

## JOINT-AREA ASSEMBLY: A HUGE SUCCESS

by Karl Aries Emerson F. Cabilao, uap

For the second time this year, the member architects of the United Architects of the Philippines (UAP) converged in the Visayas for their Joint Area Assembly for FY 2015-2016. Just last February, the Queen City of the South, Cebu City, hosted the very first Joint Area Assembly of the UAP. Last October, UAP architects headed to the City of Smiles, Bacolod City.

The Joint Area Assembly was held at the SMX Convention Center inside SM City Bacolod. Bearing the theme “Paghugpong: Bonding Together Towards Higher Grounds”, it was a busy three-day activity that kicked

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- 18** Around Area A
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## NP Beth Honored with the Rotary Golden Wheel Awards

Our National President, Ar. Maria Benita O. Regala was the selected recipient of the prestigious 2016 Rotary Golden Wheel Award for her contribution to the field of Architecture. This award is given to Professionals as

an acknowledgement of their dedication, hard-work and excellent service in their respective field. Aside from being successful in their business and work, the objective of the award is to encourage professionals to use

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## Past UAP President takes helm of the PRC-Board of Architecture



After more than three decades, another president of the United Architects of the Philippines (UAP) takes the helm of the Professional Regulatory Board of Architecture (PRBoA), and the first past National President, after the passage of Republic Act No. 9266, to take the post as Board Chairman.

Architect Cesar V. Canchela, past UAP National President (1985/1986) became Chairman of the Board of Architecture in 1981.

Architect Robert S. Sac, fuap, the 17th UAP National President (FY 2002-2004), officially took his oath of office as the

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"Contentment is an old animal. It is desirable because it makes you comfortable in your own skin, pleased with the accomplishments that you and others have achieved, and grateful to God for the many blessings that led to your contentment in the first place.

On the other hand, lack of contentment, dissatisfaction with the status quo, has resulted in some of the greatest explorations, discoveries, and inventions of all time. It has changed laws for the better, voted scoundrels out of office and brought criminals to justice. If there's a rock in your shoe, you're going to do something about it."

The text above, taken from a devotional book entitled *Daily Grace for Teachers*, suggests that there should be a satisfying balance between contentment and dissatisfaction. Contentment is being in a state of happiness because one has learned to accept his circumstances. But it does not mean to stop growing or become insensitive. At times, one has to have a feeling of dissatisfaction to prod him to action and invoke positive change in the dwindling society. Needless to say, Architects are called to make our world a better place. So, why be complacent?

The feat for excellence is on the height these days. Professionals clamor for growth and in hot pursuit for professional development in order to find their niche in this changing and demanding world. The trend for globalization seems to haunt us every now and then not to be content with what we have or where we are at the present, otherwise, we will be out in the race. Yes indeed, there is a race to take. And many are already on the race track running. Added to this is the integration policy among ASEAN countries opening doors for free flow of skilled-labor and professional services in a bigger market in the region. With all of these reforms, there is a resounding call to rise above mediocrity and to keep on striving to be the best our profession could be enabling us to render competitive,

specialized and expert professional services.

Now, are we ready to launch into the deep to understand what these reforms meant and glide upward to take advantage of what these changes would positively bring? The present tagline of UAP, our dear Professional Organization, which is Empower + Equip + Enjoin, Together on Higher Ground, assures the membership to keep abreast with the new landscape our Profession is taking pace. True to this end, UAP provides opportunities such as seminars, conventions, events and even civic projects. The Leadership and active members of the UAP with its concerted efforts are moving heaven and earth towards championing the 21st century professionals in the field of architecture responding to the needs of the present and future generations.

Striking a balance between professional acclaim and professional services, UAP continues to expand its horizon to build holistic programs that cut across the varied needs of its clientele, the Architects and the Society as a whole. UAP assists its membership to be prepared to face the challenges of the changing world by providing capability building seminars leading to specialization of architectural services. UAP also establishes allies and linkages both in local and international arena to expand its territory and become aware of what is happening around the world that impact the architectural profession to lead Architects conquer both the local and the global market. It is admirable to note that UAP still find time to perform its social responsibilities. Its services transcends community outreach program by delivering projects that will improve the quality of lives of the less fortunate.

What a joy to know that our organization has already paved the way to global competitiveness and superb professionalism. UAP enjoined all of us to take active participation to all its undertaking. And together we will all reach the Higher Ground!

**MA. TERESA V. GOPEZ, UAP**  
Editor-in-Chief, UAP Post 2015-2016



Greetings dear readers!

This issue of the UAP Post is devoted to last year's major activities such as the World Architecture Day and the National Architecture Week and to countless UAP activities of the year 2015 gone by. The two main events had tremendous response

and cooperation from different chapters across the country from UAP Areas A, B, C and D including chapters abroad. Everyone went out of their way to join each chapter's or each district's activities in line with the UAP National themes for each affair. It only showed that the Filipino Architects are united to reach a common goal and are willing to share their time and even resources to support their activities. To those who were directly involved and showed their cooperation and volunteerism, we are proud of you. May you encourage more architects, young and old to participate such occasions in the years to come.

On the other hand, architects should be mindful of what is the present state of the environment or Mother Earth as a whole. Our field of practice, architecture does a lot to contribute in the depletion of our natural resources. To translate our designs to come up with the total package to address the basic requirements of beauty, strength and utility, we

need building materials from nature to make this into a physical structure alongside with the energy consumption during building construction and when the buildings we design become operational. To understand better, "Home" the movie is highly recommended for us to watch. It was viewed by over 2 million people since it was released in June 5, 2009 during the Environment Day and was translated to more than five different languages. The film by Yann Arthus-Bertrand is a beautifully shot panorama of the Earth and the damage done to it by modern humanity. It includes a moving narration about the evolution of the Earth, nature, agriculture, humans, and the crises of habitat destruction, energy depletion, climate disruption, degradation... of the environment, health, economic disparity, and more. (Greg Jalbert and Jan Lundberg 14 July 2009). Thanks to the Kyoto Protocol in 1997 and to the recent The 2015 United Nations Climate Change Conference which was held in Paris, France, from 30 November to 12 December 2015. Countries from different parts of the world are now aware of damages from climate and environmental disruption and trying to come up with solutions.

May we enjoin then the UAP to do their share through sustainable architectural design and help save Mother Earth...the only home we have.

**LEAH F. YBAÑEZ-MARTIN, UAP**  
Associate Editor, Areas A & B, UAP Post 2015-2016



The theme of the recent World Architecture Day celebration underscores a pressing issue in the world today. Climate change and global warming have been buzz words over the years but it seems that people are just dismissing them as just that - "words".

The Climate Change Summit in Paris holds a lot of promise with countries, including the big greenhouse gas producers, pledge to lower the emission of these dangerous gases into the atmosphere. The architects, on their part, has a significant role in helping curb the effects of climate change through their building designs. With a deep sensitivity and consideration of environment-friendly practices in construction and design approaches, architects can actually save the world through their creativity.

**KARL ARIES EMERSON F. CABILAO, UAP**  
Associate Editor for Areas C & D, UAP Post 2015-2016

*"Any organization operates with the help of two main constituting parts, one is the policy making body which acts as the brain of the organization and the body executing the policies which act as the hands of the organization. And the main mantra behind the success of an organization is a proper coordination between the two bodies."* (letters)

The mid portion of the fiscal year is anything but critical. It measures how far you have gone from your goals to how far you still have to go. Looking back, I am proud to say that we are near in accomplishing the objectives of this current administration.

Further to this, the focus of this year is in building relationships within and externally. Building a relationship surpasses positions and experiences, for to build a relationship equates in meeting half way and going beyond the surface. It extends further on what you see from an individual to what actually the individual is made of. Throughout the months I have served as your President, I have met several personalities, each with their own fascinating stories to tell. It is through this that I see the success of the Organization. To be able to set one goal and encourage others to have one vision for the benefit of the organization and the profession regardless of the background of each member is to have succeeded as a leader. The formula in achieving this is to respect individuality and to listen to each other in hopes to collaborate and establish the best solution.

I am grateful to all those who have contributed

their time during the past months - the Committee heads and members of the Organizing committee of the Area Assembly, WAD, NAW, all Inductions and GMM's. My heartfelt gratitude also to the support given by the Secretariat and different members, to PRC and other Institutions, Oathtaking, ASEAN and APEC conferment, ASEAN contributions, and others. The continuing push of our Corporate Social Responsibility through Bayanihang Arkitektura most especially the accessibility and audit of schools, building of new school facilities, creation of awareness from the Emergency Architects and other activities made possible by the hardworking leaders of all the projects.

I thank the Executive Directors in ensuring that each committee not only function as required but exceeds expectations.

I thank all the Chapters for their continuous activities strengthening the bond that builds the very foundation of what an Organization is all about.

The vision we have set forth in the beginning of the fiscal year is being realized and as I stand in this path where I am to determine if we are on the right path; it is with pride, comforting to say the least that I confirm that we are in fact in the right direction.

Let us continue to support each other.

*Mabuhay ang UAP!*

*Mabuhay ang Arkitektong UAP!*

*Mabuhay kayonglahat!*



Maria Benita Ochoa-Regala, FUAP, AA  
National President



MOA signing at Tacloban, School Project



MOA signing at NHA



It has been almost 5 months since I assumed office as Secretary General. I had been to most of the District and Chapter inductions and have been in touch with so many of you.

There are **757** architects who availed of the Amnesty program.

There are **2,173** new Architects. **366** were added to the MENA: 154 in Dubai, 34 in Abu Dhabi, 5 in Bahrain, 46 in Qatar, 18 in Kuwait, 42 in KSA Riyadh, 33 in KSA Eastern Province & 34 in KSA Western Region.

There are **13,666** Architects in good standing as of December 15, 2015.

There are 3 new Chapters added: 138th is Las Pinas, 139th is Kuwait and our 140th chapter - the Oman Chapter.

Look how the UAP family has grown on its 40th year!

I can go on and on but I don't want to deal so much in numbers. I want to tell you a story instead. This will show how UAP has really grown as a family.

At the early part of our marriage, the economy was bad, opportunities were scarce. There was no work. My husband had to stay home and look after the kids for a few months while looking for opportunities here and abroad. He tried applying to Saudi Arabia. It was really difficult; he waited for several openings and submitted documents but to no avail. It is good we saw Ar. Norma Alarcon in one of our National Conventions, and he was asked to teach in the UST College of

Architecture instead and that's another story.

With that in mind, when I think of Filipinos working abroad, I see laboring persons trying to earn money to keep their families afloat or to save their parents from poverty ... and for most of them to give luxury to their children by buying cellphones, iPad, mp3s, laptops and sometimes even the most expensive iPhones to cover-up for their absence and hoping that with all these they can send their love.

But when I got invited to Dubai with the National President Beth Regala and PRC Acting Chairperson Gigi Chua Chiaco for the Oath Taking Ceremonies of the new Architects last November, I was overwhelmed with pride. Yes, I was used to attending inductions, but this one is different especially when the video was shown on how the last year's board passers have spent time to mentor the new board passers. I got teary eyed as the topnotcher Ar. Dan Maurice Totaan said, "I decided to take this review to fulfill not only my dream but also my family's dream." It was indeed a dream fulfilled for so many of the new architects there that night!

Here in the Philippines, aspirants to the board examinations enroll in a review center for a certain fee in their hope to pass the examinations. It is different in the Middle East Region, where several chapters of the United Architects of the Philippines form a review facilitating team for the Special Professional Board Licensure Examination – Foreign Licensure Examination for Architects,

purely pro-bono. Since the priority of the aspirants and the mentors is to work and earn, they found it best to hold the review at 9:00AM to 5:00PM on Fridays, where everyone has the same day off. Fresh from the exams that they have experienced, last year's passers took on the challenge to mentor this year's aspirants. It is a grueling six months of seminars and mock exams where everyone has to attend to aside from the one day in a week group studies. Then these new architects will take on the next challenge to inspire and mentor the next aspirants. What a feat! The Filipino BAYANIHAN SPIRIT is very much alive in that part of the world.

Now I see the OFWs in a different light...I see strong willed but graciously compassionate people. Before, I only see the doing and the action of those working abroad, now I can see the thoughtfulness, the wistfulness, and the benevolence behind their deed. Being able to personally talk with many of these architects in the Middle East Region, I can see Filipino resiliency - sharing happiness, sharing the passion and sharing the commitment despite of the loneliness and homesickness they feel being away from the Philippines especially from their families for a long period of time.

The passing of new architects in the last Board of Architecture Examinations in the Middle East brings forth a message of how the Chapters are empowering their Architect members to create change in our chosen field, to create improvement in their Chapters, to undergo



**Ma. Nina D. Bailon-Arce, FUAP, AA**  
**Secretary General**

transformation as to create change in the nation and the world as a whole. This clearly shows how UAP architects in that part of the world assist and support one another out there, from mentoring these graduates, assisting them in the examinations, making all the preparations, up to giving them the honor and accolade during the Oath Taking.

Let us all salute the Architects who give so much inspiration to these aspirants thus more and more graduates and employees in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) get that great chance to be one with us in the United Architects of the Philippines. That is real service to our fellow Filipinos! I admire their courage, their determination and their willpower to prop up the architects and the profession. Truly, they are our modern day heroes!

There are really a lot of stories to tell about the heroism of the UAP Chapters, but this one touched me most. This one makes UAP grow not just in numbers, but more so, grow so much in relationship, camaraderie and solidarity.



First Saturdays of each month remain red letter calendar days for the active members of the College of Fellows (COF) as these are the days set for their General Membership Meetings (GMMs). To make these meetings more interesting, the Officers and Jury of Fellows for Fiscal Year 2015-2016 lined up various seminars and activities in line with common concerns and interests of the COF members, but of equal importance as well to the UAP membership.

On September 5, 2015 during the 3rd GMM, a Health Talk entitled "Aysna ang Buto-Buto" discussed usual geriatric bone concerns and the "hows" of possible mitigation and/or alleviation of existing conditions to insure quality of life and well-being. Dr. Sorrah Briones, MD a rheumatologist at

the UST Hospital was the invited resource speaker.

Joining in the UAP's nationwide observance of World Architecture Day, the COF held its 4th GMM at the Max's Restaurant in the Quezon Memorial Circle Complex on October 5, 2015. This was followed by the much-awaited annual Balik Tanaw Recognition Program, honoring members who have reached at least 75 years of age, and have shown their unwavering support, loyalty, and service to the College. Three honorees were awarded Certificates of Recognition symbolizing the spirit of camaraderie and fellowship between and amongst the members of the College. These honorees were Ar. Diogenes A. Barredo, FUAP, Ar. Ruben M. Protacio, FUAP, and Ar. Servillano C. Mapeso, FUAP.

Architects Barredo and Protacio were present at the Oct 5 Recognition Program to personally receive their Certificates. Ar. Mapeso requested to be given the Certificate of Recognition at the UAP Cebu Chapter GMM, scheduled later in October in the presence of his Chapter members, as he finds it difficult to travel to Manila. Family members of Ar. Barredo and Protacio were around to witness the affair supported by Officers and members of their respective UAP Chapters.

In line with the Joint Area Assembly in Bacolod City on October 22 to 24, 2015, the College conducted a Special Breakfast Meeting on October 24 at GT Hotel, Bacolod City. Ar. Alfonso 'Pontit' Gamboa, fuap was the COF point person who coordinated the preparations for the COF activities in Bacolod City. In attendance at the breakfast meeting were UAP National President Ar. Ma. Benita Regala, fuap; Secretary-General Ar. Ma. Nina Arce, fuap and five UAP Past Presidents, namely Ar. Norberto Nuke, fuap; Ar. Prosperidad Luis, fuap; also sits as member, Jury of Fellows; Ar. Robert Sac, fuap, who is currently the Chairman, PRC Board of Architecture; Ar. Medeliano Roldan, fuap; and Ar. Ramon Mendoza, fuap; also currently a Jury of Fellows member; the Hon. PRC Acting Commissioner Ar. Gigi Chua Chiao, fuap, and the host of prominent Bacolod architects together with members from Metro Manila and other Areas were also in attendance.

The College's 5th GMM was held on November 7, 2015. A seminar on financial management entitled "Ingat Yaman" was presented by Sun Life Financial



**Miguel M. Carpio, FUAP  
Chancellor**

advisors Mr. and Mrs. Robert & Armi Luz.

Heeding the call of the UAP National President for the College to recommend a Chairman of the UAP Ethics Committee, COF Resolution 15-16 No. 04 was submitted to the NBD. This recommends the appointment of Ar. Edilberto F. Florentino, fuap, LIKHA as Chair, UAP Ethics Committee. The latter's expertise in arbitration serves an excellent qualification making him most eligible for the appointment. This resolution formalizes superseding the earlier proposal to appoint Ar. Miguel M. Carpio, who as the incumbent COF Chancellor and an NBD member, is not allowed to head any UAP standing committee.

Finally, in lieu of its annual Christmas Get-together, the COF decided to hold a Christmas Community Sharing on December 12, 2015. Recipients of this outreach program will be the 300 grandparents at the Luwalhati ng Maynila at the Boys Town Complex in Marikina City. A full report on the proposed activity will be submitted in the next issue of the UAP Post.



**Diogenes A. Barredo, FUAP**



**Ruben M. Protacio, FUAP**



In celebration of World Architecture Day on October 5, COF held its GMM and Balik Tanaw Recognition Program which gave honor to faithful members who reached the age of 75. Seated on the chair are the honorees Ar. Diogenes A. Barredo, fuap and Ar. Ruben M. Protacio, fuap (not present is Ar. Servillano C. Mapeso, fuap, also recipient of the award). The Honorees were greeted by other members of the COF





## professional development commission

### PDC SEMINARS IN JANUARY 2016

by Leah P. Dela Rosa, UAP, PhD  
Executive Director

The United Architects of the Philippines Professional Development Commission (UAP PDC) offered two programs for training of architects in the month of January 2016.

The first one was the Capability Building Seminar in Environmental Planning



Ar. Armando Eugene de Guzman speaks on the first day of the Hospitality Planning and Design Seminar in Iloilo City.



For posterity, the participants hold up their certificates as they pose with PDC Executive Director Ar. Leah M. Dela Rosa, PDC Chair Ar. Gregoria Mercado and Ar. Joyce Telin of Red Planet Hotels. Iloilo Marikudo Chapter President Ar. Marsha Teruel stands next to Ar. Joyce Telin



Practical application of knowledge gained during the Hospitality Planning and Design Seminar workshop at Iloilo Grand Hotel.

held from January 14-16 and from January 21-23 at the UAP National Headquarters. This was attended by 25 architects and an engineer from Metro Manila and various provinces like Bulacan, Catanduanes, Davao, and Tarlac. The purpose of this seminar is to help educate and prepare our architects for the coming Environmental Planning Board in the month of June. Speakers are well-known experts in the field like EnP Ar. Rey Gabitan, EnP Mike Guioguio, EnP Jethro

Hipe, Atty. Marlon Carino, and others. Very soon, the board will no longer be open to other professions other than the graduates of Environmental Planning courses. Due to insistent clamor, those who missed this seminar can still avail of the training in April.



Ilonggo participants pose with the speakers on the second day: International Architect Eliezer Villaruz and Asean Architect Melencio Manalo together with PDC Chair Ar. Gregoria Mercado.

The second seminar was the three-day Hospitality Planning and Design Seminar for hotels and resorts which was held in Iloilo City from January 26-28 at the Iloilo Grand Hotel. Facilitated by the Iloilo Marikudo Chapter through their able Chapter President Marsha Teruel, there were 29 architects from the various Iloilo chapters who participated. The PDC team was headed by Architect Leah P. Dela Rosa, the executive director of the Commission, and supported by Architect Gregoria M. Mercado, PDC chairperson. All the invited speakers came all the way from Manila: Ar. Armando Eugene De Guzman, Ar. Eliezer Villaruz, Ar. Melencio Manalo, and Ar. Joyce Telin. This was the first time that the Hospitality Planning Seminar was held outside of Metro Manila.

## commission on education

### TRIPLE A: Architects in the Academe Assembly

by NORMA IPAC-ALARCON, FUAP  
Executive Director

The UAP Commission on Education, through its Committee on Research and Academic Institution, has organized a whole day assembly of architects in the academe to be held during the forthcoming 42nd UAP National Convention on April 21-23, 2016. The main goal of the assembly is to contribute to the promotion of quality architectural education in the country. The following are its objectives:

- 1. EQUIP** - To provide our UAP members in the academe a venue to further strengthen their competencies in mentoring through featured lectures in an exclusive assembly of architects in the academe;
- 2. EMPOWER** - To host an annual forum of UAP members in the academe where they could share best practices in their respective departments/ colleges/ universities and enable them to utilize these in their work as architect-academicians;
- 3. ENJOIN** - To promote the spirit of involvement to the affairs of the organization, and establish cooperation and networking among UAP members in promoting quality education in the country.

The following quotation explains the Rationale of the assembly:

*"The professors found in schools of architecture are a diverse group of individuals with various backgrounds and experiences, and it is through their teachings that students learn the skills necessary to become architects. The professor has a huge amount of influence on the future of the profession, and*

*he or she is the primary source of the theories that are absorbed by students and used as the basis for their future careers. Professors come from many backgrounds, and more increasingly, from all over the world. Some may be practicing architects, some may be full-time faculty, others may specialize in history, psychology or engineering, and many are mixes of these and other interests" (Architecture Education: The Importance of the Professor, 2013)*

This assembly of academicians will be an official Day 0 activity of the NatCon42, running parallel to the Tripartite Network Meeting (of CODHASP, UAP and PRC) which generally discusses policies and other administrative concerns in the architecture education. As a parallel activity, the Architects in the Academe Assembly wishes to emphasize capability building, liaising, aligning, networking, sharing of best practices among the bigger group of architects involved in the academe, i.e., the professors.

A respected (non-architect) educator who is highly knowledgeable in various teaching pedagogy and research is invited to give a featured keynote lecture during the program. Overall, the assembly will enable the architects to share their best practices in their respective schools and will enable them to retool themselves as academicians. A simple summative assessment at the end of the lecture will be undertaken.

The Convenor of the **ARCHITECTS IN THE ACADEME ASSEMBLY (TRIPLE A)** is Ar. Jonathan Manalad, the Chairman of the Committee on Research and Academic Institutions under the Commission on Education (2015-2016).



## FIGHTING TO STAY ALIVE...

### PCAP, What if's, ASEAN integration, Globalization, SB 2623, HB 5127, Lamentations, Professional Practice, Atbp...

by **Consuelo C. Buencamino, uap, aa**  
Executive Director

June 2013, my friend Beth Regala, asked me to come and join this group of Architects (PCAP), unbeknownst to me, it was going to be the start of a journey full of adventure, twists and turns, ups and downs, as if immersed in a never-ending suspense, spy, comedy and action movie all rolled into one. Except that this adventure is real, it continues and is about us, Architects, Architecture and UAP.

I would like to share this true story, if only to hope that the readers will better understand, appreciate and even be inspired to serve and work toward the preservation, strengthening and uplifting of our profession.

The following are excerpts of writings, position papers, notes, narratives I have written in the course of this journey.

#### 1. IN THE CAUSE OF FILIPINO ARCHITECTS. (Based on a consultative meeting with DOLE Sec. Baldoz, Jan. 2014)

Discussions: There were two basic topics during the informal meeting: first was DOLE's press announcement of professions that were deemed in shortage, Architects, being one of them; and the second is ASEAN 2015 and WTO GATS 2020.

On the architects 'shortage,' there is a list of specialties (such as; Green Architects, Heritage and Conservation, Construction Arbitrators, Construction Management) that were deemed lacking based on a report submitted previously by PRBoA. The opening of the practice to foreign professionals is not as we perceive it to be. For one, implementation is not immediate and restrictions, safety nets will be put in place. The idea is, if it were truly found that a certain specialization is not available locally, but needed, a foreign professional, although practicing their craft shall train

and educate local professionals so we may acquire the knowledge necessary to fill such shortage. In which case, after a certain amount of time, the foreign professional shall no longer be needed as we have filled such specialty shortage. This is the premise.

On the architects' side, we have to acknowledge certain realities and conditions; one of which is the lack of monitoring, documentation and certification of specialties in the Architecture. In short, documentation and the creation and maintenance of a good database must be established. Who's to say that there is an actual shortage of specialists? We all know how good Filipino architects are. Unfortunately, it is not enough to say we are, we need a good system of documentation and a process of certification. Internally, we do need to do some housekeeping and align our systems to be at par, if not better, with global standards. For all intents and purposes, this first topic may be a moot point being that 2015 is just around the corner.

On the second topic, the discussion was more participatory being that it was important for us Architects to understand the facts and state of our profession and how best to get it in the forefront of everybody's attention.

There are certain facts we all have to accept, understand and plan positive actions on; that was, is, and will be the basis of this conversation. Globalization is a reality. It is happening and progressing as we speak. We cannot fool ourselves to believe that it is still the 90's. ASEAN 2015 is a reality; there is nothing we can do to stop it. WTO-GATS 2020 is a reality, it is coming. There are guidelines, processes and information on what this means, how we can deal with it, and how we can make this work to our benefit. According to Secretary Baldoz, we need to

get our roadmap together with a list of specializations ready and submitted by May 2014. It is a challenge for all of us to make this happen.

Contrary to what we think, the government agencies are on our side. This, I have established in the various meetings and conversations I have been privileged to attend. It may be noteworthy to know that the ASEAN Architect Secretariat is chaired by no less than the Philippines. We have all the reasons to excel and take a front position in ASEAN 2015. All these, unlike a runaway train, can be planned for, and believe it or not, we can make it turn our way. Filipinos in general, Architects in particular, can look positively at these events as the case that will fill a half full glass, rather than deplete a half empty one.

#### 2. UAP POSITION ON ASEAN INTEGRATION

The ASEAN Charter signed by the ten ASEAN leaders in SingAPOre on November 2007, aspires to become a single entity that is the ASEAN Community. The ASEAN Economic Blueprint calls for areas of cooperation, including the recognition of professional qualifications such as the Mutual Recognition Agreements (MRAs), and the creation of the free flow of skilled labor and professionals through harmonization and standardization in preparation for the ASEAN Economic Community in 2015. Currently, the ASEAN Architectural Council, and the ASEAN Qualifications Recognition Agreements (AQRf) is chaired by PRC Chairperson, until 2015.

##### I. Where We Are

Majority of Filipino Registered Licensed Architects (RLAs) remain skeptical on the benefits of this integration, and a growing perception of a negative impact on the practice of our profession results in inaction and disengagement. Certain key challenges must be addressed: one of which is dissemination of proper informational facts to educate RLAs on the mechanics of processes; creating a common vision for ASEAN integration; and the lack of monitoring,

documentation and certification of specialization in the Architecture Profession. A good system of documentation and a process of certification need to be established and enforced to align our systems to be at par, if not better, with global standards. Quoting PRC Chairman, Hon. Teresita Manzala in a speech about MRF's 'These are the New Rules of the Game'—the Filipino mindset of superiority amongst its neighbors must change; this has led to inaction which has made us fall behind. According to Mr. Guillermo M. Luz, head of the National Competitiveness Council of the Philippines (NCCP), the Philippines currently ranks 6th among the ten ASEAN nations. A harsh reality since the Philippines has the most number of Professionals, the most populated, with English as its second language, and with a surging economy, we have all the reasons to excel and take a front position in ASEAN 2015.

##### II. Where We Need To Be

Evidence of qualifications and external international accreditation of our Institutions to raise its standards benchmark will be key in gaining a higher level of confidence and competence of our professionals in general. Proper and ample guidance, information and support to the RLAs will give them the tools and motivation, the paradigm shift necessary, to appreciate and seize opportunities opened by ASEAN Integration. The UAP acting as the APO, together with the PRBoA, and CHED has conferred the first forty Philippine ASEAN Architects. This is proof of the active efforts of both private and public organizations and agencies in aligning the Philippine Architects to its ASEAN counterparts. Forums, programs and consultations facilitated by the various agencies should be made more vigorous. Evaluation of current standards and procedures must be aligned with Global standards. There is a need for a dedicated and centralized agency/office, duly established and funded, as a central repository of information, processes and approvals, to address the challenges

*continues to the next page*



from previous page...

and requirements of ASEAN Integration. A strong monitoring system must be established by providing a definite structure and a corresponding budget for this office. Best Practices from different professionals must be encouraged, ensuring that necessary measures are taken to protect the rights and privileges of not only the Filipino but all Asean professionals.

### III. How to Get There

Filipinos in general, Architects in particular, can look positively and be prepared for ASEAN Integration. Information and proper understanding of the ASEAN agreements will 'Equip' RLA's to be more pro-active. Alignment of our standards and the adjustments in changes of the status quo should be given due priority to 'Empower' them. These factors, together with a unified vision shall 'Enjoin' the profession to contribute in the advancement of the Philippines standing in the ASEAN Community.

### 3. WHAT IF? (On the Question of UAP's Role as the IAPOA)

*What if we woke up tomorrow and there was no UAP?*

- who will LEAD In handling the immediate issues faced by the profession?
- what about the Civil Engineers? Will everybody integrate to become the Integrated architects and Engineers of the Philippines?
- how will/who will organize to strategize and move the causes of Architects? Who will fund it? Where will the meetings be held? KKB?
- will the 23,000 strong 'lost' architects suddenly come out from hiding and champion our cause?

- and what about the House and Senate bills pending that only have a short window of chance to be heard and passed,
- and what about the ASEAN Integration which started December 2015?
- and what of Globalization? How do we begin to face that, much more prepare for it? And did I mention...who will Lead and Who will spend for all these?

Pardon me for wondering, but with all the noise going on, it may be good for all of us to start asking practical questions, and try to find the answers in our own common sense.

### IT IS TRUE...

- we have gone through 5 years of Architecture school, 2 years of internship, took the board exams, go through years of experience and hardship... AND Now, why should we have to be forced to be members of UAP?
- having an organization working to ensure the health of our profession is a Bargain, making sure all our hard work to become an Architect is preserved and protected? Somebody who is strong enough to fight any foe, or at least brave enough to try?
- of course, UAP is not perfect, no one is... we all must change with the times, UAP in its service to members, and its members in its expectations to UAP. We cannot be so preoccupied with the interpretation of the word 'SHALL' as to be blindsided by the word 'REALITY' lest it bites us and diminishes us all.

### WHAT IF...

- What if we woke up tomorrow and we all rally behind and supported UAP as a United Organization of architects

and together worked toward preserving and protecting our profession?

- What if we stopped suspecting ill of each other and gave each other the support and trust as professionals and worked together toward a common goal?

*And what if when we have issues or doubts or complaints about OUR UAP or its leadership, we went straight to them and ask, discuss and get the answers AND THEN post and share them on Facebook so everybody may be fairly informed?*

- what if we equip ourselves with facts and truths and researched and ensured that when we claim a truth or an opinion that we do not harm ourselves in the end, or make our architecture family seem weak and disconnected?

What becomes of us, of our profession, is in each of our hands. Each has a role, no one is a victim, unless that is what you make of yourself. No one is disenfranchised, unless that is what you choose yourself to be. No one is entitled, we ALL have to give our share, to work to maintain, preserve our collective rights and deserve to be in the only elite profession that God has shared with us, The ARCHITECT.

### 4. HB5127 / SB2623: an act to strengthen the architecture profession, amending for the purpose certain provisions of Republic Act No. 9266, otherwise known as the architecture act of 2004

HB5127 was filed and passed the committee approval and first reading in congress. After which the Civil Engineers through PICE, more particularly DPWH have managed to block the bill from moving forward. We have lobbied and have asked collective help from the membership through the chapters to lobby their respected congressmen. The bill is now in Limbo, solons seem to have deemed it 'politically safe' not to endorse it. That is the plain truth.

SB2623 was filed and although we lobbied practically all the senators, and prepared ourselves for PICE's counter force, it was in fact, immediately side tracked by another issue brought forward by our colleagues from the other organizations about the legitimacy of UAP as

the Organization championing the cause of our profession by strengthening our law. This move practically handicapped SB. Where it was directed to go through a TWG, and never recovered from there.

Several meetings and talks with PICE were done. UAP trying to reach across the table, but the dynamics of the talks have changed since the credibility of UAP as the legitimate organization to represent the profession was compromised. That is my personal opinion.

### 5. LAMENTATIONS OF A TIRED MIND...

Scheduled today at 1:30pm, a meeting of the board of Architects, Civil Engineers, Interior Designers, Landscape Architects, the two PRC commissioners, Gigi Chua-Chiaco, Yolly Reyes, PRC Chairman Dr. Doble, PRC Legal Atty. Lovelika Bautista was held at the PRC to discuss the pending SB2326 (the Strengthening of the Architecture Law), and SB 2111 (the Engineering Law).

Although, informed about the meeting, we were advised that this was a closed door meeting between the boards and that no representations or representatives from the APOs are invited.

On the UAP homefront, talks have been initiated with the CE's, a follow up meeting scheduled today was then canceled when our PICE counterparts informed me that they were going to be at the PRC meeting.

Learning this, NP quickly decided to be at PRC at the time of the meeting just in case the representatives present are allowed to attend, for in her words, we cannot not be represented. NP and I, without invitation, only with dedication were there, at the PRC building, at the second floor hallway...waiting... PICE reps came also, and after, we were invited to come in the conference room as observers to the discussions.

The meeting started with SB2326 on the projector screen, line by line it was read, as each section got through, reactions, rejections, clarifications and comments were given by the other boards. The discussions soon became alive with impassioned arguments and explanations, at





this point the representatives from the APO's have also gotten in the discussions. Each one standing firm and protecting their positions... Four hours later, the toll of fighting for your professional cause was becoming evident on everyone, and as NP and I try to gather and maintain our strength of resolve... I started to think about what is outside this room... The tens of thousands of architects, architecture graduates, architecture students and children dreaming to one day becoming architects, the CE's, IDs, LAs, and EPs, I then wondered... If they knew what we go through to ensure the health of our professions, would they care? Would they have some sense of appreciation? Or will as some, continue as they do, manage to twist these efforts into diminishing its significance for their own sick delusions to feed their deficiencies? Although these questions do not warrant answers, it maybe my own mental fatigue trying to justify the exercise we just went through.

No, this is not about me, or NP, or the nerve wracking, stressful situations we go through for the profession, although I must admit that I admire her dedication to UAP and her position. This is about letting you know what goes on, while the day goes by, how different people in various situations continue to take care of what is important to all of us, it is about being aware, it is about being thankful, it is about doing your part, it is about being decent, it is about integrity, it is about being human, it is about being an Architect.

## 6. ALLIED PROFESSIONS. (Interior Design, Landscape Architecture, Environmental Planning)

Meetings and consultations were held between UAP and the Allied professions on the matter of overlapping practice. Reaching across differences, we find a common ground and agree, in

principle, that there will be grey areas of overlapping practices.

Understanding that Strengthening the Architecture Profession does weaken other professions. But in fact, when each is strengthened by definition, function and order, then we can complement and work together better. That when each one realizes each innate role in society, only then can we all be truly World Class.

## 7. UAP POSITION ON ALLIED PROFESSION:

### *The UAP Position on the Practice of Architecture and its Allied Professions*

Architecture evolved because of the necessity for shelter and means which is the availability of materials and skill. Its beginnings date back in the Neo-lithic Period which spans from 10,200 to 2,000 BCE.

Early recorded Philippine Architecture date back in the Pre-Hispanic Era, circa 14th century.

In 1933, the first Architectural organization, the Philippine Architectural Society (PAS) was formed. On June 17, 1950, Congress passed RA 545, entitled "An Act to Regulate the Practice of Architecture in the Philippines. On March 19, 2004, Congress passed RA 9266, known as "The Architecture Act of 2004."

### *Architecture Through the Years*

Methodologies and service expectations are dynamic and evolving in this ever changing world.

Through the years, as projects become more complex the Architecture practice has expanded its services in more diverse settings. Detailed considerations in global and environmental situations and concerns have raised these complexities even more. Specializations stemmed from the Architectural Practice have been created to address the wide ranging reach and demand of the practice. Landscape Architecture, Interior

Design and Environmental Planning were sub-boards created to address these needs. Created to complement each other, to work together toward a complete and holistic design solution to every project. Complexities in defining overlaps in service however, have created a 'turf mentality' in these specializations. Driving animosity and suspicion amongst one another. If we are to remember that the ultimate goal of each design professional in their practice is to make the world better, then the very simplistic view of drawing a line in the difference of services of these professions may fade. The very nature of the creation of these specializations cannot be a reason to diminish the architecture profession, but rather to strengthen it.

### *The Global Stage*

As technology progresses, the world gets smaller, the playing field become more diverse and the players more competitive. Architects and its allied counterparts in the profession must realize that in order to be major players in this global arena, we must be able to restore common dignity and respect amongst each other, and have the resolve to strengthen and support each other, not by drawing a line on the sand, but by embracing our commonalities in practice and moving forward toward enhancing one other. With Architecture as the forerunner in the forefront of the design professions, allied professions must realize that working toward a strong standard bearer makes for a strong and cohesive practice all together.

### *Conclusion*

Filipino design professionals can look positively and be prepared for the challenges of Globalization and the ASEAN Integration 2015. With a strong and cohesive collaboration between each other. Architects can lead the way toward a strong and robust Philippine presence in the global stage. Cooperation will 'Equip' each of us to be more pro-active. Alignment of our standards and acceptance of our commonalities will 'Empower' the practice. These together with a unified vision shall 'Enjoin' the professions to contribute in the advancement of the Philippines presence and standing in the Global Arena.

## 8. WHAT CAN I DO TO HELP MY PROFESSION?

Since July, 2014, on the strengthening of RA 9266, we continued where PCAP left off. two bills in both house and senate filed, which we are now fighting for its passage, conferment of the more than 55 ASEAN Architects and filing of the Architects Code for approval of PRC.

What seemed to be an impossible feat happened because of the focus, teamwork and support many colleagues in the profession has given to rally our causes. The reality that these efforts are for All architects is a fact that must be realized by All. Working for UAPs causes is not for special interests, or for self-interest, nor for any other interest but only for the interest of All architects.

As we move forward to the continuing challenges our profession face, now is truly the time to come together and work together. Architects need to rise above all mediocrities and be the noble, dignified, practical thinkers that we are.

We need to continue the momentum and focus that has been attained. A member that will wait to be critical, that will watch every move to decide whether it will be acceptable to them or not, someone that will question and assess every direction taken, take the time to 'check and balance,' at this time, is not the specialist that we need, because the issues we have at hand is immediate and will not wait.

Architects must be mindfully aware of major changes and challenges that are happening that will affect our profession. As the world gets smaller, our horizons should get bigger. As a concerned Architect, being a member of, what seems to be a profession under siege, I feel these situations warrant our attention; and as Architects, warrant reaction that entails positive action. In these exciting times of progress in our country, the need for Architects to be united in its vigilance to move forward, a paradigm shift will be key. Time, effort and energy are valuable commodities we cannot afford to waste on business as usual. If we want to be major players in the international stage, then we should stop playing in the minors. We cannot afford to squander this chance



Congress



APEC 2015 Cebu



### Committee on Social Responsibility

For its second Fiscal Year, UAP CSR initiative termed as **"Bayanihang Arkitektura"** seeks to bring the bayanihan spirit into the realm of volunteerism – a strong testament to the 'bayanihan' trait – making it possible for Filipino architects to help each other and work together toward a common goal as enshrined in the corporate thrust of the administration: EMPOWER + EQUIP + ENJOIN.

The **"Bayanihang Arkitektura"** aims to improve the lives of the community through architecture and planning, craft strategies available to architects wanting to incorporate community service into their architectural practice, assist in meeting the professions civic platform with respect to the social aspects of sustainability, develop diverse initiatives to promote Architect's social responsibility in improving the well-being of communities and promote design solutions that can provide significant positive impact on the underprivileged communities.

#### Core Projects

The program has main projects which include the following

1. Architectural Clinic – brings our services to people who may need them the most
2. Water and Sanitation Projects – provision of toilets for schools and evacuation centers
3. Projects with UAP Emergency Architects – that will help in rebuilding lives and supporting local communities affected by disasters and calamities
4. Accessible Tourism – wherein UAP Chapters will provide technical assistance in designing tourist spots to give access to persons with disability
5. Other Projects – civic involvement activities, programs and projects in cooperation with other agencies, NGOs or civic groups, thereby promoting

extension of help and support to each other through professional organization's volunteerism act.

#### Organizing Committee

##### Honorary Chair

Ma. Benita Ochoa-Regala, fuap, Asean Ar.

##### Chair

Renato Heray, fuap, AseanAr, pala

##### Vice Chair

Ma. Marina Espares, uap

*Programs & Planning Head*  
Cesar Aris, Jr., uap

#### FINISHED PROJECTS IN 2015:

##### 1. MULTIMEDIA CENTER

- December 2015  
Tinib-Calanguasan  
Elementary School,  
Casiguran, Aurora

This project aims to help our countrymen in Aurora who were affected by the typhoon 'Lando' that struck the area, in a creative way of bringing entertainment, fun and educational activities to the children.

Inspired from the previous projects like TLC and Mobile Shower Van, the proposal is to use two 20-foot container vans



THE PROPOSED MULTI-MEDIA CENTER

connected side by side which will contain five computer sets, library/reading area, play area and a screen with watching deck especially designed for children in Casiguran, Aurora. Again, this disaster response project is in cooperation with Failon Ngayon, ABS-CBN Lingkod Kapamilya Foundation Inc. and United Architects of the Philippines – Cavite Chapter.



THE COMPLETED PROJECT



TURN-OVER CEREMONY

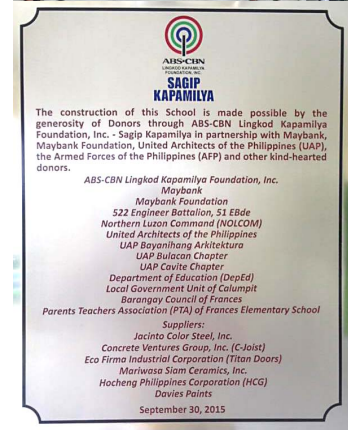
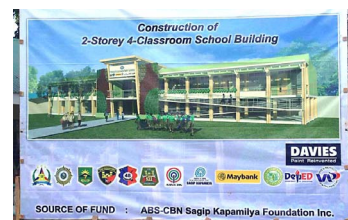


THE PROJECT TEAM and MR. TED FAILON

##### 2. FRANCES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - September 2015 Calumpit, Bulacan

The project aims to have classrooms wherein classes can be resumed shortly after a typhoon which is designed to be resilient to heavy rains, flooding and even strong winds.

This project was conceptualized after the occurrence of "Habagat" wind and heavy rainfall in November



The Turn-over Ceremony was attended by Bulacan Governor Wilhelmino Sy-Alvarado. Also present during the event are members of the project team



Inauguration of the newly-built Frances Elementary School in Calumpit Bulacan, September 30, 2015.



2012, when the province of Bulacan was severely damaged. The joint effort of ABS-CBN LingkodKapamilya Foundation, Inc., UAP Bayanihang Arkitektura, Maybank, DepEd, Northern Luzon Command Armed Forces of the Philippines, UAP Bulacan Chapter and UAP Cavite Chapter resulted to a school building on stilts project to be functional even when there are heavy flooding. Ramp is designed for the safety of the children and for accessibility as well. Canopy is purposely concrete slab and concrete parapet all around the roof in anticipation of strong winds during typhoon season. Different construction materials were generously sponsored by the following: for roofing, Jacinto Color Steel, Inc.; for slabs, Concrete Ventures Group, Inc. (C-Joist); for doors, Eco-Firma Industrial Corporation (Titan Doors) and others.

### 3. TWO-CLASSROOM INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY BUILDING

– August 2015  
San Fernando Central School, Tacloban City, Leyte

To work hand-in-hand with UAP Emergency Architects means extending help to our countrymen through disaster assistance which composes of three stages: emergency, relief and recovery. Then, we can help in rebuilding lives and supporting local communities in the



MOA signing between National Housing Authority, United Architects of the Philippines and San Fernando Central School representatives



Ground Breaking Ceremony, November 2014



SRC International Panel System sponsored the pre-fabricated wall panel system, and UAP Leyte Chapter did the direct installation instructions to workers for proper and efficient building of the school walls

Philippines affected by disasters and calamities. This project is for the continued development in Tacloban City after the typhoon 'Haiyan' struck the region.

### 4. TOILET FACILITY -

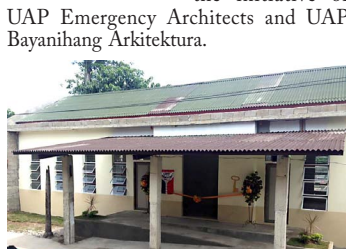
August 2015

Mariki, Zamboanga City and Rio Hondo, Zamboanga City

The primary purpose of Water and Sanitation Projects is to provide safe, accessible, clean, environmentally responsible public school toilets to meet the needs of public schools nationwide; and public community toilet facilities to rural areas where hygiene and sanitation has not yet been introduced. Toilet Facilities were proposed in Mariki Elementary



Turn-over Ceremony of the New Two-Classroom Information Technology Building to the San Fernando Central School under the initiative of UAP Emergency Architects and UAP Bayanihang Arkitektura.



School and the community of Rio Hondo in Zamboanga City. The project was coordinated with UAP, NHA and several suppliers for the sponsorship of materials and work force needed for the implementation of the Toilet Facility project.



Toilet Facility was proposed for Mariki Elementary School



Signing of Memorandum of Agreement among National Housing Authority, United Architects of the Philippines and Thai Olympic Fibre Cement Company (Sera)

### 5. RECYCLED TIRE

PLAYSCAPE - May 2015

Dayap Elementary School, Calauan, Laguna

Inspired from the Recycled Tire Playscape in San Fernando Central School in Tacloban, Dayap Elementary School in Calauan, Laguna had decided to adopt the same concept of playground for the benefit of their students and other children within



The Project Team



The Proposed Recycled Tire Playscape



The Groundbreaking Ceremony



The Proposed Toilet Facility

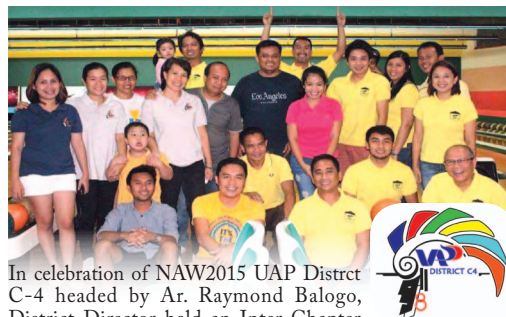


The Project Team

the community. Derived from the 'raindrops' concept partnered with the use of recycled tire makes the play area more attractive and provides a different level of excitement. This project is a joint venture of the following organizations: ABS-CBN Lingkod Kapamilya Foundation, Inc., UAP Bayanihang Arkitektura, and UAP Laguna Chapter.



The National Architecture Week (NAW) was celebrated last December 7-12, 2015 and was launched at SM Manila with the theme: Appreciate the past, build the future...NOW! Other UAP Chapters around the Philippines and outside the country have their own way of celebrating the event.



In celebration of NAW2015 UAP District C-4 headed by Ar. Raymond Balogo, District Director held an Inter-Chapter Bowling Tournament last Dec. 8 and 11, 2015. Three Chapters joined the tournament: Iloilo Chapter; Marikudo and Hamili Chapter. Marikudo became the champion of this tournament.



UAP-KL, in conjunction with advance observance of National Architecture Week celebration, attended a Product Presentation event last 21st November 2015 at Visionary Solutions Office in Petaling Jaya, Selangor, Malaysia as part of the chapter's continuous education program.





# Architecture Week



UAP Iloilo-Marikudo Chapter represented by Ar. Marsha Teruel, Chapter Pres., joined the Area C Showcase for NAW2015 Celebration held in Iloilo City last December 10, 2015. Heritage Tour and Dialogue with the Office of the Building Official of Iloilo City regarding RA 9266 was conducted headed by Ar. Ma. Luisa M. Gutierrez, Exec. Dir., Commission on Governmental and External Affairs, together with Area C-VP, Ar. Eldred Tan, NAW2015 Chairman, Ar. Anne Bayot, District Director Area C-4, Ar. Raymond Balogo, Iloilo Chapter and Hamili Chapter President, and some members of the Iloilo, Marikudo and Hamili Chapter.





from page 1 • Past UAP President takes helm of the PRBoA



17th Chairman of the PRBoA on Tuesday, October 13, 2015 at the Professional Regulation Commission office.

The PRBoA, is one of the Professional Regulatory Boards (PRBs) under the administrative control and supervision of the PRC.

Architect Sac rose from ranks, first as Chapter President, District Director, National Treasurer, Vice President and National President of the UAP.

Immediately after earning his degree, he worked in E. A. Aguila Architects, but he later devoted more of his time to Stainless Steel Industries, Inc. (SSI), a licensee of Tajima JunzoSeisaksho, a leading architectural metal works firm with affiliates in Malaysia, Korea, China, Taiwan, SingAPOre, USA, and Japan. His 22 years of solid experience with the company, starting out as a Designer and eventually making his way up the ladder to become Vice President for Operations, earned him specialized knowledge in metal designs for buildings.

As a result of his specialization, he was elevated to the UAP College of Fellows, an elite circle composed of about 300 individuals, or just a little over 1% of the best architects in the country. This is the ultimate validation for any architect, for it is peer recognition that raises one to this level.

Architect Sac was recognized by the Philippine Federation of Professional Associations (PFPA), the private umbrella organization

of all professional associations recognized by the PRC, as one of the Ten Outstanding Professionals in 2009. The PFPA oversees more than 40 groups of various professions.

In year 2013, he was awarded the prestigious PRC Most Outstanding Professional of the Year in the field of Architecture for exemplifying the highest degree of professional competence and integrity in the architecture profession, for his selfless dedication in shaping high standards and values of the architectural practice, for sharing his expertise with peers in various organizations, and for his stewardship role in promoting social responsibility through meaningful participation and contribution in socio-related activities.

In 2000, he was recognized as the Most Outstanding Alumnus in the Arts by his alma mater, Adamson University, and was later given the Adamsonian Award, the most prestigious honor that the institution could grant an alumnus, during the university's 75th foundation anniversary celebration. The Lyceum of Lallo, where he spent his high school days, also recognized him as its Most Outstanding Alumnus in 2004. He was the very first graduate to have been given the prize.

Being incredibly driven, Architect Sac also had other businesses on the side. He is, after all, as gifted an entrepreneur as he is an architect. He had as many as ten small and medium enterprises

specializing in the design and building industry, which he eventually consolidated into three companies. In 2002, the Province of Cagayan awarded him with the Outstanding Cagayano Award for Leadership and Excellence in Business.

One of the businesses he started, Supra Steel Corporation, is a natural move given his strong background in architectural metal works. He currently functions as Chairman and President of this venture. Architect Sac also found the time in his already overwhelmingly busy schedule to start two firms, Robert Sac Architectural Design (RSAD), for his architecture and construction management practice, and RSAC & Associates, for general construction. He is Principal Architect and Owner, and Chairman and President, respectively.

His many projects with RSAD and RSAC & Associates include small to medium-sized structures all over the country, such as multi-storey mixed-use buildings, multi-storey commercial buildings, a five-storey hotel, single-level and multi-storey school buildings, an industrial plant, training centers, and showrooms. He also designed and built a parish church, as well as chapels, convents, and retreat houses. RSAD also handles housing and residential developments.

After holding several positions in the UAP's hierarchy, Architect Sac became the first National President of the UAP to come from a small firm, and during his two consecutive terms, he advanced the interests of architects who, like him, maintained a modest practice.

It was in his two terms as National President of the UAP, with the full cooperation of other industry associations such as the Philippine Institute of Architects (PIA), the Architects Advocacy International Foundation (AAIF), and the Council of Deans and Heads of Architecture Schools in the Philippines (CODHASP), that Republic Act 9266, more commonly known as the Architecture Law of 2004, was passed into legislation.

The act stipulates that only licensed architects could sign and seal architectural plans, giving the profession the respect that it deserves. It also helped give small-practice architects a better fighting chance at the acquisition of projects. The law required all licensed and registered Filipino architects to become the member of an Integrated and Accredited Professional Organization of Architects (IAPOA). The UAP later became the IAPOA after a resolution was passed by the PRC.

Debt was an issue that the UAP faced at the time Architect Sac assumed the position of National President, and as such, his management and entrepreneurial skills truly came in handy. Partnering with then-National Treasurer Ar. Ana Mangalino-Ling, it was in his term that the association was finally able to settle the millions of pesos in debt to the suppliers that were tapped for the construction of the UAP Headquarters.

Together with his Metro Chapter members Ar. Jose Siao Ling, Ar. Wilson Sioco, and Ar. Alex Cua, Architect Sac pioneered the UAP Golf Tournament, and the UAP CONEX (an exhibition for the latest trends in construction materials), both of which have since become annual events. Raking in millions of pesos in income for the association, these events are often referred to as the bread and butter of the UAP.

After his two terms as National President, Architect Sac was elected Chairman of the UAP Foundation, Inc.

His extensive experience in local and international trade relations, matched with his exemplary entrepreneurial and management skills, were further recognized with his appointment as a member of the Philippine Monitoring Committee of the Asia Pacific Economic Council (APEC) from 2003-2004. The following year, he was named Honorary Secretary of ARCASIA, the council overseeing all architectural organizations in Asia. He also served as Treasurer and Vice President for Internal Affairs with the Philippine



Technological Council (PTC) in 2005 and 2006, respectively, as well as a Director for the Philippine Movement for Good Governance. He also Chaired the Task Force on RA 9266 during the presidency of Ar. Boy Roldan, his Secretary-General for Fiscal Year 2003-2004.

Architect Sac is also active in several socio-civic groups, the most notable of which is the Rotary Club of Cainta East. He is a Paul Harris Fellow, and

he was accorded the Rotary International Presidential Citation as Outstanding Club President. During his term, his chapter garnered the award for Outstanding Rotary Club. On top of that, he was concurrently the President of the Saturday Civic Club of Cainta, and President of the Village East Executive Homes Homeowners Association. He won the Outstanding President Award for the latter.

Architect Sac juggled a prolific career with a wonderful family life. He is married to Layda Sac (nee Divinagracia), and they have been blessed with four children. Rolyn and Mary Jane, who are both involved Supra Steel Corporation, earned their degrees in Business Administration from Miriam College. Abbiegail graduated from Ateneo de Manila University with a degree in Economics, after which she took up law, also in

Ateneo. She is now a member of the Philippine Bar Association, and she is currently connected with a top-tier commercial bank after a brief stint with one of the leading law firms in the country. His only son, Robert John, followed his footsteps and became an architect. He earned his degree from the University of Santo Tomas, graduating Cum Laude in 2008. Robert John is now a partner architect with RSAD.

## Ar. Robert M. Mirafuente, fuap

Meanwhile, Architect Robert M. Mirafuente was also appointed as Member of the PRBoA.

Ar. Mirafuente studied architecture at the Southern California Institute of Architecture, USA, whose faculty members included Frank Gehry and Eric Moss. He graduated with a bachelor's degree in Architecture from the University of Santo Tomas, and finally completed his master's degree at the University of Sydney in Australia. He also took Project Management courses at the University of New South Wales.

He has worked as a designing architect in Australia, SingAPOre, Hongkong, China, Malaysia, and the Philippines. Among his notable projects include the Darling Harbour Festival Marketplace in Sydney Australia and the Shaw Center project in SingAPOre. Together with Architect CK Chang, an associate of the reknown New York Architect I. M. Pei, he won the grand prize for an international urban design competition in Canton, China. He has collaborated with international design firms such as SOM of New York and HOK Chicago. To date, he has designed more than 150 projects all over the Philippines.

Architect Mirafuente has contributed many years of service to many organizations. Some of these included the following: Charter President of the



Architects Alumni Association Batch '83 UST; Past President of the United Architects of the Philippines Fort Bonifacio Chapter; Conference Director of the 31st UAP National Convention; Chairman of the Green Architecture Forum in the years 2004, 2007, and 2013; Board Member of the UST College of Architecture Alumni Association; and the present President of his high school alumni association.

In his own design firm, Architect Robert Mirafuente has sought to promote sustainable design or 'Green Architecture' in his building projects. He is very active with the local 'Green' movement. As one of the pioneers in the practice of Green Architecture in the Philippines, he helped found advocacy organizations such as the Green Architecture Movement in 2002, and the Green Architecture Advocacy Philippines in 2009.

## Ar. Fidel Jose R. Siapno, fuap, aa

Another member of the PRBoA, Architect Siapno is a graduate of the University of Sto. Tomas. He considers establishing the College of Architecture and Fine Arts at the Aquinas University of Legazpi City his best contribution to the architectural profession; he served as its first Dean from 1982 to 1985, and served two (2) more terms in 1989 to 1997. He retired from teaching after 30 years of continued service in the academe. His greatest achievement to-date is having mentored 200++ practising Architects in the Bicol Region, all over the country and abroad especially in Asia and the Middle East.

Architect Siapno is an active member of the United Architects of the Philippines - the Integrated and Accredited Professional Organization of Architects in the country. He



served as Chapter President twice, in 1980 and 1987, and was on the National Board as District Director in 1984. In 2005, he was appointed as a member of the Nominations Committee and as Chairperson of the COMELEC. He has been awarded and conferred as FELLOW of UAP and as Member EMERITUS.





## UAP Leadership in Education Assistance Program (UAP-LEAP)



UAP-LEADERSHIP IN EDUCATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (LEAP) is one of the flagship projects of the administration with the goal to uplift the capabilities of Filipino Architects to be equipped for the global competitiveness. This is also aligned to the current theme of UAP "Empower+Equip+Enjoin". This program assists Filipino Architects become pro-active and prepared for the coming of the ASEAN integration and the GATS implementation on cross-border practice in 2020. As per Memorandum Circular No. 19, s. of 2014, the mechanics of the UAP-LEAP was approved last October 11, 2014 by UAP National Board.

The specialized architectural graduate programs covered in LEAP are the following: Architecture, Urban Planning, Heritage/Conservation Studies, Landscape Architecture,

Construction Management and Architectural Education.

As of to date, there are ten (10) architects who already availed of this Program, nine of them were recipients of the scholarship grants while the remaining one (1) already finished her thesis defense. The first batch consisted of four (4) scholars while the 2nd batch consisted of six (6) scholars with one (1) in the thesis assistance program.

An initial funding of PhP 500,000 shall be allotted with the following package: PhP10,000 for the scholarship grant while PhP15,000 for the thesis assistance.

This UAP-LEAP can be availed twice with the following conditions: 1st availment if already enrolled for the master's degree study and the 2nd availment when the proposed subject thesis is already approved.

## The 139<sup>th</sup> UAP Chapter was Chartered last November 2015



The UAP, like any other living organism, is continuously growing. The UAP Kuwait Chapter, the 139th chapter of UAP, was chartered last October 2, 2015 at the Radisson Royal Blue Hotel in Dubai. The chartering was conducted prior to the Induction Ceremonies of the MENA Council and Dubai Chapter Officers and New Members. The Charter President of Kuwait Chapter is Ar. Wilmar Jesus Mago.



from page 1 • NP Beth Honored with the Rotary Golden Wheel Awards



their talent and success for the greater benefit of the poor and underprivileged.

The Awarding Ceremony was held last 23 of January 2016 at the Novotel Manila, Araneta Center. This award was presented by the Quezon City Government in Association with The Rotary Golden Wheel Award Rotary International District 3780 Foundation Inc.



from page 1 • Joint-Area Assembly: A Huge Success

off with a Sportsfest, the Chapter President's Assembly which tackled the Proposed Amendments of the UAP By-Laws and the National Board of Directors' meeting on Day 0, October 22, 2015.

The Masskara fever was very evident in the opening ceremonies on October 23, 2015 as delegates were ushered into the function halls by dancers garbed in colourful costumes and yes, smiling masks and creatively done puppets from La Consolacion College's ARFIEN students. Bacolod had just successfully celebrated its Masskara Festival exactly a week before the Joint Area Assembly got underway. UAP National President Ma. Benita O. Regala, FUAP, AA was the Guest of Honor and formally welcomed the delegates to the assembly. Continuing Professional Development (CPD) seminars followed after lunch

with speakers Ar. Jorge Mission speaking on "Energy Efficiency in Buildings" and entrepreneur Ramon Penalosa on "Agritecture". Day 1 was capped with the Welcome Dinner where Hon. Alfredo G. Maranon, Jr., Governor of Negros Occidental was the keynote speaker and Bacolod City Mayor Monico O. Puentevella also gave his inspiration message to the delegates and invited the UAP to come back to Bacolod City next year for our National Convention

Day 2 was highlighted by the Area Break-out Sessions. Areas A and B were grouped into one function room with their own set of speakers and topics for discussion while Areas C and D also had their own assembly in another function room. After lunch, the delegates went on an afternoon tour of Negros Occidental as they visited the Penalosa Farms and a variety



of heritage houses and sites in Victorias and Silay cities. Among the attractions visited were The Church of the Angry Christ and The Ruins. Another group headed to Campuestohan Resort for a dose of fun and adventure. The conference ended with a masquerade-themed Fellowship Night at SMX Convention Center.

The conference would not have been possible without the efforts of the organizing

committee headed by UAP Vice President for Area C Eldred Caesar I. Tan, FUAP and UAP District C2 Director Stella G. Servino. The JAA Organizing Committee was composed of members of the chapters from UAP Regional District C2, namely: Bacolod, Negrense and Mt. Kanlaon Chapters. In addition, selected members of the UAP Student Auxiliary from La Consolacion College ably provided assistance to the OrCom.

## UAP Attends Arcasia 2015



The Architects Regional Council of Asia or ARCA Asia is an organization of seventeen National Institutes of Architects from the Asian Region. This includes our very own United Architects of the Philippines. It serves as vanguard of the architectural profession and promotes the mutual benefits among the architects in the Asian region. The Council of ARCA Asia, comprising of Presidents from Member Institutes, conducts Annual Meetings in different host countries to discuss and resolve issues affecting the Architects' practice in the region. ARCA Asia Forum is one of the key features of ARCA Asia, where prominent architects from Member Institutes convene to launch new and innovative ideas concerning architecture and environment in the Asian context. Simultaneous

with the event is the ARCA Asia Committee Young Architects Council Meeting.

Last November 10-16, 2015, UAP delegates flew to Ayutthaya, Thailand to participate in the 36th ARCA Asia Council Meeting and 18th ARCA Asia Forum. The theme of the Forum was Future of the Past. It tackled about Architects' responsibilities to revive or to rebuild old cities. The forum aimed at achieving collective actions today to create sustainable development and keep the value of the past.

Also during the 2015 ARCA Asia, Associate Professor John Joseph T. Fernandez, Dean of the College of Architecture at University of Santo Tomas, was elected Deputy Chairman of the Committee of Education of the ARCA Asia. Dean Fernandez will serve the Council for one year



then move up to Chairmanship afterward.

As part of the delegation from UAP, Ar. Patrick N. Rodriguez, Chairman of the UAP Committee Young Architects (CYA), represented Philippines in the council meeting of the ARCA Asia Young Architects on November 10. It was presided by ARCA Asia CYA chair Fawad Suhail Abbasi from Pakistan. The same was also attended by representatives from India, Indonesia, Laos, Nepal, Korea, Japan, Hong Kong, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and Macau and of course from the host country, Thailand. Members of ARCA Asia CYA are architects ages 40 years old and below. It was agreed during the meeting to give recognition/



award to Outstanding Young Architects, maximum of five per country, by coming up with a coffee table book. The Council also agreed to give the Best Thesis Award to the graduating architecture student. At the end, Chair Ar. Fawad encouraged all the council members to remain in touch through chat or email, and share information or updates on the respective committee projects and events.





## The UAP Bulacan Chapter in Action

by Leah Y. Martin, uap



Amidst the busy life of an architect, the UAP Bulacan Chapter members and officers took their time out to perform some corporate social responsibilities and addressed environmental issues and awareness. Aside from that, their year-ender activity was their annual Chapter Christmas party filled with fun. With the UAP National thrust which is Empower + Equip + Enjoin...

Together on Higher Ground, the group gave back to the community and to nature to what has been stripped off from the environment. They went out of their way and with grateful heart did activities which are beneficial to everyone, to the people and to Mother Nature in general. With high hopes, the group is looking forward to somehow, in their own little ways, do their part in preserving the ecological balance in that small portion of the province and looking forward to the next generation of Bulakeño Architects to follow their footprints.

The following are the details of activities of UAP Bulacan Chapter



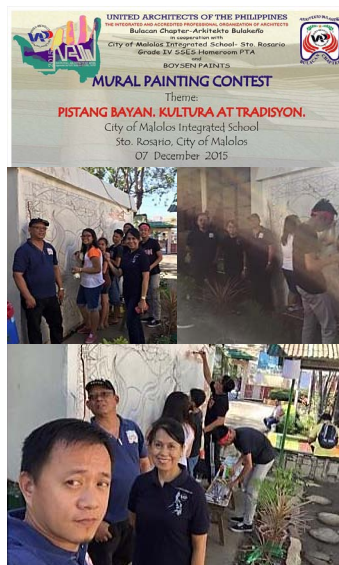
October 5, 2015 – World Architecture Day-caravan and Courtesy calls to Guiguinto, Bulacan Mayor Hon. Ambrosio "Boy" Cruz, and to Calumpit, Bulacan Mayor Hon. Jessie De Jesus respectively.



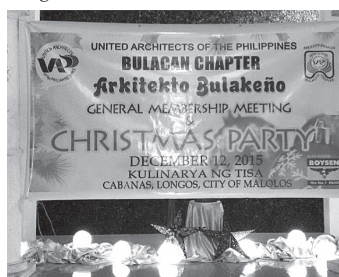
November 21, 2015 – Mangrove tree planting in San Jose, Paombong, Bulacan with the local baranggay officials and the caretakers of fish pens in the area.



November 28, 2015 – Bloodletting activity in Bulacan Local Blood Council, City of Malolos, Bulacan



December 7, 2015- NAW Celebration-Mural Painting Contest at City of Malolos Integrated School



December 12, 2015 – Chapter Christmas Party with military look theme



January 9, 2016 – Flat TV donation to Babatnin Elementary School, Brgy. Babatnin, Malolos City



January 24, 2016 – Feeding Program and donation to Bethlehem House of Bread Orphanage in Baliuag, Bulacan

RANK	NAMES	CHAPTER	TITLE
4th Runner-Up	Ar. Chester Emil N. Vibar	Catanduanes	Puni
3rd Runner-Up	Ar. Kenneth Edzon P. Asuro, uap Mr. King Edward V. Caparas Mr. Michael R. Bunag	Barasoain	People's Arch of Malolos
2nd Runner-Up	Ar. Anna Angeli Pagua, uap Ar. Beleno Zamayla, uap	Barasoain	Sinag
1st Runner-Up	Ar. John Moeses Atienza, uap Ar. Alenor Mae Dela Cruz, uap Ar. Lucille Anne Lim-Raola, uap	Barasoain	MONArko De Malolos
Grand Prize	Ar. Marlene D. Eugenio, uap Ar. Louie Cris Lagumbay, uap Ar. Blitzter Grayson DC. Reyes, uap	Barasoain	Balantok



December 9, 2015 – Courtesy Call to Bulacan Governor Hon. Willy W. Alvarado- handed over books of UAP Achievers-COF and ARCASIA Timeline



# ARKO-TEKTURA: UAP Barasoain Chapter Design Competition

by RosalLuzvincent DL de Ocampo, uap

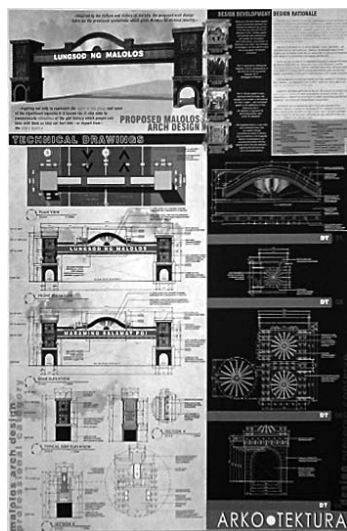


The recent months of November to January have been momentous and busy for UAP Barasoain Chapter and the City Government of Malolos (its host Local Government Unit) as they jointly held their first brainchild "Arko-Tektura: The Malolos Arch Ideas Design Competition." In a formal launching ceremony last November 7, 2015, Ar. Roger M. Magsakay (UAP Barasoain Chapter President) and Hon. Gilbert T. Gatchalian (City of Malolos Vice Mayor) signed a Memorandum of Agreement to officially undertake the search for a new look for the Malolos Arch through a National Design Competition. This competition was created to redesign the existing gateway arch of the City of Malolos. The existing arch has

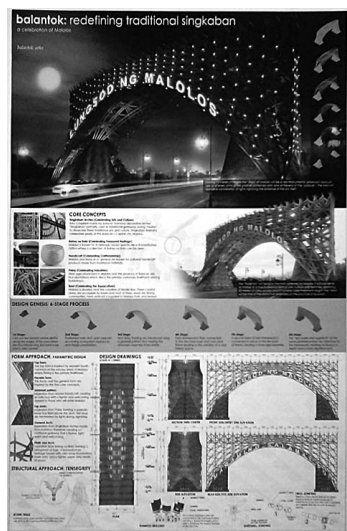
become a hazard to oncoming traffic because of a road widening project in the recent years. In addition, since its creation, the design itself has not provided a clear representation of what the city stands for.

The competition set forth design guidelines that the competition committee, as well as the host LGU, agreed upon. The design must adhere to three Rs: reuse, reduce, and recycle. Also, the design must represent the City's mission and vision, as well as its inherent history and culture.

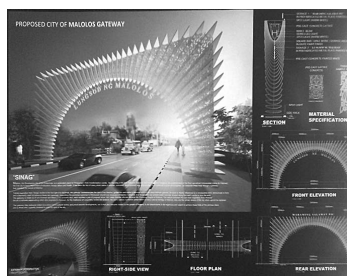
The competition was opened to Filipino architectural students and professionals and lasted until January 5. Screening and judging commenced immediately. The seven distinguished judges are made of four (4) RLAs and three (3) lay/representatives from the LGU namely: Ar. Maria Nina Bailon-Arce, fuap (UAP Secretary General), Ar. Antonio B. Del



1st Runner-Up



GRAND PRIZE



2nd Runner-Up



3rd Runner-Up

## Kalayaan 100 officers talk on Taft Avenue and thesis

by Felicisimo Tejuco, Jr., uap



Officers of UAP Rizal-Kalayaan 100 recently shared their experience and knowledge to the academe and students of the University of Santo Tomas (UST) and the University of San Carlos (USC).

Felicisimo Tejuco, Jr., the chapter's second president, was one of the speakers who presented his research to delegates of the Second National Conference on Urban Studies in USC, Talamban, Cebu City on 11-12 February 2015. The conference was organized by the National Commission for the Culture and the Arts (NCCA), Far Eastern University, and USC.

The said paper explored the opportunities of "Developing the Tourism Potential of Taft Avenue (from Ayala Boulevard to Pablo Ocampo Street) through the Streetscapes through Urban Renewal vis-à-vis Environmental Conservation." It was published in Espasyo, the peer-reviewed journal of the NCCA. Aside



from an analysis of the area, recommended improvements of the study were elevated walkways, 24-7 mixed-use activities, and see-through fences.

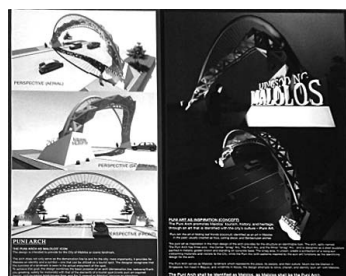
Also in February and March, former chapter presidents Juth Rosanela A. Manzanero and Reginald Dominic T. Yaneza; and incumbent officers Gloria S. Historillo (treasurer) and Allan James Reyes (director) of St. Luke's Medical Center, Quezon City, were invited as jury members of a class on Research Methods for Architecture (RMA). They critiqued the thesis proposals on health facilities of fourth year UST Architecture students. It was followed by sharing of tips and an open forum.



Rosario, Jr., uap (Director, UAP District A2A), Ar. Ma. Saturnina C. Parungao, uap (recognized expert on Malolos Heritage Architecture and consultant on the "Malolos: Renaissance City" program), Ar. Alberto C. Dumlaog, uap (Registered Environmental Planner and Vice President of the Bulacan Heritage Conservation Society), Hon. Gilbert T. Gatchalian (Vice Mayor, City of Malolos), Atty. Rizaldy Mendoza (City Administrator, City of Malolos) and Engr. Ricasol Millan (City Engineer, City of Malolos).

A public exhibit of the semi-finalists lasted for a week, in consonance with the schedules of the City's Fiesta Republica week-long celebrations. The awarding of the three (3) grand prizes was held last January 23 during the festival's closing ceremonies.

This activity was executed with the approval of the UAP National Board of Directors under the guidance of the SPP Document 208: Standards of Professional Practice on Architectural Design Competitions and was organized by UAP Barasoain's Competition Committee (consisting of Ar. Roger M. Magsakay, uap (Chapter President), Ar. Jose Francisco Aniag (Chapter Vice President), Ar. RosalLuzvincent De Ocampo (Competition Director), Ar. Jose Marri De Leon, uap, Ar. Hershey Didulo, uap, Czarina Ramos, and Melanio Martinez, Jr.) in coordination with the City Of Malolos Tourism Office.



4th Runner-Up





Feeding Program UAP Sta. Mesa Chapter at Concordia Children's Service, Sta. Mesa, Manila



Feeding Program Centrum Chapter, Mabalacat, Pampanga



District B2: Joint Area Assembly, SMX, Bacolod City



Induction of Makati Chapter & 38<sup>th</sup> Anniversary



Opening of CW Home Depot San Pedro, Laguna with UAP Laguna Chapter



District B5: November Council Meeting





## Area C News

by Eldred Caesar Tan, uap

The joint Area C NAW activity was hosted by District C-4 in Iloilo City thru DD Raymund Balogo last December 10, 2015 with guests NAW Chair Ar. Anna Bayot and Commission on Governmental & External Affairs Executive Director Ar. Malu Guitierrez. The main activity was the meeting and dialogue with Mr. Butch Penalosa - Iloilo City Planning Officer and Engr. Bobby Divinagracia - Iloilo City

Engineer and Building Official. The topic of discussion were the implementation of RA 9266 and also the creation of the Office of the City Architect in Iloilo City. In addition, former Area C vice president Ar. Manuel Tingzon, fuap, gave a presentation of the Iloilo River Development Project and Iloilo Conservation Advocation. Attending the dialogue were some of the officers and members of the District C-4 chapters.

## UAP Sugbu Celebrates 24 Years

by Karl Aries Emerson F. Cabilao, uap



The member-architects of the UAP Sugbu Chapter turned into "007" mode as they headed into the Teatro Casino of the Waterfront Cebu Hotel in Lahug for their 24th charter anniversary.

The weeknight was dress-up night for Sugbu members as they were in their best "Casino Royale" get-ups for this affair. Among the highlights of the event was the presentation of a plaque of recognition to UAP Sugbu's Charter President Eldred Caesar Tan, FUAP for his valuable contribution and work as the chapter's first ever president, District Director for UAP District C1, UAP Fellow and now Area-C Vice President. Archt. Tan was presented with a watercolour portrait done by Chapter Vice President for Programs, Archt. Panfilo Castro, Jr.

### MADE 2015 SPECIAL CITATION RECIPIENTS.

Recognition was also presented to UAP Sugbu members Jayson Mata and Jelda Cabardo for being recipients of the Special Citation for Architecture in the 2015 Metrobank Art and Design Excellence Competition (MADE). After receiving the award, Archt. Cabardo gave her fellow Sugbu members a glimpse of their proposal entitled

"Bamboo Tells" as a design solution for a "world-class resort and wellness facility". She also encouraged the members to join future design competitions as these would serve as venue for self-improvement as a Filipino architect.

Last year, UAP Sugbu members Joel Ong and Melissa Mateo also reaped honors in the MADE Architectural Competition and presented their winning work to the members during the chapter's Charter Day celebration at the Maya Restaurant in Crossroads, Banilad, Cebu City.

**ACTIVITIES BREWING.** As the chapter gears towards its 25th year of active involvement in the UAP and promotion of the profession, more activities are lined up for the remaining months of the fiscal year. This includes a Pecha Kucha night in November, a mentorship activity and a collaboration with the Creative Cebu group in bringing the world-class architectural school from London, the AA Architecture School to Cebu for a workshop. UAP Sugbu is also collaborating with UAP Regional District C1 for activities connected to the National Architecture Week this December and the holding of professional enhancement seminars next year.

## UAP DISTRICT C1 REACHES OUT

by Karl Aries Emerson F. Cabilao, uap



True to the words that he uttered on getting Cebuano architects more active in local community affairs after being inducted as District Director of UAP Regional District C1 just last August, Architect Jensen Racho immediately got the District gears running. Well, almost literally.

Among the first off the line up of weekend activities by the District was its participation in the Alay Lakad held last September 27, 2015. Tagged as a "walk for scholarship for disadvantaged and under privileged youth", the architects joined other clubs, organizations and public institutions in the said activity. After the early morning "exercise", the architects proceeded to Barangay Subangdaku, Mandaue City where a feeding program for children was held. There, they held a small party for the children complete with games and giveaways for them. The activity was in cooperation with the barangay, through its hard-working captain Ernie Manatad (who also joined the architects in the walk for a cause earlier that day).

Prior to this, the District C1 architects already had an appetizer of sorts when they participated in a tree-planting activity, initiated by UAP DatuLapuLapu Chapter through its president Philip Khan Lim.



Children's Party – Feeding Program



World Architecture Day



District C1 Joins "Alay Lakad"

Two weekends after, District C1 architects again gathered for a motorcade in celebration of the World Architecture Day. The historic grounds of the Plaza Independencia was the rendezvous for the participants from all the seven chapters of UAP RDC1 for a ride around the city not just making people aware of the celebration but also letting them know about the presence and importance of architects in community development. The activity was spearheaded by UAP Rajah Humabon Chapter through President Valentino Vergara.





## Consultative Meetings on the Amendments of the UAP Bylaws held Nationwide



Participations of Chapters and Districts under Area A in the Chapter Consultative Meetings held on August 19, 20, 29 2015, Wednesday, 8AM to 5 PM at the UAP National Headquarters, Diliman, Quezon City



Participations of Chapters and Districts under Area B in the Chapter Consultative Meetings held on August 3, 7, 10 and September 1, 2015, 8AM to 5 PM at the UAP National Headquarters, Diliman, Quezon City



Participations of Chapters and Districts under Area C in the Chapter Consultative Meetings held on September 11 & 12, 2015, 8AM to 5 PM at the Castle Peak Hotel, Cebu City



Participations of Chapters and Districts under Area D in the Chapter Consultative Meetings held on September 26, 2015, 8AM to 5 PM at the Ritz Hotel, Davao City



# The C.A.N. Community Architects Network Experience

by Geronimo R. Lajom, uap

For two summers, 2013 and 2015, I was privileged to attend and participate in the Community Architects Network Seminar-Workshop. This is an international symposium that aims to seek solutions for problems encountered by communities in a less-fortunate setting. The series of seminars, which were co-sponsored by TAMPEI and Homeless Peoples Federation Inc., introduced and made me aware of the not so conventional perspective of the architectural profession.

Community architecture may not be new to us but it is something we do not usually give attention to since it is not a profit-generating activity—something that diverts from the sophisticated profession that we all know. Community Architecture is participatory architecture. It is a people's process. The community, with its people is the prime mover of the whole process. From identifying the needs, which are basically theirs, to its implementation, they are at the forefront of planning. As architects, we need to understand how we capacitate the community. We defy the usual system of the architect doing the drawing. It is very heartwarming to see faces of the people in the community as they draw their own dream houses based on their ideas of what an ideal home is.

Educating the people is very important in letting them “draw” their dreams. Of course it is not an easy road to take. Impressions and “language” may be a barrier. Despite such, we need to make them aware of their power to build, regardless of what they know, or what they only know in architecture. Language as I have said is a barrier that divides the community and the architect. This problem cannot easily be solved since the communities do not speak the language of the architects. We communicate through technical drawings



while they speak the language of their dreams and desires of their hearts. What we need to do is make them understand and express themselves so that our worlds would meet in the process of capacitating them. In the workshop, we let them envision their space, their home, their lot the way they understand them. It is not easy to explain bubble space, anthropometrics, ergonomics, or even the meter scale to people, whose life merely evolves with working for their families, taking care of their children, or playing with their neighbors. But here is where our creativity as artists would come into play. There is no defined process in this kind of work, I think the only essential thing is to make the community and the people, the center of the process, and everything else will follow. We will be surprised that it really is not difficult after all.

How do we do this process? Community mapping is one way of understanding this. Through mapping, the people in the community see themselves as an inevitable role player in planning for development. The community plan is important because: 1. It determines key issues to be addressed, 2. It becomes a tool in seeking for their priorities and 3. It serves as a guide to organize the community and make them aware on what they can do as a people. It is a down to top process – from the level of the community to the planners, to the local government administrators who will implement the plans. It starts with understanding their community in terms of their problems and act upon them through workshops and hands-on involvement in the problem-solving process or what they call participatory activity just like what we did in the seminar. The problem-solving process includes site planning. As we all know it involves macro- and micro-analysis. It is pretty amazing how




they do this when even us who are learned architects do have a hard time doing this. It is more of understanding the condition of their own communities. And you would be surprised that they know their problems and they do have solutions, maybe not how we architects would visualize them but it is more effective since it is really what's happening in their own backyard—first hand.

The process also involves housing. Housing, as we also know is a social issue—an issue that we as architects must respond to. The difference is that we, as architects must deal with a lot of people, in fact a community, addressing their needs and problems as a whole therefore designing in a collaborative way. It involves political, economical, environmental, cultural and even behavioral issues, which makes it harder for the community



architect. This may just be a regular project but with a lot of heart involved because we need to know the community participant's dreams and wants and act upon them. We need to understand their concepts and their ideas and hear them so they would feel they matter. In the process, this makes them more confident and therefore empowered.

What I have stated may be informative as well as an eye opener for some of us, but after reading them, we ask ourselves, what happened? What did we learn? But I think the more important question would be not the what but the how. We should ask ourselves and ponder on how can we be of help to these less fortunate communities? How can we be architects of the people or for the people? We can never know the answer unless we participate and involve ourselves and try.



## 40<sup>st</sup> UNITED ARCHITECTS OF THE PHILIPPINES Founding Anniversary

**RESPONSIVE AND SERVICE - ORIENTED ARCHITECTS**

### MARCH 19, 2016

**Holy Mass Celebration, 9:00 AM**  
Sacred Heart Parish, Sct. Ybardolaza Cor. Sct. Fuentebella, Quezon City

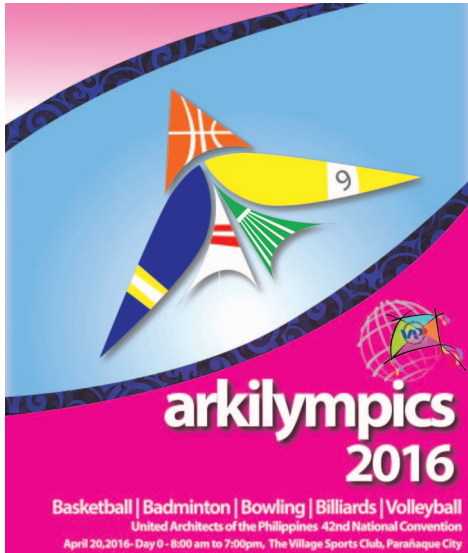
**Simultaneous HOLY MASS CELEBRATION**  
(Per Area, District, Chapter) 9:00 AM Mass  
Participants: Open to all Architects  
(District A3, A4, A5, B1, B2, B3)

**Light Merienda at Tower Restaurant**  
UAP National Headquarters

**MOBILE FEEDING ACTIVITY, 1:00pm**  
Hosted by: District B2  
150-200 Food Distribution to Street Children

**Chairman: Ar. Robert V. Olete, VP Area - B**





# arkilympics 2016

Basketball | Badminton | Bowling | Billiards | Volleyball  
United Architects of the Philippines 42nd National Convention  
April 20, 2016 - Day 0 - 8:00 am to 7:00 pm, The Village Sports Club, Parañaque City



## bas·ket·ball

noun /'baskət,bôl/

: a game in which two teams of five players bounce a ball and try to score points by throwing the ball through one of the raised nets at each end of a rectangular court.

One of the exciting sports in Arkilympics history. Gear up for a day of basketball and Shoot your way to the championships with the other area teams and be the next ARKILYMPICS 2016 Basketball Champions.

REGISTER NOW through your respective Area Vice-Presidents.



## bad·min·ton

noun /'badmin(t)n/

: a game in which a light feathered object (called a shuttlecock) is hit over a net by players using light rackets.

Match points up! Survive intense rallies against the other Areas! Serve, Smash and Ace your way to become this years ARKILYMPICS 2016 Badminton Champions!

REGISTER NOW through your respective Area Vice-Presidents.




## bow·ling

noun /'bôlɪŋ/

: a game played by rolling a large, heavy ball down a smooth floor (called a lane) towards a set of pins in order to knock down as many pins as possible.

Surely, in reaching the pinnacle of this years tournament, theres no time to Spare! Strike the pins down and make your way through the ARKILYMPICS 2016 Bowling tournament! Dont miss the chance to be crowned as bowling champions!

REGISTER NOW through your respective Area Vice-Presidents.




## LIP SYNC SHOWDOWN

Rules and Regulations

1. The NATCON 42 LIP SYNC SHOWDOWN is an inter-chapter contest open only to chapters having registered NATCON42 delegates.
2. Each chapter shall have a maximum of 2 entries. Entrants shall have a minimum of 1 and maximum of 8 members.
3. Entrants must produce 3-5 minutes lip-sync performances and is free to choose any music video provided there are no explicit lyrics
4. Send the recorded videos to natcon42lipsyncbattle@gmail.com. Deadline of submission of entries is April 2, 2016
5. A selected panel of judges (3 persons) shall pick out the top 3 groups among all entries
6. The top 3 groups shall be notified 2 weeks before NATCON42 to prepare for the live presentation on the awards night of NATCON42. Judging shall be based on the live performances of the finalists.
7. The criteria of the contest shall be:
  - 30% Performance
  - 30% Production
  - 30% Creativity
  - 10% Audience Impact
8. The prizes shall be as follows
  - P 30,000 Champion
  - P 20,000 Second Place
  - P 10,000 Third Place

For more inquiries, please contact  
Mr. Allen Oblena @ 0917-805-3770

HCG




## The UAP Kite-Making Contest

United Architects of the Philippines 42nd National Convention

Mechanics:

1. The UAP Kite-Making Contest is an inter-chapter contest open only to chapters having registered NATCON42 delegates. Only 1 kite per chapter will be allowed to join.
2. Design and build a kite. Maximum dimensions are 1.50m L x 1.50m W x 0.75m H. Transporting the kite to the venue would be the responsibility of the chapter
3. Send a video recording of the kite test flight to natcon42kitemaking@gmail.com. Video recording is set to a maximum of 2:00 minutes. Deadline of submission is on April 2, 2016
4. Participants are required to bring their kites on Fellowship Night Day 3 - April 23, 2016
5. The prizes shall be as follows:
  - P 30,000 - Grand Prize
  - P 20,000 - 1st Runner-up
  - P 10,000 - 2nd Runner-up

DAVIES Paint Reinvented



# NATCON 42

## "Filipino Architects in a Rapidly Evolving World"

SMX CONVENTION CENTER  
MANILA, PHILIPPINES  
APRIL 21-23, 2016



## bil·liard

noun /'bilyərd/

: any one of several games that are played on a large table by hitting solid balls into one another with the end of a long stick.

Breakshots on you! chalk up your cues, and aim your way to the championships of ARKILYMPICS 2016 billiards tournament! Emerge as winners in the different tournament formats and have a fun filled and at the same time, competitive day of Billiards!

REGISTER NOW through your respective Area Vice-Presidents.



## vol·ley·ball

noun /'vālē,bôl/

: a game for two teams, usually of six players, in which a large ball is hit by hand over a high net, the aim being to score points by making the ball reach the ground on the opponent's side of the court.

The latest addition to the ARKILYMPICS sporting events. Gather up the best players in your area for the chance to be crowned as the first champions in this years volleyball event!

REGISTER NOW through your respective Area Vice-Presidents.