promising campus pushed through in 1949 and he was present during the cornerstone laying of the building that would be eventually named after him, a building that was purpose-built to be a library. He died in 1953, about a year after the library was finished.

In 4 April 1963, under the administration of President Carlos P. Romulo, the building housing the University Library was officially dedicated in Buenvenido M. Gonzalez's honor, as evidenced by the plaque installed by the entrance. Inscribed in the dedication plaque is the epigraph found in the original University Library in Padre Faura. It reads, "To the youth of the land this building is dedicated that they may delve deep into the wisdom of the ages and consecrate themselves to the search of truth and knowledge."

REVISED WORK ASSIGNMENTS

Ma. Christine S. Hernandez, ISAIS/ SpeCol
Michelle Anne S. De Leon, ISAIS/ ITD
Marvin B. Mulle, UP CHK Lib
Jennilyn L. Bagares, UP AIT Lib
Jhonnalyn C. Calamanan, UP AC Lib
Arthur Bryan C. Mariano, SpeCol
Martian A. Jinio, IT Division
Nikko Angelo D. Lastimoso, UP CHE Lib
Ruby C. Sarmiento, CMSS
Mitos B. Caunca, UP Engg Lib (temporary)
Jessica M. Tumlos, UP AC Lib
Gladys A. Florendo, UP CMC Lib

DESIGNATED HEAD LIBRARIANS

Aiza May V. Palaya, UP CMC
Jennilyn L. Bagares, UP AIT
Jhonnalyn C. Calamanan, UP AC
Arthur Bryan C. Mariano, SpeCol
Olga P. Bondal, UP Law

STAFF PROMOTIONS

Maria Criselda Pabalan
UEA I - URA II
Jhonnalyn C. Calamanan
CL II - CL III
Ruth E. Manalo
Admin Aide IV - Admin Aide VI
Martian A. Jinio
Librarian I - CL I
Elaine Barbara M. Cruz
Librarian I - CL II
Jennilyn L. Bagares
CL II - CL III
Eunice Ann Y. Chua
Librarian I - CL I
Jo-Anne A. Domingo
Librarian I - CL II
Frederick G. Velasco
CL I - CL II
Gladys A. Florendo
CL III - CL IV
Deniere Zaint C. Garcia
Admin Aide VI - UEA I

ABOUT THE
COVER

Z.C. Garcia, Main Library

The second volume of Aninaw features the OVCAA's lantern "Hagdan ng Pagninilay" against a vibrant purple and green background.

With minor variations, this imagery was selected to celebrate the culmination of 2024 of the University Library: the summation of the staff's hard work, sacrifices, and accomplishments of the year. Filled with warm tones, the lantern illuminates with an ethereal glow to invite a warm feeling of accomplishment and triumph. Lit against a vibrant background reminiscent of a cool forest at night, it hopes to evoke memories of the cheerful and festive Christmas feeling during the Lantern Parade.