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SEMI-ANNUAL PUBLICATION

Protection, Preservation, and Progress: Updates on Plaza Security, Furniture Restoration, and Gonzalez Hall Repairs

The University Library continues to move forward with various development projects for both its indoor and outdoor spaces. These efforts focused on maintaining the security of completed areas while steadily preparing the library facilities.

The Building Renovation and Management Committee secured additional personnel to manage and protect the turned-over Main Library Plaza. The Library originally submitted a formal request on 15 September 2025 to establish active security measures after the unpopulated space suffered an unfortunate loss of construction materials.

The committee later sent an updated request on 23 March 2026 to ask for dedicated guards rather than simple perimeter patrols. The university administration approved the request and assigned two janitors to clean the grounds. They also stationed two security guards to provide constant coverage, with one guard assigned to the morning shift and one guard assigned to the evening shift.

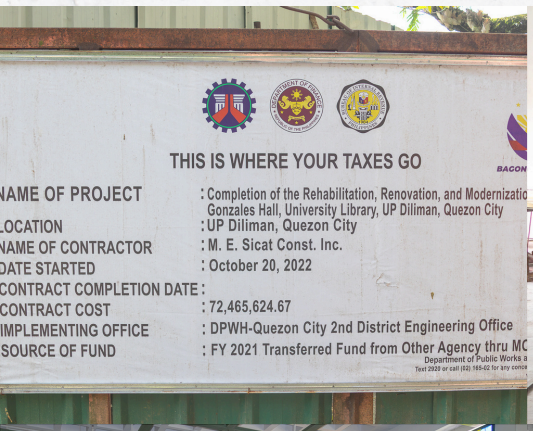
The University Library also completed plans to restore its classic indoor study furniture using donated funds. This project started through the campaign called "Upgrade: Adopt a Main Library Chair or Table," which gathered donations via the Padayon Public Service Office. The office issued a Notice of Available Fund on 6 October 2025 to confirm the collection of these donations. On 24 March 2026, University Librarian Elvira Lapuz sent a formal request to begin the technical work. Following this, the UP Administration approved the request to complete the project.

The refurbishment plan targeted a specific inventory of 33 tables and 267 chairs currently stored in the Library. The refurbishment includes workers stripping old surfaces, sanding the wood, and reapplying the sealers and lacquer finishes to restore the original mahogany appearance of the furniture.

The larger renovation of Gonzalez Hall itself moved forward at a very deliberate pace. Work continued on specific interior finishes to prepare individual sections. Workers finalized the paint application in the basement, the first floor, and the second floor. They also completed the tile installations inside most comfort rooms and laid down the granite countertops in most areas. The window suppliers applied weather sealant along the hallways, and workers continued painting the built-in bookshelves.

These minor accomplishments show that the renovation of Gonzalez Hall is still ongoing and have not stopped. Continuous discussions on future plans of the renovation made the Building Renovation and Management Committee hopeful about the eventual completion of the project. The University Library extended its sincere appreciation to the UP community for their enduring patience throughout the renovation of the Gonzalez Hall.

By Building Renovation Management Committee









An Award-Winning Unit—Because of Its People

By E.Y. Chua, Library Awards and Recognition Committee

"An award-winning unit"-- that was how Dr. Maria Vanessa P. Lusung-Oyzon, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, referred to the University Library (UL) during a seminar-workshop on quality assurance last August 2026. Indeed, the first half of the year was a testament to the dedication, hard work, and excellence of the University Library and its people. From sectoral recognitions to national awards, UL took center stage in a series of award ceremonies.

Kinaadman, Kinang, at Kaplag

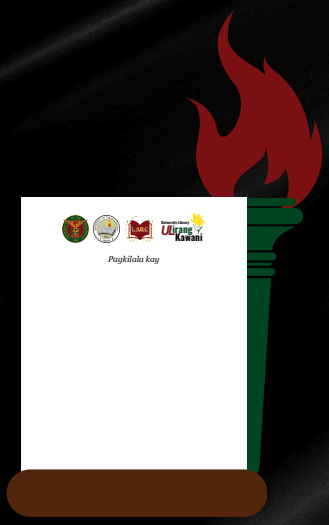
The UL Library Awards and Recognition Committee (LARC), headed by Dr. Rhoel E. Rondilla, has once again highlighted the people of the UL who have shown excellence, tireless dedication, and loyalty to the University through its annual recognition program. This year, to celebrate and honor their invaluable contributions, the theme is "*Kinaadman, Kinang, at Kaplag: 2026 Pagpupugay sa Ulirang Kawani at Gawad para sa Katapatan sa Serbisyo*," embodying the knowledge (*Kinaadman*), brilliance (*Kinang*), and discoveries (*Kaplag*) that shine through the work and contributions of UL personnel through the years.

To kickstart this year's recognition program, LARC presented awards on 16 January 2026 to library staff who showcased their research locally and internationally through the 2026 *ULirang Mananaliksik* recognition ceremony. A total of 51 research studies and their authors were recognized, reflecting the growing culture of research within the Library. The awarding ceremony was held at the lobby of the Environmental and Energy Engineering Building. This marked the first time that LARC organized a separate recognition program to honor the contributions of UL staff to the field of research.

On 13 March 2026, a separate ceremony was held for the fifth *ULirang Kawani* Awards and Recognition Program (ULKARP) at the Institute of Biology Auditorium, University of the Philippines Diliman (UPD). The event was graced by Chancellor Edgarco Carlo L. Vistan II and attended by University Librarian Elvira B. Lapuz, Deputy University Librarian Eimee Rhea C. Lagrama, head librarians, and the awardees alongside their family and friends.



This year, the title of 2026 *ULirang Kawani* was conferred upon Eimee Rhea C. Lagrama (Professional Staff Level II) and A.B. Gideon N. De Castro (Professional Staff Level I). Both of them received a plaque originally conceptualized by the committee, featuring the design of a burning torch that symbolizes the awardees' professional expertise and wisdom, and their enduring passion for providing quality service to the communities they serve.







Other awards and recognitions presented during the program include the *Parangal sa Katapatan* (Loyalty Award), which recognized 13 staff members for their commitment and dedicated service to the University spanning at least a decade; the *Gawad Serbisyo* (Service Award), honoring 2 staff members for their exemplary performance and commitment to quality service; and the *Pagkilala sa Natanggap na Parangal mula sa Panlabas na Organisasyon / Institusyon* (Recognition for Awards Received from External Organizations /Institutions), which acknowledged staff members, units, and committees whose achievements and contributions have earned them distinctions from external organizations or institutions. In addition, retirees were also honored with a video featuring messages from their former supervisors, and long-time friends.

The ULKARP is part of the LARC's mandate of promoting a culture of recognition and appreciation among the library personnel. To encourage steadfast and diligent service, the LARC ensures that proper and formal recognition is given to staff deemed deserving. All of which is directed by the ULKARP guidelines.

Pammadayaw: Pagpupugay sa Husay at Dedikadong Paglilingkod ng UP Diliman REPS

On 11 March 2026, eight of UL's outstanding staff members were recognized as UP Diliman Research, Extension, and Professional Staff (REPS) Chair and REPS Awardees for 2025–2027. The UPD REPS Chair and REPS Awards recognize the exemplary achievements of REPS in research and creative work, extension services, and professional public service.

University Librarian Elvira B. Lapuz and Deputy University Librarian Eimee Rhea C. Lagrama were conferred the REPS Chair (2025–2027) in recognition of their exemplary leadership; while Yedda Marynel U. Arce, Chelsea Anne Q. Bonifacio, A.B. Gideon N. De Castro, Crizell Joy P. Garcia-Atuel, Martian A. Jinio, and Nikko Angelo D. Lastimosa were honored as REPS Awardees (2025–2027) for their significant contributions not only to the University but also to the field of librarianship through research, extension initiatives, and professional public service.

This recognition highlights some of the remarkable people behind the UL's achievements, whose expertise, dedication, and contributions extend beyond the University and into the wider community.



***GALING* UPD Awards 2026**

The *GALING* UPD Awards recognize outstanding teams from any unit, section, or division at UPD who have implemented impactful programs or projects that significantly improve service delivery and contribute to institutional goals.

Among this year's *GALING* UPD Awardees were the following unit libraries, recognized for their quality and impactful library programs and services:

- College of Science Libraries
- Marine Science Institute Library
- College of Social Work and Development Library

Their recognition highlights the important role that unit libraries play in advancing the University's academic and research mission by developing programs and services that respond to the diverse needs of their respective communities.

2025 Philippine Association of Academic / Research Libraries (PAARL) Awards

On 30 January 2026, the PAARL held its 53rd General Assembly and Awarding Ceremony. Academic librarians from all over the country gathered to celebrate excellence in academic librarianship and recognize individuals and institutions whose work has made meaningful contributions to the profession.

Among the awardees were dedicated units and personnel from the University Library, whose achievements showcased the creativity, expertise, and commitment of UL staff to advancing library services and the profession.

The College of Engineering Library's Learning Commons was recognized with the Innovative Library Design Award, honoring its thoughtful and innovative approach to creating a learning space that responds to the evolving needs of its users. The Innovative Library Design Award is given to encourage libraries who are constructing or renovating their libraries to introduce new concepts and integrate state-of-the-art designs which successfully combine exciting architectural expression, inspiring internal spaces and good functionality

Meanwhile, the UL Library Extension Committee was also recognized for its Librarians Empowerment Action of Diliman (LEAD) program, which received the Outstanding Library Program of the Year Award. The award recognizes LEAD's meaningful contribution to extending the UL's services beyond its traditional academic setting and empowering underserved communities through literacy, capacity-building, and community engagement initiatives.

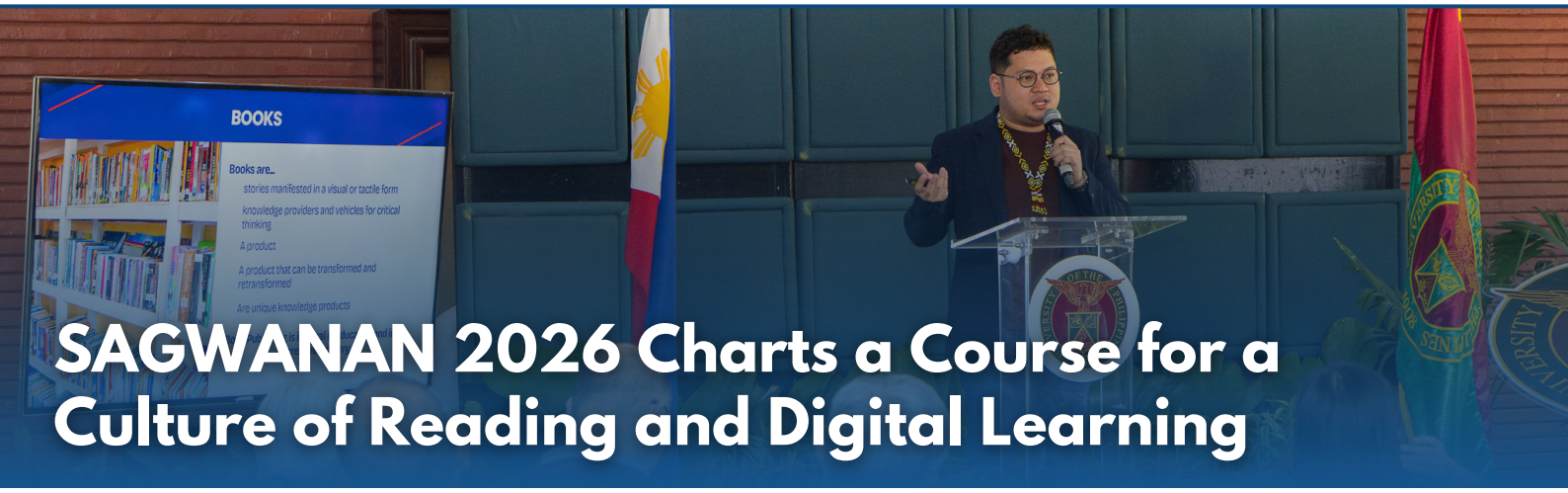




More than these awards and recognitions, what truly defines an award-winning unit is the people behind every achievement–their passion, dedication, and unwavering commitment to excellence. Each recognition is not merely a distinction to be celebrated, but a reflection of the collective work that continues to move the University Library forward.

And so, "an award-winning unit" is more than just a remark. It is a reflection of the people behind the work, the values that guide them, and the excellence they continue to uphold.

An award-winning unit— *because of its people.*



SAGWANAN 2026 Charts a Course for a Culture of Reading and Digital Learning

Charting its course through a sea of knowledge, "SAGWANAN: The University Library Book and e-Fair 2026" continues to sail smoothly on its third year of bringing the UP community closer to essential information. Held on 24 April 2026, at the first floor lobby of Palma Hall, the event was organized by the UP Diliman University Library, through the Information Services and Instruction Section (ISAIS), in collaboration with the College of Social Sciences and Philosophy (CSSP) Library.

The fair serves as a vital platform for academic engagement, designed to showcase the University Library's (UL) vast array of electronic resources and online database subscriptions. By featuring a lecture on the landscape of Philippine publishing and e-readership, alongside exhibits from participating vendors and publishers showcasing their academic resources and product updates, the event successfully bridges the gap between leisure reading and academic learning, acting as a catalyst for research productivity and long-term engagement with the UL's evolving digital collections.

The opening program commenced with messages from key university officials, including Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Lorraine Pe Symaco and CSSP Dean Dr. Ruth R. Lusterio-Rico, who stood in continued support of the fair.

A highlight of the event was the lecture by Gillian P. Reyes, Project Development Officer at the National Book Development Board (NBDB). Reyes provided an insightful overview of the Philippine publishing landscape, detailing the lifecycle of a book and the industry's growth as reflected in ISBN trends and sales data. His talk also explored the digital transformation of the industry, and the findings of the National Readership Survey regarding Filipino electronic reading habits, emphasizing the opportunities and challenges this shift presents for academic libraries.



To further promote awareness of the survey's findings and NBDB's initiatives, Reyes also gave away complimentary copies of the 2023 National Readership Survey Highlights, which attendees could claim at the lobby entrance.



The opening ceremony concluded with the closing remarks delivered by the University Librarian Elvira B. Lapuz, followed by a ribbon-cutting ceremony led by Dr. Symaco and Dr. Lusterio-Rico along with the Head Librarians of ISAIS and the CSSP Library, Dr. Rizalyn V. Janio and Dr. Rhoel E. Rondilla, respectively.

The ribbon-cutting officially opened the exhibit area, where students, faculty, and staff explored the various booths hosted by partner vendors such as Academic Paradigm Inc., MegaTEXTS, Wiley, CE-Logic, EBSCO, Forefront, LibTech Source Philippines Inc., JoVE, and Gale, each offering engaging activities and interactive showcases. To add to the excitement, the fair included a passport activity where participants could collect stamps from each partner for a chance to win prizes. Throughout the event, participants were also treated to refreshments, including coffee, taho, and lunch.

Ultimately, through the collective efforts of the UL staff, partner publishers, university offices, faculty, and students, SAGWANAN 2026 embodied the spirit of collaboration in promoting accessible online readership and digital scholarship. By rowing together toward this shared goal, the fair continues to serve as an essential platform, fostering a deeper and stronger connection between the university community and the library's expanding electronic resources.

By M.C. Estepa,
Information Services and Instruction Section

Database, Demos, and Discoveries:
A Showcase of Digital Resources for the UP System

On 4 March 2026, the UP Diliman Main Library hosted "Product Demo Year 4: The Search Continues" live via Zoom. The event was attended by faculty members, librarians, and Research, Extension, and Professional Staff (REPS) from the University of the Philippines (UP) System.

The main goal of the session was to evaluate digital resources for future acquisition and to support the UP community with electronic resources that would be useful for their academic needs. UP Diliman University Librarian Elvira B. Lapuz opened the event by highlighting the importance of reviewing online assets firsthand.

Throughout the morning and afternoon sessions, the facilitators Mark Lester Estepa and. Dianne Angela V. Villavicencio guided attendees through presentations from twelve (12) publishers and vendors. In total, the representatives demonstrated thirty (30) different products, which included twenty-one (21) academic databases and nine (9) research tools.

The speakers discussed the content coverage of their collections and explained how to navigate their platforms. The event allowed participants to interact directly with the product specialists and address specific user questions. The afternoon session also featured an interactive quiz conducted by Book Network & Educational Media Center Co..

Following the session, sixty nine (69) participants completed the evaluation form. The data from the evaluation showed that every campus in the UP System had a representative online, with nearly half of the respondents coming from UP Diliman. The vast majority of these attendees were REPS, alongside several faculty members. Most of the respondents stated that they found the product demonstrations useful for their academic work.

The evaluation form asked participants to select their top choices for future university subscriptions. Based on their selections, the top five databases recommended for acquisition were Taylor & Francis eBooks, Springer eBooks, Wiley e-Journals under a transformative agreement model, the EBSCO eBooks University Press Subscription Collection, and the Oxford eJournals Full Collection.

Participants also identified their top choices for research tools. Based on their selections, the top three research tools recommended for acquisition were Grammarly, Bloomsbury SkillsForStudy + CiteThemRight, and Compilatio Magister+.

While these databases and tools emerged as top participant favorites, these rankings serve strictly as recommendations and do not guarantee final acquisition. To ensure the best use of university resources, the UP System will conduct a rigorous evaluation of their overall utility. Any potential databases or tools will first undergo a mandatory trial period before any purchasing decisions or negotiations are finalized.

By the end of the event, Rizalyn V. Janio, Head Librarian of the Information Services and Instruction Section at UP Diliman, closed the event by thanking the organizers and participants. Attendees expressed gratitude for the wide range of subjects covered and noted that the event was a successful return for the library series. Many respondents shared that they hope for even greater faculty participation in future library demonstrations, as faculty input remains crucial for purchasing subscriptions.

By M.G. Dumlao,
Information Services and Instruction Section



Behind every Hunt:

Reflections from the Corps

Another round of exciting stories and hunting has come to an end. On 22 May 2026, The Great InfoHunt: Hukay officially culminated. The culmination indeed felt like a huge weight had been lifted off the shoulders of the organizers, particularly the ISAIS TGI Corps.

While I proudly celebrate its culmination, I want to share what really happens behind every successful culmination of this highly-anticipated library program. As part of the core team, creating this year's TGI was a roller coaster of emotions. Like any other iteration of TGI, Hukay started with a wave of witty discussions, creative brainstorming, and even the craziest ideas, which made me genuinely excited to write stories and take a huge part in shaping Hukay's unique identity. Writing the tasks for TGI is always a challenge, but who would have thought we would also come up with very witty titles for Hukay's stories? For instance, we named one of our stories "Burol" because it carries two meanings that perfectly fit the narrative of the Maguindanao Massacre: burol as in hill, where the victims were buried, and burol as in wake, the vigil held to honor and mourn those who lost their lives.

Looking back, one of my favorite parts of the process was simply listening to and exchanging ideas with my fellow TGI Corps members. I am truly grateful to have worked with Chelsea, Marzo, and Nicole. Their creativity and enthusiasm made every brainstorming session memorable and reminded me that great ideas are born from fun, engaging discussions among people who share the same passion and dedication.

I am also grateful to Ma'am Rye for always giving us the freedom to be creative and for trusting and supporting our ideas. Though there were challenges, especially with the delays in some tasks, we were able to overcome them through teamwork, open communication, and our shared commitment to making Hukay a success.

During the culmination of TGI Hukay, I cannot help but feel extremely proud of our team. We were able to invite Abner P. Mercado, a veteran journalist, who shared his rich experience in journalism and brought the theme of TGI to life. The culmination was also graced by the presence of our ever-supportive partners who have been with us since the first round of the hunt; our great Isko and Iska who bravely took our challenge; our supportive friends from ISAIS, who assisted us along the way; and colleagues from different unit libraries.

Hukay is already the fourth iteration of TGI. As I reflect on our journey, I never imagined that we would come this far. Four years ago, when we launched the first iteration of TGI, there were many uncertainties and doubts. Yet, with each new iteration, our confidence in the program and our commitment to making it better only grew stronger.

Teamwork— that's what made it happen. Again.

By E.Y. Chua,
Information Services and Instruction Section



Voices, Ideas and Culture:

The UPDEPP Library as a Haven for Community Empowerment

The library has evolved beyond a repository of books into a haven for discourse, collaboration, and student well-being. Despite its modest floor area, the University of the Philippines Diliman Extension Programs in Pampanga (UPDEPP) Library maximizes its spaces to support academic and community life by hosting seminars, forums, workshops, and meetings. Consequently, it promotes intellectual engagement, creative expression, and holistic development. Moving into 2026, the UPDEPP Library continues to embrace this dynamic identity, opening its doors to diverse programs that underscore its vital role as a safe space and a vibrant hub for intellectual discovery, creativity, and meaningful community engagement.

Open Mic @ UPDEPP Lib:Tiny Desk edition

The UPDEPP Library transformed into a space for stories, music, and community connection during its third annual Open Mic on 13 February 2026. Held in celebration of Library Lovers' Month, Valentine's Week, and National Arts Month, the event brought together students, faculty, and staff for an afternoon of fellowship.

Serving as a de-stress and mental health hub, especially during finals week, the UPDEPP Library aimed to support student wellness through artistic expression; the initiative partnered with the UP Musicians' Guild for the second consecutive year. The program featured intimate, Tiny Desk-inspired sets alongside live band performances and spoken word poetry, showcasing the diverse talents of the UPDEPP community.

More than a talent showcase, the event provided a supportive environment where participants and audiences found encouragement and a sense of belonging. Through this annual Open Mic, the UPDEPP Library reaffirms its commitment to fostering both academic growth and the meaningful, creative connections that enrich university life.





IP 101: A Forum on Intellectual Property & Academic Integrity

In celebration of World Book and Copyright Day and National Intellectual Property Month, the UPDEPP Library hosted its first-ever forum, ***"IP 101: A Forum on Intellectual Property and Academic Integrity,"*** on April 22, 2026. The event aimed to deepen the academic community's understanding of Philippine intellectual property rights and laws.





The resource speaker, Atty. Chester Abellera, discussed the provisions of the Intellectual Property Code of the Philippines. Citing notable legal cases, he shared practical ways for students and creatives to protect their work. A lively Q&A session followed, addressing diverse audience questions that spanned trademarks, intellectual dishonesty, fanart, and fanfiction.

The forum was hosted by Library Student Assistants (SA) Andrea Louise C. Belen and Margaret Anne M. Cabardo. It was organized by librarians Merck Sianson M. Tan, Mark Geneson P. Hernandez, and Rebilyn G. Roman, alongside SAs Tiffany Nicole S. Grateja and Kimberly S. Wong.

NOW PLAYING: Serenata

Throughout May 2026, the UPDEPP Library celebrated National Heritage Month by transforming its reading spaces into a cultural haven, playing soft Kapampangan melodies daily from 11:00AM to 1:00PM.

The initiative featured a curated selection of resources on Kapampangan heritage, complemented by audio tracks from the book *Serenata: A Treasury of Kapampangan Songs*, a recent addition to the library's collection. Played at a gentle volume, alternating playlists of *Panarana*, *Pangundiman*, and *Basultu* gave the library a warm, café-like ambiance that enhanced the study experience while introducing visitors to Pampanga's rich musical traditions.

More than background music, the program offered the UPDEPP community a meaningful connection to local identity, history, and artistry. The month-long activity reflects the UPDEPP Library's continuing commitment to promoting cultural awareness and preservation and enriching the learning environment through innovative and engaging programs that celebrate the diverse heritage of the region and of the Philippines.



Other Activities

The UPDEPP Library also opened its doors to various academic forums and community gatherings throughout 2026:

- **January**: Second College Library Committee Meeting; UPD OSG Orientation
- **February**: UPDEPP Library Orientation; Talakayan ng Alagad ng Sining (Artistalk)
- **March**: Sustainability Vision Meeting; Pahinungod Orientation; Sinukuan Talks
- **April**: ReimagiAInation 2026

As the UPDEPP Library moves forward, it strives to maintain these vital connections, continuing to enrich the university learning environment through innovative, community-centered initiatives.

By M.P. Hernandez & R.G. Roman,
UP Diliman Extension Program in Pampanga Library



In a demonstration of allyship this Pride Month 2026, the University Library held a training session aimed at strengthening its commitment to inclusivity and safety. Titled "Safe Space, Safe Place: A Gender-based Violence (GBV) First Responder Training," the event took place on 23 June 2026, at the Environmental and Energy Engineering Building as part of the University Staff Training and Development Committee's (STDC) ongoing "Libtalks" public forum and training series.

A collaboration between the UL Gender and Development (GAD) Committee and the UL STDC, the series brought together university students and library staff to equip them with an understanding of gender-based violence (GBV) in the context of Pride and diversity, helping them identify signs of abuse and gain practical skills to handle crisis situations effectively and empathetically.

University Librarian Elvira B. Lapuz delivered the opening remarks, reaffirming the University Library's commitment to its Gender and Development (GAD) mandate of fostering a safe, inclusive, and respectful environment for the community. She emphasized that conducting the training during Pride Month reflects the library's support for the LGBTQIA+ community and its role as an ally in promoting equality, dignity, and safer spaces free from gender-based violence and discrimination.

UP Diliman University Library fosters safe spaces with GBV First Responder training

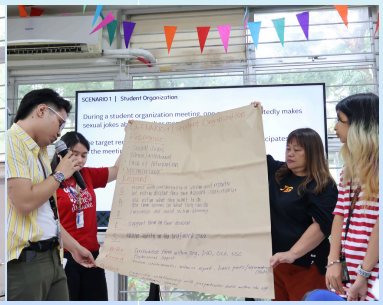
Facilitated by Anna Myrishia Villanueva, Head of the UP Diliman Gender Office (DGO), the training featured four sessions. The first session reframed GBV as a systemic issue rooted in power and SOGIE, highlighting how social systems and infrastructure normalize violence. She also added that experience of GBV may vary depending on individual context and vulnerability. Villanueva emphasized that integrating GBV awareness with Pride means actively preventing harm through deliberate action, including ensuring accessible support and creating safer communities.



The second session focused on recognizing GBV in everyday interactions, noting how power imbalances, fear of retaliation, safety concerns, and learned helplessness can prevent survivors from speaking out. Participants are then encouraged to look beyond physical signs of abuse by recognizing subtle behavioral changes in survivors, and identifying perpetrators' "red flags" through the context, timing, and manner of their communication. Ultimately, Villanueva reminded responders to prioritize empowering survivors by creating a supportive space where they can safely share, rather than acting as advisors or investigators.

The third session introduced the "4Rs" framework for first responders: Recognize, Respond, Refer, and Record. Participants learned to practice active listening; prioritize safety; navigate multisectoral referral pathways, with Villanueva outlining appropriate referrals to university offices, government agencies, and partner institutions; and maintain records to track actions, identify gaps in the response, and safeguard first responders.





For the final session, Villanueva and her co-facilitators from DGO oversaw simulation exercises, guiding participants in applying knowledge gained throughout the training. Attendees engaged in assessing situations and planning out first responder actions based on the 4Rs framework. These exercises concluded with group presentations, allowing participants to share their insights and reflect on their crisis intervention techniques.

The training concluded with a commemorative group photo, bringing together participants and facilitators in recognition of their shared commitment this Pride Month to a safer, more respectful and inclusive university.



By M.C. Estepa, UL Gender and Development Committee



Nutrilaro 2026:

Usapang Family Nutrition at Gender Equality sa Kusina

By M.M. Caro,
UL Gender and Development Committee

Noong ika-27 ng Abril 2026, matagumpay na isinagawa ang "Nutrilaro: Family Nutrition and Gender Equality in the Kitchen", isang *parallel* workshop at *playdate* para sa mga magulang at bata na naglalayong palalimin ang kaalaman tungkol sa nutrisyon ng pamilya habang isinusulong ang *Gender Equality* sa loob ng tahanan. Ang programa ay inihandog ng CWTS 2-CHE at ng programang Sulok Batibot ng UP Diliman Gender Office, sa pakikipagtulungan ng University Library – Gender and Development Committee, na ginanap sa *Conference Room* ng Environmental and Energy Engineering Building.

Ang aktibidad ay nahati sa dalawang bahagi. Ang unang bahagi ay talakayan para sa mga magulang tungkol sa mga hamong kinakaharap ng mga pamilyang Pilipino sa kasalukuyan at mga mahahalagang konsepto sa nutrisyon. Ang ikalawang bahagi naman ay mga palaro at interaktibong gawain para sa mga bata. Habang isinasagawa ang talakayan para sa mga magulang, pinangunahan ng mga estudyante ng CWTS 2-CHE ang mga palaro at interaktibong gawaing ito.



Sinimulan ni Steph Andaya mula sa UP Diliman Gender Office ang talakayan sa isang kumustahan hinggil sa epekto ng matinding init ng panahon, pagtaas ng singil sa kuryente at tubig, at patuloy na pagtaas ng presyo ng mga pangunahing bilihin. Tinalakay din kung paano naaapektuhan ng mga pandaigdigang pangyayari ang lokal na ekonomiya at ang kabuhayan ng mga pamilya. Mula rito, lumalim ang usapan tungkol sa ugnayan ng kahirapan, karahasan, at hindi pagkakapantay-pantay ng kasarian. Napag-usapan ang konsepto ng *feminization of poverty*, pati na rin ang epekto ng patriyarkiya at iba pang uri ng diskriminasyon sa kalagayan ng kababaihan at ng kanilang pamilya. Bilang bahagi ng pagtalakay sa *gender awareness*, ipinakilala rin ang mga pangunahing konsepto ng *Sex-Gender System, Gender Identity, Sex Identity, Gender Expression* at *SOGIE*.

Kasunod nito, tinalakay ng mga estudyante ng CWTS 2-CHE ang mahahalagang konsepto sa nutrisyon. Ipinaliwanag nila ang kahalagahan ng wastong pagkain, mga sustansiyang kailangan ng katawan, iba't ibang pangangailangang nutrisyonal ayon sa yugto ng buhay, *food safety*, at mga halimbawa ng Pinggang Pinoy. Nagkaroon din ng workshop kung saan gumawa ang mga magulang at ibang kalahok ng simpleng *meal plan* para sa kanilang mga anak. Bilang pangwakas na gawain, natutunan ng mga bata ang paggawa ng simpleng *fruit salad*.

Sa kabuuan, naging matagumpay ang Nutrilaro sa pagsasama ng edukasyon, paglalaro, at aktibong pakikilahok ng mga bata at magulang. Ipinakita ng programa na ang pagtataguyod ng wastong nutrisyon ay higit pa sa usapin ng pagkain; ito rin ay kaugnay ng mga hamong panlipunan, pang-ekonomiya, at pangkasarian na kinakaharap ng mga pamilya.



New Attendance Kiosk at the CSSP Reading Room

Good news to the readers of the College of Social Sciences and Philosophy (CSSP) Reading Room! We now have an Attendance Kiosk that instantly records your visit with one tap of your UP RFID!

Right on time for the Second Semester of Academic Year 2025-2026, the attendance kiosk was installed last January. It makes use of the SURI App, a development by the Main Library's Information Technology Division, which ties in with BUKLOD to log the number of readers entering the Reading Room. When a reader taps their UP RFID on the kiosk, their BUKLOD profile flashes briefly: their designation, their campus, and their college or office. In an idle state, on the other hand, the kiosk plays a video displaying information on the resources and services of the CSSP Library.



A Little History

Before the kiosk, the CSSP Reading Room used to record the number of its readers using an online form crafted by the CSSP Library staff. A designated desktop containing the online form was placed in front of the entrance so that the readers could input their names, their student/employee numbers, their designations, and their home units. This arrangement was set up in mid-April 2024 and continued until December 2025. At present, the desktop remains in its place to accommodate those whose UP RFIDs are still in process, as well as non-UP visitors.

And, before the desktop, the Reading Room used to record its readers using pen and paper—ever the method tried-and-true. Readers would write on the printed forms their student/employee numbers, their designations, their home units, and their times of entry.

Feedback

Both methods, while one obviously being an upgrade from the other, have proven to be non-optimal in recording the number of our readers. Primarily, as it usually takes a minute to fill out the entry forms, queues would often form whenever a considerable volume of readers would enter the Reading Room. With the new attendance kiosk to log their entry, however, our readers now rarely need to form a line at the entrance. Furthermore, the kiosk has received generally positive feedback from our readers, garnering mostly amazement from them.



To our dear readers, we truly appreciate your support for the CSSP Reading Room as a library space. We hope to see you again in the future!

The CSSP Reading Room can be found on the second floor of the Third World Studies Center inside the Palma Hall complex. It is open on Mondays to Fridays from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM.





By M.B. Alfonso, CSSP Library

Drawn:

Modernizing Archival Research in the VSB Library

As a librarian at the Cesar E. A. Virata School of Business (VSB), my primary role is to manage our library's records and archival collection. Since 2024, I have focused on describing, classifying, organizing, and maintaining these physical assets. The natural next step was long-term preservation, which led the library staff and me to spend the past two years digitizing our entire archival collection. To ensure consistency, we organize, classify, and name each digital file according to the naming conventions recommended by the University Library.

As an information professional, I firmly believe that inaccessible information is practically non-existent. Digitizing the files was only half the battle; the next logical step was to encode their bibliographic data and embed file links into a central system so researchers could actually find them.

Initially, I evaluated several free versions of industry-recognized content management systems that meet international standards. However, they all offered highly restrictive storage limits and narrow options for local storage. This constraint inspired me to build our own platform, which I named **Drawn**—a custom indexing and retrieval application designed to make our archival collections easily searchable by leveraging the **Google Workspace** tools. I chose the name "Drawn" because archival collections are traditionally stored in cabinets, and pulling a file out of those drawers means it is literally *drawn*. My ultimate goal for this application is to streamline how archival resources are retrieved whether from physical cabinets or digital databases.

Behind the Scenes

I selected Google **AppSheet** as the development platform for Drawn because it is readily accessible to all members of the UP community who hold a university email account. It allowed me to customize the user interface, structure the backend data, and drive a smooth front-end user experience. The app itself is organized into four dedicated modules: the About page, Search Module, Update Module, and Add Module. All application data lives in a backend spreadsheet created via **Google Sheets**, while the primary archival files are safely stored in the library's **Google Drive** account, which has a 21 TB capacity.

Designed for Both Research and Administration

To keep our collection accessible yet secure, I structured Drawn with two distinct user interfaces tailored to specific user login roles:

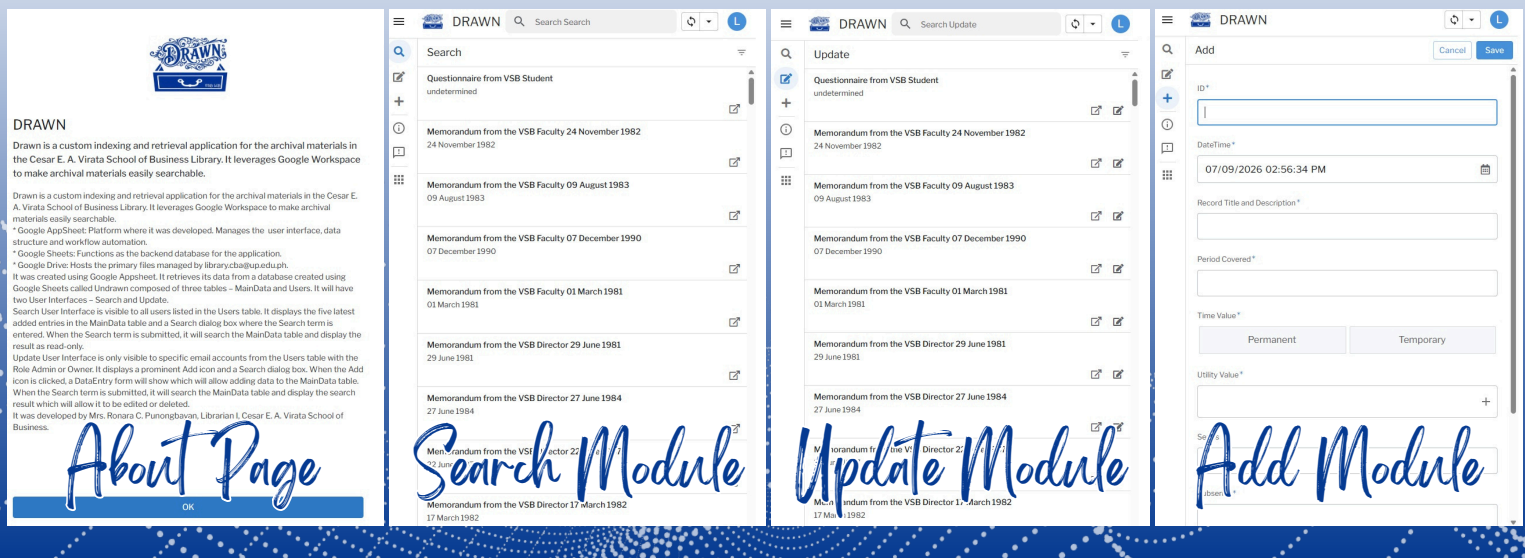
- **The Search Interface:** This view is accessible to anyone whose email is registered in the system. Upon logging in, the app automatically displays the five most recent additions to the archive. Users can simply type keywords into the search box, and the app scans the database to display results in a clean, read-only format perfect for quick research.
- **The Update Interface:** This view is strictly restricted to administrative email accounts designated as "Admin" or "Owner." In this view, an administrator sees a prominent "Add" icon that opens a structured data entry form to input new items. Additionally, searching from this interface gives administrators full access to edit or delete existing archival records quickly.

Current Progress and Looking Ahead

Right now, the library staff and I are actively encoding the bibliographic data of our archival collection into Drawn.

I built Drawn to ensure that decades of VSB history and archives are now just a quick search away for our entire community. If you are a student or faculty member looking to utilize these archives for your research, please visit the VSB Library or contact us at library.cba@up.edu.ph to get set up on the platform!

By R.C. Punongbayan, VSB Library





CSWCD Library: Transforming Services, Celebrating Excellence

From January to June 2026, the CSWCD Library continued to embrace innovation and improve its services, and has gained recognition for its outstanding achievements. The first half of 2026 marked significant progress in modernization, technological advancement, and public service.

Among the highlights of this period were the launch of the Automated Attendance Kiosk and the library's recognition as a recipient of the UP Diliman GALING Award 2026. These milestones reflect the library's dedication to providing responsive, inclusive, and high-quality services to the UP community.

The Attendance Kiosk Launch

Back on 23 March 2026, the CSWCD Library launched the Smart Library Attendance Kiosk under the theme "*ProgreSIBOL: Enhancing Access and Service Excellence*." An initiative that emphasizes the library's commitment to innovation and improved service for the community of the University of the Philippines Diliman.

The kiosk automates the recording of library visitors through RFID-enabled campus IDs, replacing the previous manual attendance system and allowing faster and more accurate monitoring of library use. It also generates reliable usage statistics that support reporting, program planning, and data-driven decision-making. The system is integrated with UP Library databases such as SURI (Patron Verification System) and BUKLOD.



The launching event was attended by faculty members, students, administrative staff, and invited guests who came together to witness the formal unveiling and demonstration of the kiosk's features. The program showcased the library's efforts toward innovation and service improvement through technology-driven solutions.

UPD GALING Award

The CSWCD Library was selected as the recipient of the GALING Award 2026 under the Group Category during the **2026 Parangal at Pagkilala para sa mga Kawani at Retirado ng Unibersidad ng Pilipinas** held at the University Theater, UP Diliman, on 6 May 2026. The GALING ng UP Diliman Awards recognize teams or units that demonstrate excellence, innovation, and quality service within the University. This recognition highlighted the dedication and teamwork of the CSWCD Library staff in providing responsive library services, improving access to information resources, and strengthening digitization and records management initiatives.



As the CSWCD Library continues its transformative journey this mid-year, guided by the shared commitment of the *Iskolar ng Bayan and Organisador ng Bayan*, it remains steadfast in its pursuit of innovation and excellence. The successful implementation of the Automated Attendance Kiosk reflects the College's embrace of smart and technology-driven solutions, while the GALING Award stands as a recognition of the Library's achievements and a motivation to further redefine the role and impact of an academic library in service of the University community.

By J.M. Pangilinan, L.D. Garzon, J.D. Malabanan, M.A. Manaay, and I.A. Napoles,
College of Social Work and Community Development Library



A Sea of Support:

Wellness, Sustainability, and Excellence at the MSI Library

Books and quiet study spaces are the first things that come to mind when you think of a library. It's not the same at the University of the Philippines Marine Science Institute (UP MSI) Library. The library reinforced the roles it plays in learning, research, community, and environmental stewardship from January to May 2026.

Research and academic excellence are the priorities of the library. The library supports faculty, researchers, and students by providing research consultations, literature searches, and access to various data and research services. It also collects and maintains the archives of the faculty's publications and research outputs. This helps the institute's scientific work grow and also boost its research communication and advocacy.

To support the mission of the institute to conserve the marine environment, the library initiated a plastics collection drive. It also aimed at inspiring proper waste disposal and recycling. The initiative showcased the importance of everyday actions to the long-term health of the marine environment and demonstrated the impacts of a do-it-yourself attitude on environmental care.

In addition to supporting academics, the library extends its reach through community-focused initiatives. For instance, it celebrated "Love Month" in February with activities promoting kindness, appreciation, and fellowship among patrons.

In March, the library honored Women's Month by highlighting women's contributions to society and the sciences. Furthermore, the library opened its doors to the broader public during the University Library Hop, inviting visitors to experience its services and collections firsthand.

To ease the pressure of final examinations week, the library offered a simple well-being initiative. Patrons were provided with snacks, coffee, and hot chocolate to sustain them through their studies.

On 06 May 2026, the UP MSI Library was recognized and honored during the *2026 Parangal at Pagkilala para sa mga Kawani at Retirado ng Unibersidad ng Pilipinas* for its innovative community engagement. The award recognized the library for its services and stretching beyond the library function to offer a caring clientele service while supporting research and sustainability.

Moving forward, the library continues to address community needs through innovative services and collaborative initiatives. The library also offers research support as well as activities which promote learning and sustainability.

By R.G. Dela Mata-Tabo,
Marine Science Institute Library



What AUNILO taught me about the future of libraries

By M.A.Jinio

Can we really think about the future before it arrives? That question stayed with me throughout the 21st AUNILO Business Meeting, held from 19 to 21 May 2026 at De La Salle University in Manila. With the theme, "The Future Is Plural: Shaping and Designing the Future of ASEAN University Libraries," the meeting brought together 42 delegates from eight ASEAN member countries: Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam.

The meeting opened with a keynote address by Dr. Raymond Girard Tan, Vice President for Research and Innovation of DLSU. He discussed how libraries are continuously expanding their roles as spaces for research, inclusive learning, and sustainability. He also highlighted the use of artificial intelligence, micro-credentials, and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in strengthening the contribution of libraries to interdisciplinary learning and the wider community.

One point stayed with me: ***The future is not simply something we wait for. It is something we actively shape.***

Following the keynote, the discussion shifted from broad ideas about the future to the current realities of university libraries across the region.

Country representatives shared their initiatives, challenges, and practices through the country reports. Despite their different contexts, many ASEAN university libraries are responding to similar developments in higher education, including digital transformation, hybrid learning, artificial intelligence, open access, and the need for more inclusive and collaborative spaces.

The reports also highlighted common concerns such as limited funding, uneven digital infrastructure, rising resource costs, and staff development. These shared challenges strengthened the need for regional collaboration, information access, and resource sharing, showing that libraries cannot prepare for the future by working alone.

Then, the internal business meeting provided an opportunity for AUNILO members to review the network's progress, address key concerns, and identify priorities for 2027 to 2028. Members also discussed future initiatives that could strengthen cooperation and resource sharing among AUN member universities. It was announced that the next AUNILO meeting will be hosted by Universitas Gadjah Mada in Indonesia. The handover of the AUNILO Secretariat was also formally acknowledged, with Singapore concluding its term and the participating universities from Thailand welcomed as the incoming Secretariat.

One of the highlights of the meeting for me was the workshop, "Designing the Future Today: Aligning Strategic Priorities Through Futures Thinking," facilitated by Shermon O. Cruz. Instead of simply predicting what libraries might look like several years from now, the workshop challenged us to examine different possible futures and the decisions that may lead us to them.

Our group was composed of Philippine delegates from the University of the Philippines and Ateneo de Manila University. Cruz asked us to identify our concerns about the future and express them through one question. Our question was simple: *How might we build an agile, future-ready library?*

The use of the word *agile* was intentional. It captures several important qualities in one word: the ability to move quickly, respond to change, remain flexible, and adapt to new conditions. It also summed up many of our concerns, from defining the continuing value of librarianship to building resilient libraries and preparing a future-ready workforce.

We carried this question with us as we moved to the next part of the workshop, the *Dreams & Disruptions* game. It was a foresight card game that encouraged us to move away from our usual assumptions about libraries and imagine futures that may initially appear strange, unlikely, or even uncomfortable.

While other groups worked on preferred or disowned futures, Team Philippines requested to explore a "weird future." We were tasked to imagine a world where sentient AI and nanotechnology coexist. From these conditions, we developed a story about what a library might become 10 years from now:

> Imagine entering a library 10 years from now.
>
> Libraries have evolved into intelligent lifelong learning ecosystems powered by sentient AI and nanotechnology. Nanosensors and AI systems recognize cues such as confusion, stress, or difficulty in learning, allowing librarians to better understand a student's needs.
>
> A student struggling with history may enter a multisensory simulation and experience an event instead of simply reading about it. Yet the librarian remains essential. AI provides data and personalization, while the librarian provides empathy, ethical guidance, critical thinking, and human connection.

This is what an agile, future-ready library could look like: a space that continuously adapts to people's needs while preserving the core values of libraries, including lifelong learning, accessibility, trust, and human understanding.





Our scenario reminded me that being future-ready does not mean replacing people with technology. It means understanding how technology can support people while protecting the values that libraries have always stood for. No matter how intelligent our systems become, libraries should remain human-centered.

The meeting concluded with a cultural tour in Cavite, where we had the opportunity to know more about José Rizal. I realized how much of my own country I have yet to discover, truly, *naging turista sa sariling bayan*. It was a welcome change of pace after several days of reports, meetings, and workshops. At the same time, the tour connected our discussions about the future with questions of history, memory, and the preservation of cultural heritage.

Our final stop was the DLSU campus in Biñan. Walking around its vast grounds, I noticed that many of its buildings carried the names of donors, business leaders, and private partners. These spaces showed how partnerships and outside support could contribute to the development of an institution. It made me wonder whether similar forms of partnership could also be explored in UP while still preserving its identity and responsibility as a public university.

I could not help but think of Gonzalez Hall and the librarians waiting to return to their home. Regardless of what name a building may eventually carry or what form of support makes its completion possible, what matters is that libraries are given the spaces and resources they need to continue serving their communities.

The AUNILO meeting did not provide a single picture of what the future of libraries should be, and perhaps that was precisely the point. The future is plural because our institutions, communities, and challenges are different. However, the meeting also showed that these different futures do not have to be shaped separately.

But can we really think about the future? Perhaps not with certainty. Yet gatherings like AUNILO remind us that imagining possible futures and choosing which one to build together is already part of the work of librarianship. The future of libraries is plural, shaped not by technology alone, but by the choices we make, the partnerships we form, and our willingness to imagine and work toward the kind of library our communities deserve.



University Library at 104:

CELEBRATING PEOPLE, SERVICE, AND EXCELLENCE

The University Library celebrated its 104th Founding Anniversary with a lecture series held on 6, 19, and 27 March 2026, featuring staff development seminars, digital communication sessions, and a public lecture, organized by the Staff Training and Development Committee (STDC) under the University Library Human Resource Committee (UL-HRC). The series featured the Library's vital role in advancing research, learning, and academic engagement.

Guided by the theme "*Celebrating People, Service, and Excellence for 104 Years*", this year's anniversary lecture series sought to provide professional development opportunities for library personnel, promote information literacy and user engagement initiatives, and increase awareness of research support services, particularly in the area of research data management.



Session 1: Complain Smart-Work Happier: Effective Grievance Handling for a Healthy Workplace

The lecture series commenced on 6 March 2026 with a session on fostering a healthy workplace and cultivating harmonious professional relationships, held at the Conference Room of the Environmental and Engineering Building. Rogelio Estrada Jr., Chief Administrative Officer of the UP Diliman Human Resource Development Office (HRDO) Planning and Research Division, led the discussion of the University's grievance process, the appropriate channels for addressing workplace concerns, and the importance of effective interpersonal skills in promoting a respectful, harmonious, and productive work environment.



The lecture drew 43 participants, who actively participated in an interactive activity that explored their perceptions of the term *grievance*. Reflecting on the seminar, participants noted that when workplace conflicts and grievances are addressed through clear communication and established protocols, they can serve as opportunities for professional growth, ultimately fostering a healthier, more collaborative, and productive work environment.





Session 2: The Journey Begins: Orientation for New UP Library Staff

A journey in the University Library begins with understanding its library services, values, and responsibilities that define its workplace. To equip both new and existing University Library staff with these fundamentals, the second session featured an orientation on the University Library's mission, vision, organizational structure, services, workplace policies, and protocols, facilitated by Eimee Rhea C. Lagrama, Deputy University Librarian of the University Library, UP Diliman.





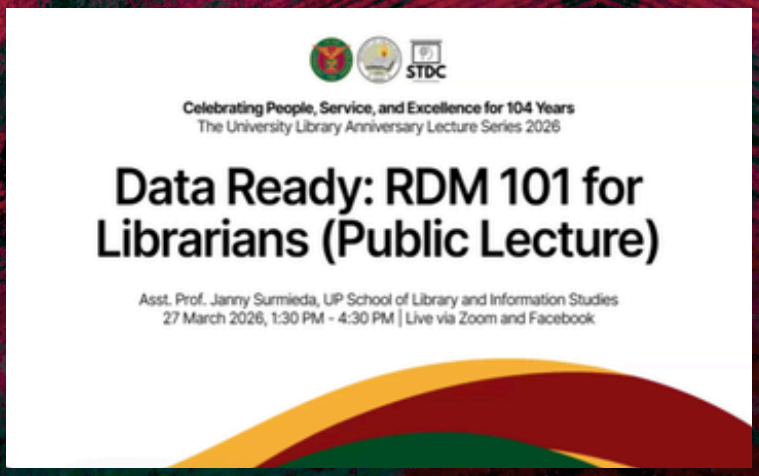
A total of 48 participants attended the session. The orientation presented essential workplace policies, staff benefits, and professional opportunities. Through interactive workplace scenarios, participants strengthened their understanding of their roles and responsibilities, expected workplace conduct, and application of policies within the University Library community.

Session 3: GConnect: Smarter Communications with Google Meet and Google Chat



On 19 March 2026, an online learning session about Google Meet and Google Chat, facilitated by Chelsea Anne Q. Bonifacio, College Librarian of the University Library, was held. The session equipped 71 participants with practical knowledge of using Google Workspace tools to enhance virtual communication and collaboration. Through demonstrations and interactive discussions, participants explored the core features of Google Meet and Google Chat, learned strategies for conducting online meetings, and examined communication scenarios to promote secure, professional, and efficient digital interactions. The session strengthened the University Library staff's digital communication and collaboration skills by equipping them with essential knowledge and practical strategies, fostering a more connected, efficient, and digitally empowered workplace.

Session 4: Data Ready: RDM 101 for Librarians



Marking the final installment of the University Library Anniversary Lecture Series, the STDC conducted a webinar titled "Data Ready: RDM 101 for Librarians: Ensuring Integrity, Reproducibility, and Impact" on 27 March 2026, from 1:30 to 4:30 PM, via Zoom and Facebook Live. The webinar was attended by 500 participants via Zoom and garnered around 700 views on Facebook Live. It highlighted the growing importance of Research Data Management (RDM) in supporting quality research and empowering librarians to take an active role in data stewardship.

The session was facilitated by Asst. Prof. Janny Surmieda of the UP School of Library and Information Science (SLIS), University of the Philippines Diliman, who emphasized that effective research begins with responsible data management. The importance of managing research data throughout its lifecycle—from planning and data collection to analysis, storage, archiving, sharing, and reuse—to ensure the integrity, accessibility, and long-term value of research.

The webinar concluded with a practical discussion on developing a Data Management Plan (DMP). Participants were guided through the essential components of a DMP and learned how it serves as a roadmap for organizing, documenting, storing, sharing, and preserving research data throughout the research process. This practical exercise reinforced the importance of proactive planning in ensuring that research data remain well-managed and accessible over time.

The webinar concluded by reinforcing the vital role of librarians in research data management, highlighting how responsible data stewardship supports research integrity, accessibility, and long-term impact.

By E.R. Fernando, M.M. Caro & J.M. Tumlos,
Staff Training and Development Committee

The ULtimate Library Hop 2.0

By R.R. Cabrera, Strategic Communication, Research and Marketing Section

Following the successful implementation of the ULtimate Library Hop (ULHop) 2025, the Main Library's Strategic Communication, Research and Marketing Section (StratComm) relaunched the initiative as *The ULtimate Library Hop: Discover, Connect, and Explore with UPD Libraries (ULHop 2.0)* in February 2026.

The project was supported through a ₱195,000.00 grant awarded by the UP Diliman Office for Initiatives in Culture and the Arts (OICA) in November 2025 following its call for proposals for the UP Diliman Arts and Culture Festival (UPDACF) 2026, which carried the theme "Isang Unibersidad para sa inklusibo at mapagkalingang lipunan."

With the support of the grant, StratComm organized a day-long launching event featuring a series of activities for participants and attendees. The event began with an art therapy session in the morning facilitated by Christian D. Pagadora, a contemporary artist. This was followed by the official launch of *ULHop 2.0* and the distribution of passport booklets to participants and head librarians from the different college libraries across the campus. In the afternoon, a book club meeting was held in partnership with *Book Club Buddies PH*, bringing together authors and readers for a meaningful discussion on the challenges and opportunities of writing literature in the country.

For the expanded version of the project, more libraries across the campus participated, including those under non-degree-granting units. Participation was also expanded to include not only students but also faculty members and staff of the University. StratComm likewise upgraded the previous stamp card into a passport-style booklet, which serves as both a functional and informative guide for participants. In addition to dedicated pages for collecting library stamps, the booklet features relevant information about each participating library and the Main Library.





A total of 300 participants claimed their passport booklets and joined the activity. To encourage more participants to complete the library hop, StratComm announced a culminating activity in which all participants who successfully completed the hop would have the chance to win either a Xiaomi tablet or a Huawei tablet.

The culminating activity, held together with *The Great InfoHunt: Hukay*, took place on 22 May 2026. The two tablet winners were participants from the National College of Public Administration and Governance (NCPAG) and the College of Education.



BEYOND THE DESK:

A Season of Transformational Leaps, Recognition, and Research Success at UP SURP Library

By the UP School of Urban and Regional Planning Library Team

The first half of 2026 has been a fast-moving and meaningful season for the UP School of Urban and Regional Planning (SURP) Library. Academic libraries are often imagined as quiet, predictable spaces. But at SURP Library, the past months have shown something more: a library can be a place of memory, practical innovation, professional growth, and ongoing service transformation.

This direction and commitment were most visible during the SURP Library's 59th Anniversary celebration on 24 February 24, 2026. Guided by the theme "Powering the Past, Enabling the Future," the event brought the SURP community together to honor nearly six decades of library service in support of teaching, research, extension, and public service in urban and regional planning. The program opened with warm welcome remarks from Dean Dina C. Magnaye, followed by an inspiring message from University Librarian, Elvira B. Lapuz.

The celebration also unveiled the SURP Library Heritage Gallery, which included portraits of past head librarians and a photo exhibition, in a look back with gratitude. These displays honored the people and memories that helped shape the SURP Library's foundation.



At the same time, the anniversary marked the official launch of the SURP Library Smart Sockets Service. Marked by a ribbon-cutting ceremony, a switch-on ceremony, and service demonstration, the initiative responded to a simple but very real need of today's library users: access to power while studying, researching, writing, and collaborating inside the library.

More than a facility improvement, the Smart Sockets Service reflects the SURP Library's effort to make its spaces more responsive, organized, and user-centered. With students, faculty, researchers, and staff relying heavily on laptops, phones, and other digital devices, the service provides a more structured charging setup while supporting more mindful use of electricity. The celebration continued into the afternoon with an Open House, where guests could experience the service and view the exhibit.



The professional accomplishments of the SURP Library team also reflected the same spirit of growth. Head Librarian Crizell Joy Garcia-Atuel was among the 2025 UP Diliman REPS Awardees under the Professional Staff Cluster, who were recognized during the University's Pamamadyaw recognition rites. It is an acknowledgement of continued contributions in the field of librarianship through research, paper presentations, publications, extension projects, association work, volunteer work, speaking engagements, and other professional activities.



The SURP Library also proudly celebrated the publication of Liziel Ogame's article, "Integration of Sustainable Development Goal Number Five (SDG 5) in the Practices of the University of the Philippines Libraries", in Information Generation & Management. Her work highlights the role of libraries in advancing gender equality and inclusive practices within the UP Library system.

As SURP Library approaches its 60th year, it carries memory and momentum as it transforms its services, strengthens its spaces, and contributes to scholarship and the wider library profession.

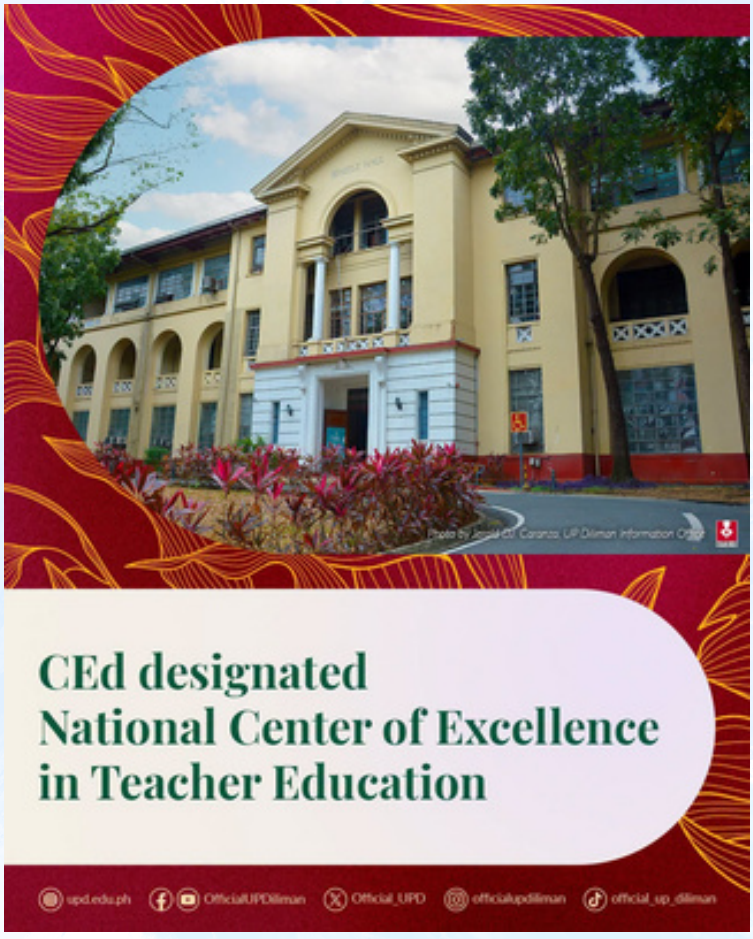
EXCELLENCE IN ACTION:

Highlights from the College of Education and Library

The first half of 2026 has been a meaningful and productive period for the College of Education and its library as they continue to support the college's mission of academic excellence, professional development, and community engagement. Through significant institutional achievements, collaborative learning opportunities, and outreach initiatives, the Library remained an active partner in advancing quality education and service.

Center of Excellence from TEC

One of the most notable accomplishments during this period was the recognition of the College of Education by the Teacher Education Council as the National Center of Excellence in teacher education under Republic Act No. 11713. As one of the country's thirteen (13) distinguished teacher education institutions that exemplify the highest standards of excellence in teacher education, the College of Education continues to play a vital role in advancing professional education, supporting the development of future and practicing educators, and contributing to the continuous improvement of teacher education in the Philippines. This distinction reflects the college's enduring commitment to academic excellence, leadership, and innovation in the field of teacher education.



Benchmarking @QCPL

On June 5, the UP College of Education (UPCEd) Library staff conducted a benchmarking visit to the Quezon City Public Library (QCPL) to learn about its services, programs, and innovative library practices. The visit was warmly facilitated by QCPL's Officer-in-Charge, Mariza Chico, who guided the team through the library's various sections and shared insights into its operations.



Among the highlights of the visit was the library's puppet area, a creative space where storytelling comes to life. The library staff had the opportunity to see the collection of puppet characters and learn about the process of developing scripts and presenting puppet shows as part of QCPL's children's literacy and community engagement programs.

The team was also impressed by QCPL's streamlined registration system, which utilizes the Quezon City ID (QC ID), as well as its real-time visitor monitoring system that provides up-to-date statistics on library users across different sections. These technologies demonstrate how digital solutions can enhance library management and improve user services.





As a generous gesture, QCPL also donated copies of five (5) children's books featuring the different barangays of Quezon City, along with *The 85 Extraordinary Women: Quezon City's Women of Merit & Excellence in Nation-Building*. These valuable additions will further enrich the Education Library's collection and support learning and research on local history, culture, and community.

Mendez Outreach Follow Up

On 30 June 2026, the UPCEd Library returned to Mendez Central School in Mendez, Cavite, to follow up on its outreach program conducted on 08 November 2025. This was under the UP Diliman Extension Grant Project No. 252515 UPD-EG. The visit provided an opportunity to assess the impact of the previous training workshop, gather valuable feedback from participants, and strengthen the partnership between the library and the school community.

The School Reading Program Coordinator, Kayren Rocillo Ferma, warmly shared her experiences in applying the storytelling techniques and strategies the teachers learned during the workshop. As part of the follow-up activity, the teachers submitted narrative reports documenting how storytelling had been integrated into their classroom instruction. Observers on those particular sessions provided constructive and professional feedback to further enhance the teachers' storytelling practices and classroom delivery.



Led by the Head Librarian, Roselily M. Castillejos, the UPCEd Library also donated a collection of children's books and three bean bags to help create a more welcoming and reader-friendly learning environment for young learners. The donated resources are expected to enrich classroom instruction, promote literacy, and cultivate a lifelong love of reading among the pupils.



The return visit reflects the UPCEd Library's belief that outreach extends beyond a single event. By maintaining communication with partner schools and providing continued support, the library ensures that its programs create meaningful and lasting impact. As its partnership with Mendez Central School continues to grow, the library remains ready to assist the school through future literacy initiatives, professional development activities, and other collaborative programs that advance teaching, learning, and community engagement.

The accomplishments of the College of Education and its Library during the first half of 2026 reflect a shared commitment to excellence, innovation, and service. From receiving national recognition in teacher education and learning from best practices in library services to strengthening community partnerships through sustained outreach, these initiatives underscore the college and library's continuing dedication to advancing education, enriching learning experiences, and making a meaningful impact both within and beyond the university.

By J.A. Domingo,
College of Education Library





Librarians Empowerment Action of Diliman (LEAD) Phase V:

Strengthening Information Literacy for Sustainable Development in the Rural Community of Barangay Alinaya, Pidigan, Abra

Libraries serve as active partners in community empowerment, transforming access to information into tangible opportunities for sustainable growth. Over the years, the Library Extension Committee (LEC), through its flagship program, Librarians Empowerment Action of Diliman (LEAD), has conducted information literacy programs in various underserved communities, and is currently in its fifth phase. LEAD has reaffirmed this commitment by bringing information, education, and impactful community outreach to a mountainous village in Barangay Alinaya, Pidigan, Abra.

Funded by the University of the Philippines Diliman, Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research and Development (OVCRD) through an Extension Grant (Project 252514 UPD EG), LEAD Phase V: Strengthening Information Literacy for Sustainable Development in the Rural Community of Barangay Alinaya, Pidigan, Abra seeks to empower locals through applied learning opportunities while strengthening sustainable partnerships that address community needs.

The project's implementation benefited 78 participants, composed of community residents and family representatives. The program was hosted at the residence of Teacher Mary Grace Malapay-Garcia, with support from Barangay Chairman Roel Bandolin and local coordinator Cristina Feir B. Bisares, a public school teacher who played a vital role in coordinating community participation.

A highlight was the session conducted by Alaine Chalipo-Banggad, Administrator of Mt. Carmel Agri-Tourism and Training Center, Inc., Pidigan Branch, entitled "Sustainable Agriculture: Innovative Farming Practices". The presentation focused on methods to enhance agricultural productivity using modern, practical techniques. To encourage participants to put their learnings into practice, the speaker concluded the session by giving each participant a seedling, symbolizing an initial step toward sustainable farming.



Completing the program were sessions facilitated by members of the committee on the following topics:

- Media Literacy - Kristine Joy C. Jaromamay
- Prepared, Not Scared: Aa Guide to Disaster Readiness - Edwin Raymond R. Gerodias
- Kalusugan 101: Primary Health Care and Basic First Aid - Francis C. Celeste, RN
- Mahalagang Rekord: Ano, Paano, at Saan - Dr. Rhoel E. Rondilla
- Gender Sensitivity Training and VAWC - Anthony A. Atibagos

The program was designed to inform residents, cultivate self-reliance, and foster confidence. Consequently, they empower the community to address daily challenges and participate effectively in local development initiatives. Furthermore, LEAD Phase V aligns with the University's mandate for public service, contributing to several United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), including SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-being), SDG 4 (Quality Education), SDG 5 (Gender Equality), and SDG 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities).



The project also strengthened collaboration among colleagues, unit libraries, local government officials, partner organizations, and the residents of Barangay Alinaya. Through this partnership, the LEAD team and the community worked toward a common objective: a shared vision that sustainable development is achieved through active participation, mutual support, and unwavering dedication to the barangay's welfare and prosperity.

While the successful implementation of the learning sessions and the installation of streetlights mark key achievements, LEAD V continues with one final undertaking: establishing a mini-library and community reading area for the community's young members. As the project's culminating activity, the mini-library aims to provide children and young residents with access to literary and educational resources, and to create a space and environment conducive to literacy, continuous learning, and sustained community engagement.

By E.T. Tolentino, and T.A. Constantino,
Library Extension Committee

HONORING THE NAMES BEHIND UP DILIMAN'S HALLS

By A.C. Cervantes, University Archives

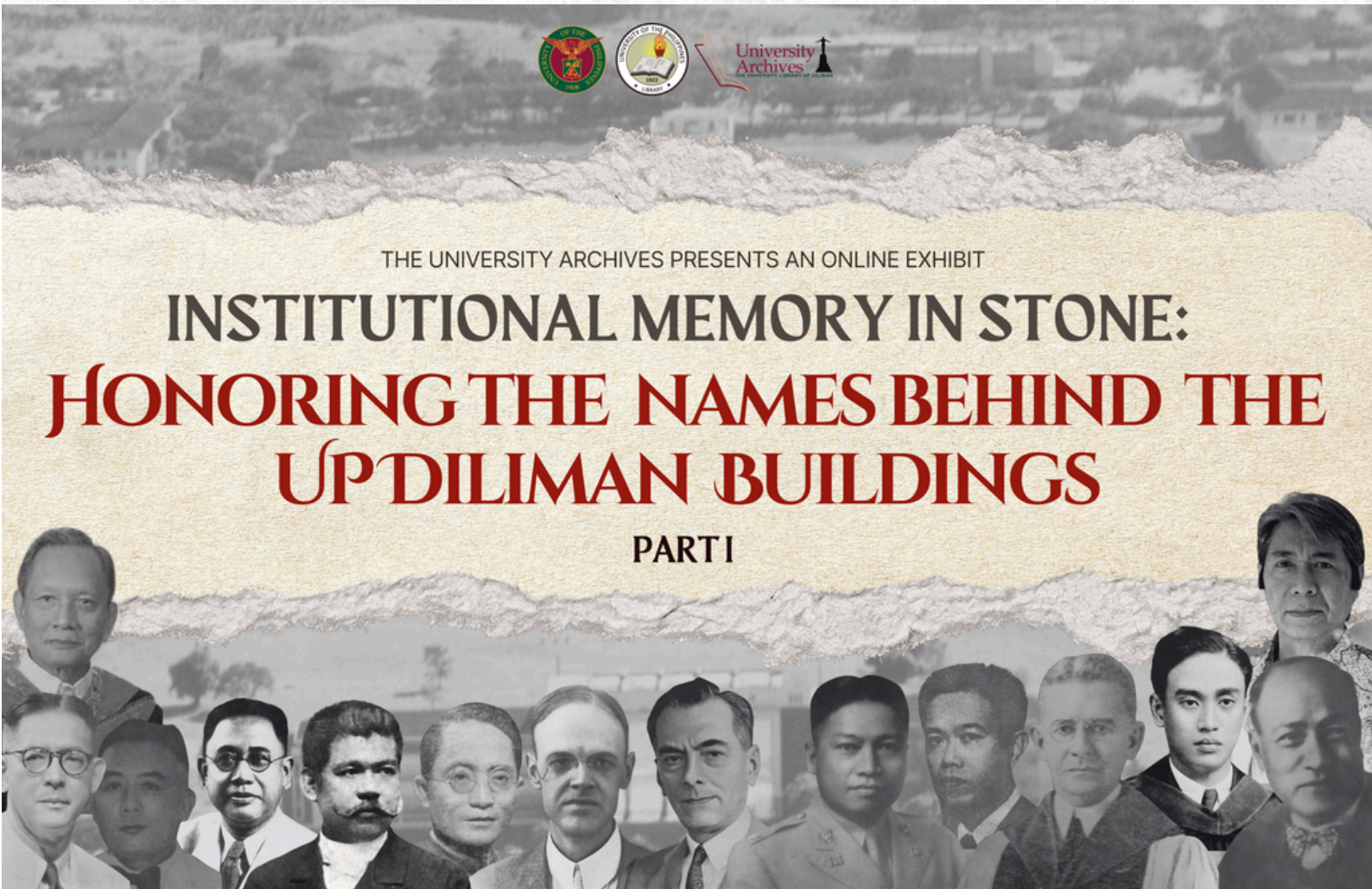
The buildings surrounding the UP Academic Oval are more than familiar landmarks—they stand as tributes to individuals whose contributions helped shape the University and the nation. Through its annual online exhibit, the University Archives invites everyone to rediscover the stories and legacies behind these iconic halls.

On 18 June 2026, the University Archives launched its annual online exhibit, *Institutional Memory in Stone: Honoring the Names Behind the UP Diliman Buildings* (Part 1). The exhibit honors the distinguished individuals after whom the halls surrounding the UP Academic Oval are named while presenting the history, architectural development, and significance of these landmarks. Available on the University Library, UP Diliman website, it features 14 buildings: Quezon Hall, Gonzalez Hall, Palma Hall, Benitez Hall, Benton Hall, Vinzons Hall, Cesar E. A. Virata School of Business Building, Melchor Hall, Plaridel Hall, Encarnacion Hall, Abelardo Hall, Vargas Museum, Malcolm Hall, and Lagmay Hall.

Alongside the exhibit, the University Archives launched *The Vault Breaker* on 24 June 2026, a 14-item online quiz that encouraged participants to explore the exhibit while learning about the distinguished individuals behind these campus landmarks. The activity ran until 30 June 2026, and participants who achieved a perfect score were entered into a raffle, where ten (10) winners received customized bookmarks, stickers, notepads, and pens. Winners were notified via email on 2 July 2026 and announced on the University Archives' Facebook page on 6 July 2026 with their consent.

The exhibit was made possible through a month-long collaborative effort by the University Archives staff. Led by Ericka Fernando with the assistance of Criselda Pabalan, the team worked together to research, write, and curate the exhibit's content. To further promote the exhibit, Mae Lanie Caro developed The Vault Breaker and, together with Angel Mae Cervantes and Lucan Eugenio, produced two promotional video teasers before the exhibit's launch.

Behind every hall is a name, and behind every name is a legacy. Through this exhibit, the University Archives honors the lives and lasting contributions of these remarkable individuals, ensuring that their stories remain accessible to present and future generations. Readers are invited to explore the online exhibit and look forward to Part 2, which will be launched during Diliman Month next February.



LEADing Beyond the Library:

LEC'S FIRST HALF OF 2026

By E.T. Tolentino, and T.A. Constantino, Library Extension Committee

The first half of 2026 is a highly productive and significant period for the Library Extension Committee (LEC) as it advanced its flagship extension program, the Librarians Empowerment Action of Diliman (LEAD), which is currently in its fifth phase. By earning national recognition and conducting community outreach initiatives, capacity-building activities, literacy programs, and compassionate programs, the committee reinforced its commitment to extending the University's expertise and service beyond the library and campus.

Recognizing LEAD's Impact

The LEC's year started with a significant milestone on 30 January 2026: the LEAD Program received the Outstanding Library Program of the Year Award from the Philippine Association of Academic and Research Librarians, Inc. (PAARL), an award that recognizes academic and research libraries whose exemplary initiatives advance Philippine academic librarianship and library development. Established in 2018, LEAD is a sustainable extension initiative dedicated to providing information literacy programs to communities outside UP Diliman.



Building Capacity

To strengthen the capabilities of its members and volunteers, the LEC conducted Training Workshop on Community Service and Professional Volunteerism: capacity-building program for Librarians Empowerment Action of Diliman (LEAD) Phase V on 2 February 2026, in preparation for the implementation of LEAD Phase V. Facilitated by Ramil M. Rosete, a faculty member of Colegio San Agustin in Makati City, the workshop equipped members and volunteers with essential competencies for managing field situations, with particular emphasis on remote and resource-limited communities and professional volunteerism.



Reaching Pidigan, Abra through LEAD 5

On 8 February 2026, the LEC successfully implemented the LEAD Phase V: Strengthening Information Literacy for Sustainable Development in the Rural Community of Barangay Alinaya, Pidigan, Abra (Project No. 252514 UPD-EG). Funded by the University of the Philippines Diliman Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research and Development (OVCRD) through the Extension Grant, LEAD Phase V was designed to enhance community capacities through information literacy initiatives, knowledge sharing, and the cultivation of sustainable partnerships.

Planning for Sustainable Extension Initiatives

Acknowledging the importance of planning, the LEC conducted its Strategic Planning on 17 March 2026. During the session, committee members reviewed previous accomplishments, assessed ongoing extension initiatives, and developed the committee's plans and activities for the 2026–2027 outreach calendar, in alignment with the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research and Development - Office of Extension Coordination (OVCRD-OEC).



Aklat at Kwento

On 20 March 2026, the LEC established a Barangay Reading Center in Barangay Pugad, Hagonoy, Bulacan, through the Aklat at Kwento: Donate a Book, Share a Story, Inspire a Future project. The initiative successfully mobilized donations from LEC members, UP Diliman librarians and staff, and institutional partners such as Statista, Cambridge University Press, and Asosasyon ng Akalatan at Sinupan ng Diliman, Inc. (AASDI).



Biyahe ng Pag-asa para sa mga Bayaning Tsuper

In recognition of its ongoing commitment to community service, the LEC organized the outreach initiative "Biyahe ng Pag-Asa para sa mga Bayaning Tsuper" on 27 April 2026. This effort acknowledged the significant contributions of jeepney, taxi, and motor-taxi drivers, as well as delivery riders, who consistently serve the UP Diliman community. Through the generosity of LEC members, the committee distributed 60 packs of rice and snacks to the transportation workers as an expression of gratitude and support amidst rising fuel prices.

Looking forward

The accomplishments of the first half of 2026 reflect the LEC's unwavering commitment to excellence in extension service, community engagement, and professional leadership. Through national recognition, volunteer development, strategic planning, literacy promotion, and compassionate outreach, the LEC continued to represent the University Library's mission of making knowledge accessible, empowering communities, and creating lasting social impact. As the year progresses, the LEC remains committed to sustaining these initiatives and developing more responsive programs that contribute to nation-building through the field of librarianship.



Kumain at Mag-Relax!

WELLNESS ACTIVITIES FOR STUDENTS AND STAFF

For the first half of the year, The University Library Health and Wellness Committee organized a couple of activities for both students and staff. These are part of the planned activities discussed by the committee during its Strategic Planning Session.



Give Love and Bread This Valentine's Day!

UL HWC set up a booth in front of the Environmental and Engineering Building last 13 February 2026 for a Valentine's Day activity. The event was dedicated to give away bread, candies, and chocolates to students and staff. Students visiting the Library and those passing by were invited to take some snacks with them. Those who visited the booth also had the opportunity to draw from the raffle and win a plastic rose. Thirteen (13) roses were given away to various lucky students to make their day a little brighter in the midst of the Valentine festivities.





Massage Therapy Session for Library Staff

To continuously support the well-being of library staff, a Massage Therapy Session was conducted on 10 June 2026 at the Conference Room of the Environmental and Energy Engineering Building courtesy of three massage therapists from 2nd Mile Massage Services. Library staff availed of 30-minute sessions of the following: (1) head, face, and neck massage, (2) half-body massage, and (3) leg and foot massage.





For a minimum fee of Php 185.00, library staff were able to take a short break from their duties and enjoy a relaxing massage. The room was temporarily transformed into a serene spa with relaxing music, aroma diffuser and complimentary coffee which set the ambiance. Overall, a total of 25 library staff availed of their services. This event was well received by all participants with the hope that it would be regularly organized in the future.





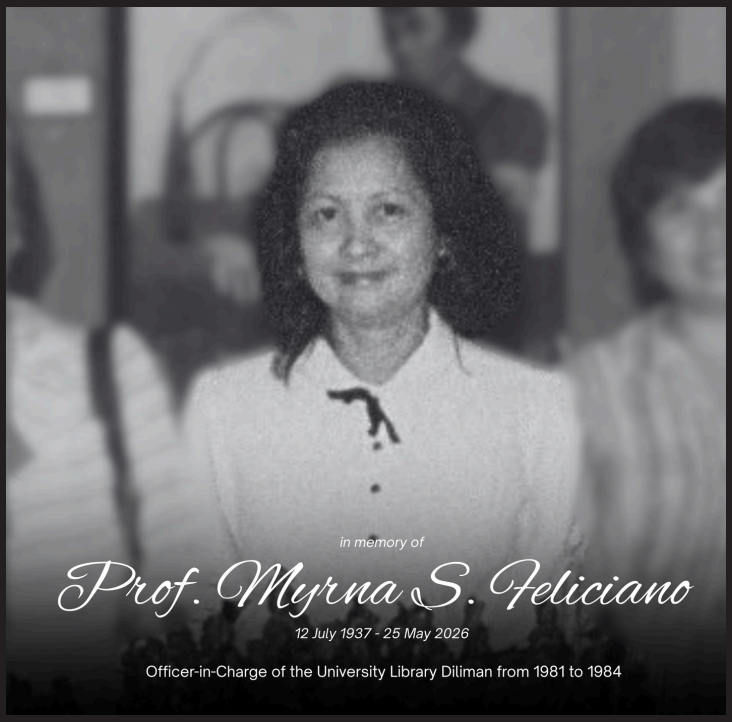
We hope everyone continues to look out for our upcoming programs and activities for the latter half of the year!

By N.R. Zulueta,
University Library Health and Wellness Committee

In Loving Memory of Professor Myrna S. Feliciano

(JULY 12, 1937 – MAY 25, 2026)

The University of the Philippines College of Law, the UP Law Center, and the legal information community mourn the passing of Professor Myrna S. Feliciano, an esteemed lawyer, librarian, educator, mentor, and pioneer whose remarkable career transformed law librarianship and legal research in the Philippines. Her life was one of unwavering dedication to scholarship, public service, and the pursuit of excellence, leaving an enduring legacy that will continue to inspire generations of librarians, legal professionals, educators, and students.



As UP Law Librarian, Prof. Feliciano envisioned the Law Library as more than a collection of books. She believed it should be an active center of legal scholarship, supporting legal education, research, and the administration of justice. Guided by this vision, she worked tirelessly to strengthen the UP Law Library's collections and services. Through her initiative, publications from numerous government agencies—including the Supreme Court, the Department of Justice, the Department of Foreign Affairs, and other institutions—became part of the library's growing collection, ensuring that legal resources remained accessible to the academic and legal communities.

Prof. Feliciano's influence extended well beyond the University. She was one of the country's leading advocates for the professionalization of librarianship and played an important role in advancing the legal recognition and modernization of the profession. Her contributions helped elevate the status of librarians as respected professionals whose work is vital to education, research, and national development.

A true pioneer in law librarianship, she served as the founding President of the Philippine Group of Law Librarians, where she fostered cooperation among law libraries, promoted professional development, and encouraged the adoption of high standards in legal information management. Her scholarly writings on legal bibliography, legal research, and legal citation became indispensable references for law students, lawyers, judges, librarians, and legal researchers throughout the Philippines. Her work in revising the Philippine Manual of Legal Citation contributed significantly to the standardization of legal citation practices nationwide.

Those who worked closely with Prof. Feliciano remember not only her exceptional professional accomplishments but also the strength of her character. She was disciplined, courageous, and deeply committed to excellence. She expected the highest standards from herself and from those around her, yet she led with genuine concern for others. She generously shared her knowledge, encouraged staff members to pursue higher education, offered guidance during personal and professional challenges, celebrated their milestones, and extended kindness whenever help was needed. Her generosity, compassion, and steadfast faith touched countless lives and earned the lasting respect and affection of her colleagues and friends.

Prof. Myrna S. Feliciano's legacy lives on in the institutions she strengthened, the profession she elevated, the scholarship she enriched, and the many individuals she inspired. Her dedication, integrity, wisdom, and generosity will continue to guide those who follow in her footsteps.

As we remember Professor Feliciano, we celebrate not only a distinguished career but also a life devoted to service, learning, and the betterment of others. She will be remembered with profound respect, heartfelt gratitude, and enduring admiration. Though she is no longer with us, her example and contributions will continue to illuminate the path for future generations of legal scholars, librarians, and public servants.

May Prof. Myrna S. Feliciano rest in eternal peace, and may her remarkable legacy continue to inspire all who are privileged to build upon the foundation she so faithfully established.

By O.P. Bondal

STAFF MOVEMENTS

NEW STAFF

STAFF	EFFECTIVITY DATE
Villaflores, Camille Librarian I	9 March 2026 (Engineering Library)
Francia, Kyla Admin Aide IV	7 April 2026

CHANGE OF TENURE

STAFF	EFFECTIVITY DATE
Estepa, Mark Lester	15 April 2026
Caro, Mae Lanie	8 May 2026

RENEWAL OF APPOINTMENT

STAFF
Cervantes, Angel Mae
Matunan, Darwin
Villaflores, Camille

RETIREMENT

STAFF	EFFECTIVITY DATE
Sarmiento, Ruby	30 September 2026
Daguman, Dolores	15 November 2026
Viray, Florisa	1 December 2026

PROMOTIONS

STAFF	EFFECTIVITY DATE
Manalo, Ruth Adm Aid VI to Adm Asst II	6 April 2026
Bacsa, Rodelyn Adm Aide VI to Adm Asst II	6 April 2026
Bonifacio, Chelsea Anne LI to CLI	17 March 2026
Manalo-Eclar, Michelle Ann CLII to CLIII	27 July 2026
De Leon, Ramil Adm Asst II to Adm Asst V	2 September 2026

STAFF MOVEMENT

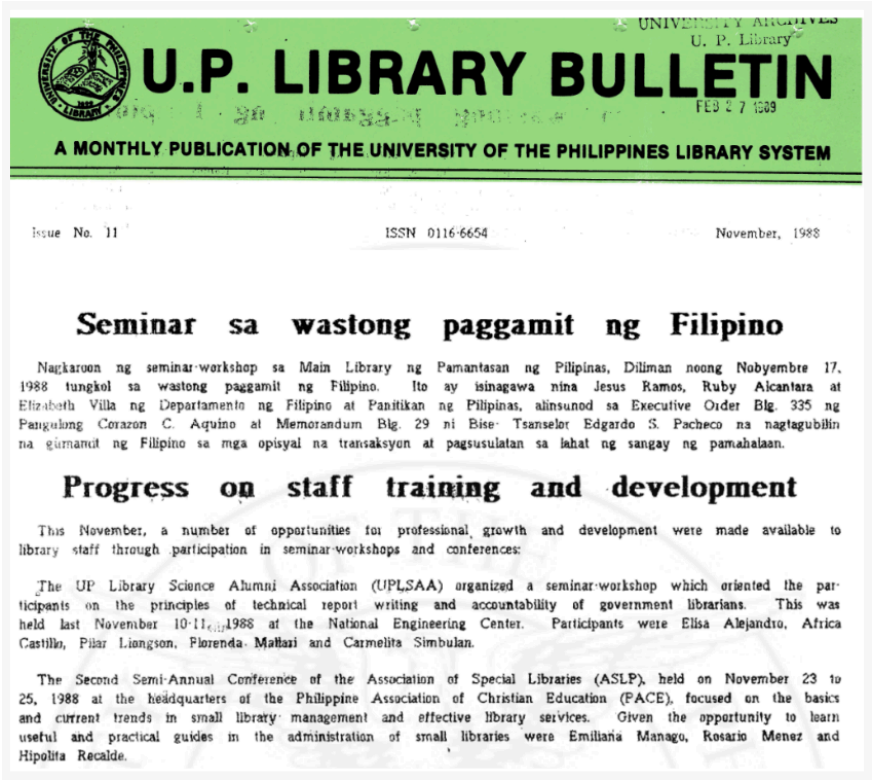
STAFF	EFFECTIVITY DATE
Magdael, Kaye	2 September 2025 (UP Manila)
Jaromamay, Kristine Joy	5 January 2026 (FiBooks/ISAIS)
Mariano, Arthur Bryan	1 July 2026 (CMSS)
Rodriguez, Kaye	1 July 2026 (CMSS/ISAIS)

DESIGNATED HEAD LIBRARIANS

STAFF	EFFECTIVITY DATE
Fernando, Ericka May	5 January 2026 (Personal Papers & Preservation)
Gerodias, Sheryl	5 January 2026 (UPIANA & University Records)
Razal, Jocelyn	February 2026 (College of Science Library)
Ventura, Aries Joy	1 July 2026 (Special Collections Section)

MULA SA BAUL

(digging into the proverbial past)



U. P. Library

U.P. LIBRARY BULLETIN

FEB 2 7 1989

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES LIBRARY SYSTEM

Issue No. 11 ISSN 0116-6654 November, 1988

Seminar sa wastong paggamit ng Filipino

Nagkaroon ng seminar-workshop sa Main Library ng Pamantasan ng Pilipinas, Diliman noong Nobyembre 17, 1988 tungkol sa wastong paggamit ng Filipino. Ito ay isinagawa nina Jesus Ramos, Ruby Alcantara at Elizabeth Villa ng Departamento ng Filipino at Panitikan ng Pilipinas, alinsunod sa Executive Order Blg. 335 ng Pangulong Corazon C. Aquino at Memorandum Blg. 29 ni Bise- Tsanselor Edgardo S. Pacheco na nagtagubilin na gumamit ng Filipino sa mga opisyal na transaksyon at pagsusulatan sa lahat ng sangay ng pamahalaan.

Progress on staff training and development

This November, a number of opportunities for professional growth and development were made available to library staff through participation in seminar-workshops and conferences:

The UP Library Science Alumni Association (UPLSAA) organized a seminar-workshop which oriented the participants on the principles of technical report writing and accountability of government librarians. This was held last November 10-11, 1988 at the National Engineering Center. Participants were Elisa Alejandro, Africa Castillo, Pilar Liongson, Florenda Mallari and Carmelita Simbulan.

The Second Semi-Annual Conference of the Association of Special Libraries (ASLP), held on November 23 to 25, 1988 at the headquarters of the Philippine Association of Christian Education (PACE), focused on the basics and current trends in small library management and effective library services. Given the opportunity to learn useful and practical guides in the administration of small libraries were Emiliana Manago, Rosario Menez and Hipolita Recalde.

Aklatan ng Pamantasan? Aklatan ng Unibersidad? Sinupan ng Aklatan? O puwede na ang Artsibo? Sa nalalapit na Buwan ng Wika, napapaisip ba kayo kung ano sa Filipino ang pangalan ng inyong seksyon? Hindi ito bagong usapin, dito sa ika-11 isyu ng UP Library Bulletin (November 1988), dumalo ang mga propesor ng Departamento ng Filipino at Panitikan ng Pilipinas upang magbigay ng seminar-workshop sa wastong paggamit ng Filipino. Bago ang pansamantalang paglipat ng Aklatan mula sa Gonzalez Hall, may mga lumang karatula na matatagpuan sa mga pinto ng mga seksyon kung saan makikita ang kanilang pangalan sa wikang Ingles at Pilipino.

Isang bagay na maaring pag-isipan ng ating mga laybraryan sa ating pagbabalik sa Gonzalez Hall; isang paraan upang ating pagtibayin ang ating pagkakakilanlan bilang isang Pilipino.

E.C. Lagrama, University Library

About the cover

D. C. Garcia, Main Library

This issue of Aninaw features the University Library's ULtimate Library Hop project, initiated by the Strategic Communication, Research, and Marketing Section. With warm tones of yellow and green depicting a sunny day for students taking on the ULtimate Library Hop Challenge, the cover emphasizes not only a section's initiative but also the potential of libraries and their staff to discover and explore unique and creative ways to promote their libraries to new generations of library users. From social media to the gamification of library initiatives, there are various ways to create the spark that could propel the library beyond being a source of information and transform it into an experience.

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.

ANINAW

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
Eimee Rhea C. Lagrama

CONTENT MANAGERS
Rizalyn V. Janio
Michelle Ann G. Manalo-Eclar

LAYOUT
Chelsea Anne Q. Bonifacio
Eunice Ann Yutuc Chua
Deniere Zaint C. Garcia

COVER DESIGN
Deniere Zaint C. Garcia

WRITERS
Jo-Anne A. Domingo
Mark Xavier G. Dumlao
Alessandra A. Guimba
Nikko Angelo D. Lastimosa

COPYWRITERS
A.B. Gideon N. De Castro
Elaine Barbara M. Cruz-Roa
Nikko Angelo D. Lastimosa
Maria Criselda D. Pabalan

CONTRIBUTORS
University Archives Division
Main Library, Serials Section
Main Library, Filipiniana Books Section
Library Extension Committee
Library Awards and Recognition Committee
Building Renovation and Management Committee
Asosasyon ng Aklatan at Sinupan ng Diliman, Inc.
UP College of Mass Communication Library
UP School of Economics Library
UP College of Social Work and Community Development Library
UP College of Education Library
UP College of Fine Arts Library
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UP College of Music Library
Information Technology Division

For errors, inaccuracies, or general feedback, please email library.updiliman@up.edu.ph


GONZALEZ HALL