



Fides • Caritas • Libertas

# The Crusader

THE OFFICIAL STUDENT PUBLICATION OF HOLY CROSS COLLEGE

Vol. 1 No. 1 June - December 2019

## HCC under New Management

By Janette Franco

Students applauded the new management of Holy Cross College under the leadership of new President, Atty. Dennis C. Pangan for opening the gate to college students.

The announcement that was posted on HCC's official Facebook page last November 09 went viral.

It reached more than 22,161 people and acquired a total of 4,194 engagements, 259 likes and 246 shares.

The closed gate policy that was implemented by the previous

administration was disapproved by students because they felt that they are being robbed by their freedom to choose.

Students expressed concern about the closed gate policy implemented by the former administration because of its very strict policy and neglect of their right to choose.

**Banning of colored hair, long nails, and make-up, disapproved by some students**

HCC has its values, rules, and regulations implemented the whole

campus to maintain peace and discipline, including the prohibition of colored hair, long nails and make-up.

Based on the student handbook 2019 edition, under the Philippine Constitution and the Education Act of 1982 that every student of HCC shall enjoy the following rights: the rights to vote in the students popular election, the right to use school facilities to the policies of HCC, the right to due process which includes the right to be informed in writing and the charge that may

lead to any disciplinary action, the right to be heard, and the right to present evidence and many more.

Included in the long list of rules and regulation is the prohibition of hair dye, long nails, and make-up for girls - rules that are objected by students.

“The rule is not valid like hair dye, I cannot really understand why those stuff are prohibited in the school,” a second year psychology student said.

A number of the students particularly college learners are not in favor of these rules.

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**FREE LET REVIEW**



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**PUGON NO MORE**



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**HCC Welcomes New Admin**



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**5-peat Champ:**

**Crucians defends overall ranking in CSPC**

*By Sarah Keziah Evangelista*

Young journalists of Holy Cross College claimed another overall championship crown in the September 2019 Cluster School Press Conference at Bloomingfield Academy Foundation.

65 junior and senior high school snatched different awards on individual and group categories.

Cristine Yabes, School Paper adviser said the young journalists been into a tough training.

"June pa lang dapat alam na namin kung sino 'yung mga sasabak and then after identifying the participants, they will be subjected for the training the whole preparation from June to September," Yabes said.

"Training lahat araw- araw para consistent sila pagdating sa mismong laban," she added.

Despite the problems they faced during training, they still manage to keep their overall standing in the CSPC.

Yra Ishi Suarez, feature writer in Filipino, pointed out that their training has been difficult that every second count.

"We do it all day, Monday to Saturday. Ang hour namin dapat ay oras din sa paglaban, tipong iniisip mo na lumalaban ka na talaga," Suarez said.

Individual Category		Collaborative Desktop Publishing (English)		TV Broadcasting (Filipino)		TV Broadcasting (English)		Radio Broadcasting (Filipino)		Radio Broadcasting (English)	
Lulaine Dizon - 1st Place Sports Writing English	Triha Mae Manaloto - 7th Place Feature Writing English	1st Place	Claris Burre - 1st Place	1st Place	1st Place	1st Place	1st Place	1st Place	1st Place	1st Place	1st Place
Bianca Hannelle Tadeo - 1st Place News Writing Filipino	Rjay Ballagit - 7th Place Sports Writing Filipino	2nd Place	Claris Burre - 2nd Place	2nd Place	2nd Place	2nd Place	2nd Place	2nd Place	2nd Place	2nd Place	2nd Place
Rico Mae Santos - 1st Place Copy Reading Filipino	Marielle Kylo Bueda - 8th Place Copy Reading English	3rd Place	Claris Burre - 3rd Place	3rd Place	3rd Place	3rd Place	3rd Place	3rd Place	3rd Place	3rd Place	3rd Place
Ailijan Tolentino - 1st Place Editorial Writing English	Carmela Dawn Miranda - 8th Place Feature Writing English	4th Place	Claris Burre - 4th Place	4th Place	4th Place	4th Place	4th Place	4th Place	4th Place	4th Place	4th Place
Rhondal Nixon Lopez - 1st Place Feature Writing Filipino	Nico Shane Yanesos - 10th Place Copy Reading English	5th Place	Claris Burre - 5th Place	5th Place	5th Place	5th Place	5th Place	5th Place	5th Place	5th Place	5th Place
Andrei Justice Paulillo - 1st Place Science Writing English	Rhosette Ten Limjoco - 10th Place Photojournalism Filipino	6th Place	Claris Burre - 6th Place	6th Place	6th Place	6th Place	6th Place	6th Place	6th Place	6th Place	6th Place
Mark Gale Mallari - 1st Place Science Writing Filipino		7th Place	Claris Burre - 7th Place	7th Place	7th Place	7th Place	7th Place	7th Place	7th Place	7th Place	7th Place
Daniel Lucian - 2nd Place Editorial Cartooning Filipino		8th Place	Claris Burre - 8th Place	8th Place	8th Place	8th Place	8th Place	8th Place	8th Place	8th Place	8th Place
Rowell Cordova - 3rd Place Copy Reading Filipino		9th Place	Claris Burre - 9th Place	9th Place	9th Place	9th Place	9th Place	9th Place	9th Place	9th Place	9th Place
Julia Mae De Alde - 3rd Place Editorial Cartooning English		10th Place	Claris Burre - 10th Place	10th Place	10th Place	10th Place	10th Place	10th Place	10th Place	10th Place	10th Place
Erik James Cruz - 4th Place Editorial Writing Filipino		11th Place	Claris Burre - 11th Place	11th Place	11th Place	11th Place	11th Place	11th Place	11th Place	11th Place	11th Place
Paulo Guerrero - 5th Place Editorial Cartooning English		12th Place	Claris Burre - 12th Place	12th Place	12th Place	12th Place	12th Place	12th Place	12th Place	12th Place	12th Place
Kirt Bryan Mallari - 5th Place Photojournalism Filipino		13th Place	Claris Burre - 13th Place	13th Place	13th Place	13th Place	13th Place	13th Place	13th Place	13th Place	13th Place
Yra Ishi Suarez - 6th Place Feature Writing Filipino		14th Place	Claris Burre - 14th Place	14th Place	14th Place	14th Place	14th Place	14th Place	14th Place	14th Place	14th Place

**COACHES: CRISTINE M. YABES AND JERWIN C. RECITAS**

Jerwin Recitas, coach of Crucian journalists said that student-journalists truly deserved it. Recitas said students poured their serious efforts and hard work to really secure the most coveted championship that made him proud.

"I must say that CSPC 2019 was a tough battle, what was very invaluable part of our winning was the support extended by the school to our journalists," Recitas said.

"For that, we, in the team would also like to share this success to the entire HCC community," he added.

On the other hand, Coach Yabes discovered loopholes in the campus publication that needs to be improved.

However, HCC journalists still aim to garner more medals and maintain its ranking.

**CDR**

**Free review to increase LET passing rate**

*By Mark Edwin Dizon*

Holy Cross College issued a new policy to improve its curriculum and support system for students after President Dennis Pangan expressed dismay on the licensure examination rate.

The current management will administer free review for students this upcoming summer to solve the decreasing passing rate.

In the September 2019 Licensure Examinations for Bachelor in Elementary Education dropped to 44%.

In addition to this, the passing rate for Secondary Education only reached 33% which is below than 39.68% national passing rate.

While passing rate of the Licensure Exam for Certified Public Accountant (CPA) is still a drought to the HCC community.

"Everything went wrong. From the choice of faculty, curriculum, so many no classes, lack of focus on the part of the administrators and students," Atty. Dennis Pangan emphasized.

"But I do not point a blaming finger on anybody; I take full responsibility of this month's performance," he added.

However, Pangan assured that the bad days are over. The president ordered to include free summer classes to students.

Dr. Pablito Gantan, the Dean of College of Arts, Sciences and Education (CASED) said that they will have stricter admission policies. "There will be qualifying and screening tests for those who want to become teachers," he said.

"We will be very adamant about the policies, that we will only be accepting students who want to be a teacher in mind, heart, and soul," Gantan added.

CASED dean reminded the students that the secret on passing the licensure examination is to study well, listen to the discussion and ask questions.

Moreover, the HCC administration promised to the community to gain better results in the LET exams in 2020.

**CDR**



# HCC hosts Taize before Krus Festival kick-off

By Joymee P. Cullado

Student-performers of Krus Festival dance competition gathered at Sta. Ana parish church for a Taize prayer last November 28, 2019.

Holy Cross College held a Taizé, a night before its founding anniversary that served as a preparation for the Krus Festival.

“As Krus Festival performers, as dancers, it is not only a competition,” said Emmanuel Ricafrente, Students Formation and Praxis Division.

“It is also a way or prayer which also one of the core values we have, Fides or faith,” he added.

The taizé was organized by the Students Formation and Praxis Division together with Sta. Ana Parish Youth Ministry.

It started by discussing where it was originated and how it was conducted. According to the opening discussion, this meditative prayer originated in Taize, a rural community in France, and was founded by Brother Roger Schutz, a Swiss Catholic.

It includes repeatedly singing of short chants or songs, reading the scripture, an opportunity to kneel or sit beside the cross and



Captured by: Boris Sebastian Lontabo  
Caption by: Jenny Tan and Keziah Evangelista

**UNITED IN PRAYER:** Students from every department attended the 6<sup>th</sup> Taize Prayer of Holy Cross College at Sta. Ana Parish Church. Each students (right photo) offer a prayer on the cross to symbolize FIDES (faith). The Cross (left photo) signified IN HOC SIGNO VINCES which means in this sign, we shall conquer.

a moment of silence to pray. This short chants are easy to memorize and must be sung sincerely or came from the heart.

Peaceful environment in this type of worship is important for it helps the

participants to meditate and feel the purpose of this prayer by their heart.

“Krus Festival is not just a dance, it is also celebrated with prayer.” Ricafrente said.

CDR

## HUMSS, STEM strand, ties in Same Sex Marriage debate

By Joymee P. Cullado

Senior High School (SHS) students of Holy Cross College witnessed a furious debate on Gender and Development studies last October 2019.

The said debate happened between the participants or representatives from HUMSS and STEM strands who showcased their skills and knowledge in defending their beliefs and perspective about same-sex marriage.

The affirmative and negative side presented and defended the given issues, completely with their case studies and related research.

According to the panel of judges, both of them defended their side very well, though there are some instances they were not able to elaborate more on the information and beliefs they have.

Despite the setbacks, judges were astonished by how students answered and presented the topic. In the end, both HUMSS and STEM declared as the winners for this debate.

“It was great, first time namin mag-debate ng ganito, kase dati ang debate namin sa classroom lang,” said Desiree Keith Gutay, participants from HUMSS strand.

“Pero ngayon naranasan namin yung magkaroon ng pormal na debate which is nakaharap ka sa mga audience and we have the judges,” she added.

The said debate is inline with the celebration of Gender and Development week hosted by the Guidance Counseling Services Division.

“Para at least makita natin yung capability, yung skill, yung kakayahan ng ating mga senior high school students to be in a debate competition,” said Archilles David of Guidance Counseling Services Division.

Last 2018, the SHS students show their talents in mural paintings concerning Gender Equality. **CDR**



Captured by: Mark Joshua Lansangan  
Caption by: Jenny Tan and Keziah Evangelista

**ENGINEERING STUDENTS IN ACTION:** The first Engineering Days celebrated in HCC wherein Engineering students prove that this course is not about how they solve different equations but to be a role model to each student and how they can enhance their capabilities and intelligence in joining this kind of event.

## Engineering Days exhibits talented students

By Sarah Keziah Evangelista

The students of Holy Cross College from the Engineering course celebrated the first Engineering Days last September 26 at Student Learning Resource Center.

No engineering student was left behind when it comes to showing their talents and intelligence in different activities led by Marvin Mallari, Dean of the College of Engineering and Criminology.

The student actively participated in an e-sport contest which was Mobile Legends tournament and a quiz bee.

“We are celebrating the Engineering Days to witness the potential of each student, our participants, to develop their teamwork and camaraderie,” Mallari said.

This event is a perfect way to showcase student's abilities and talents in their chosen careers.

With the use of modern technology, the said quiz bee is done online which removed the traditional hand-written answers.

“Of course napakasaya at exciting kasi it brings so much excitement sa aming mga students, tapos hindi naman kasi dapat puro pag-aaral yung ginagawa kailangan din natin ng activities na'to para matuto tayo sa ibang aspects ng life,” Christian Duay, president of the Engineering course said. **CDR**

# New Management honors HCC's Cream of the Crop

By Jenny Marin



Another remarkable event in the history of Holy Cross College took place in the school's quadrangle during the celebration of the 74<sup>th</sup> Founding Anniversary, the Unveiling of the Cream of the Crop Marker, honoring the 145 alumni valedictorians and salutatorians since 1946 up to 2016.

The celebration started with a thanksgiving mass headed by Archbishop Emeritus Paciano Aniceto, who was also an alumnus of the batch '54, together with Rev. Father Reynaldo M. Cruz, the parish priest of Sta. Ana. Everyone who attended the mass felt the spirit of gratitude upon reaching such successful years and continuous growth of the school.

The event was upon the idea of the new management headed by the president, Atty. Dennis Pangan, who believes that honoring these individuals is significant to the school's history and it is their absolute right to see their names hanged in the wall of the school.

The aim of this marker is to pay tribute and acknowledge these individuals with their excellence and intelligence in acquiring their respective titles. Guest of honors were awarded with a Certificate of Recognition by the school heads, read by Mr. Benjie Nolasco.

First valedictorian of the batch 1946, Dr. Vicente Balatbat, was invited as one of the guest of honor who gave their testimony and experiences during their time. He said, tearfully, that it was the best tribute he had ever received in his life and cannot bear his happiness.

According to Atty. Pangan, he was invited as a guest not only because he was the first valedictorian but he was also one of the symbol of Fides, Caritas and Libertas, in connection to the school's Philosophy, Vision, Mission and Goals.

Former president of Holy Cross College, Chairman Emeritus Commo. Jose G. Lansangan Jr. was also present. "Honor is something that we cannot just throw away, it is something that we pursue and preserve as long as we can live," he said on his speech. Together with Dr. Balatbat, they led the unveiling of the Marker while Holy Cross Hymn was sung by the school staffs, students and alumni. **CDR**

**SALUTE TO OUTSTANDING CRUCIANS:** Momentous unveiling of the first marker that recognize the Cream of the Crop of the HCC since it was founded. It is the list of all class valedictorian in the history of Holy Cross College.

Captured by Mark Joshua Lansangan  
Caption by Anjaneth Leano and Joymee Cullado

# HCC aims higher passing rate

By: Janette Franco



Photo by: Holy Cross College Facebook Page  
Caption by: Jenny Tan and Keziah Evangelista

**WORTH THE WAIT:** Emie Rose Puyat (left picture, highest LET passer among crucians, 87.60% passing rate) and other LET passers with Attorney Dennis Pangan (right picture) in the Testimonial Luncheon in Holy Cross College. Crucians proved that in every failure and disappointments they can still manage to achieve success with the guidance of God's grace.

30 Holy Cross College students passed the September 2019 Licensure Examination for Teachers (LET).

Only 25.42% of 59 first time and repeater examinees of Bachelor of Elementary Education (BEEd) passed the examination.

While 15 out of 73 first time examinees of the Bachelor of Secondary Education (BSEd) successfully passed the board.

Rose Puyat, BSEd graduate, ranked number one among HCC examinees with 87.60%.

Puyat reiterated that being a teacher means overcoming a lot of challenges and being a model for the future generation.

"Remember that passing the board exam is just a first step towards our future goals," she said.

HCC president, Dennis Pangan expressed dismay on LET results on the decreasing passing rate.

"Bilang isang presidente, nalulungkot ako para sa mga hindi pumasa at iyon ang aagapan namin," Pangan said.

To aid the decreasing passing percentage of LET passers, HCC will provide free review for examinees.

Moreover, HCC will also offers masters of education for new professional teachers. **CDR**

## HCC Under New Management.....from page 1

### POD: "Ban on colored hair part of proper grooming"

The office of Prefect of Discipline (POD), did not turn a blind eye on banning colored hair following the school regulations.

POD emphasized that proper hair color is part of good grooming and even if students were wearing a complete school uniform but failed to comply with hair color, it is still inappropriate under the school policy.

"College learners are still students, though they are old enough to decide for themselves they are still covered by the school regulations that was made by the disciplinary committee," the office of the POD said.

POD also added that the Code of Conduct of Holy Cross College was already made even before, it was made by the Board of Trustee and disciplinary committee.

The office of the POD also cleared their job is just to implement the rule and has the responsibilities for penalties or disciplinary action for every violation.

Every violation is tantamount to disciplinary action.

For minor cases, a student must do community service within the school campus and for a serious offense, it may bring the student for benching or suspension, transfer of school or expulsion.

"So, I do hope that all students will learn the proper way of following the rules, each student is advised to observe and follow all the rules and it is strictly stated at the Code of Conduct," the office of the POD said.

College students are still hoping that their concerns will be heard and may result in better changes to follow. **CDR**

# PUGON NO MORE: HCC a fully air-conditioned educational institution, soon

By: Sarah Keziah Evangelista and Realyn Manaloto

SAY GOODBYE TO SWEATY ARMPITS AND UNLIMITED PAYPAY!

Holy Cross College displayed a new project to ease students learning ambiance.

The new president, Dennis Pangan, announced last November 22, that HCC will be a fully air-conditioned educational institution next school year, 2020 -2021.

This is one of the major development after 74 years since the HCC's foundation.

"We will have a fully air-conditioned Holy Cross College by March before you leave the school," Atty. Pangan said.

"By the time that you take your final examinations, every room is air

condition," he emphasized.

Positive reactions from students were immediate after hearing the president's announcement.

"Parang mas gaganahan 'yung mga students na mag- aral kasi kung dati mainit ngayon mas lumamig na, mas presko na," Barbara Sophia Panlilio, a Junior High School student said.

"Parang mas matututo kaming mga students kasi 'yung mas naiintindihan na namin (lessons from teachers), hindi na hassle sa amin yung kapag ano kailangan pa naming magpaypay tapos pwede rin mas tumaas 'yung population ng Holy Cross kasi nga fully air-conditioned na," Katrina Mae Muldong, a Senior High School student.

Student welcomes the initiative as it will be more efficient for them to have air-conditioned room because of more relaxing environment to study and learn.

Even though the majority of the student is overjoyed to hear the good news, some are worried that the tuition will increase.

"Pero siguro para sa akin baka tataas 'yung tuition fee natin kasi yun na nga syempre magbabayad tayo ng malaki para sa kuryente dahil sa paggamit ng aircon," Michelle Munticalvo, a student of Bachelor of Elementary Education said.

Attorney Pangan clarified and assured that there will be no additional payment for tuition fees instead this will serve as an energy fee. **CDR**



## SWEAT WON'T LET YOU DOWN ANYMORE:

Students will say goodbye to sweaty uniforms and warm rooms as Holy Cross College will innovate air-conditioned rooms for the new school year.

Photo and Caption by: Anjaneth Leaño



# Color run unites students, faculty

By Janette Franco

The Holy Cross College family unites in a colorful run as part of the celebration of the 74th Founding Anniversary.

At exactly four in the morning, runners dance to the beat as their warm up before the 5-kilometer run starts.

Participants passed five stations to complete the color run: yellow, green, violet, red and blue stations. Each kilometer have a wonderful surprise for each runner.

Camilo Lacanlale, organizer said it is one of the memorable color run.

Happiness filled the finish line as runners enjoyed the activity. They jumped and jive as the music beats and a fire truck splash water through the runners after the colorful 5-km run.



**Color Splash:** A colorful and blissful fun run was enjoyed by students and faculty members as they welcomed the first day of the founding anniversary of the Holy Cross College.

Captured by: Mark Joshua Lansangan

Caption by Anjaneth Leano and Joymee Cullado

Rovic Songco, runner, grabbed the first place. "I participate not just to have fun with my friends but for my brother who is also a runner when he is alive,"

Songco said.

Almost everybody in the HCC community participated in the event as encouraged by HCC President Dennis Pangan. **CDR**

## New admin installs bidet on comfort rooms

By Anjaneth Leño

The newly assigned president of Holy Cross College prioritized the proper hygiene and cleanliness among students and faculty members by improving the campus' comfort rooms.

Bidets or plumbing fixtures intended for washing the genitals were installed in women and men's restrooms.

HCC President, Dennis Pangan pointed the importance of having access to facilities for the safe disposal of students (feces and urine), as well as having the ability to maintain hygienic conditions, through services such as garbage collection, waste management, and proper disposal.

Attorney Pangan ordered the maintenance office to provide a bidet in every comfort room of the buildings inside the school to have good hygiene especially women.

The administration and student council also

plans to install a vendo machine for tissues and sanitary napkin.

"Mas malinis ngayon kesa dati, wala ng nakakalat at nakakapag segregate na ng maayos ngayon," said Krishna Sadie, college student.

HCC continues to implement the "Waste Segregation, Waste Management, and Clean As You Go (CLAYGO)" to maintain its healthy environment.

Jesus Sigua, Internal Auditor and head of the operations of canteen said that they continuously inspect the concessionaires to maintain the cleanliness of the school.

The provision of sanitation facilities in schools creates a safe and healthy physical learning environment, benefiting both the education and health of students in HCC, educating students on basic hygiene and clean their surroundings is a big help to the administration. **CDR**

# HCC welcomes new admin to move towards excellence

**H**oly Cross College's new administration raises the bar of excellence as it continues to be one of the leading private schools in Pampanga by providing quality education for all spearheaded by the newly appointed President Atty. Dennis C. Pangan.

President Pangan gladly shares to all Crusaders his plans and vision starting from no tuition fee increase this coming academic year 2020-2021. He also boast the air-conditioning project for all the buildings of Junior High School and College for the productive and conducive learning. The new president also wants to improve the academic standards of every Crusader student by evaluating all the teachers' credentials and capabilities – only master's degree takers or graduate with licensed in professional teaching can teach in college-level. In addition, he evaluates every teacher in the classroom set-up, checking their classroom management skills and efficiency.

The new president also dreams of Holy Cross College dominating every prestigious contest in academics and sports in which the school continues to provide allowances and intensive training for student-athletes and student journalists. Scholarships are also his priorities by contacting all the government and non-government agencies, providing financial support such as the Unified Financial Assistance System for Tertiary Education (UNIFAST) and Tertiary Education Subsidy (TES) and many more.

The renovation of the school's library and chapel are also his immediate concerns. With the whole 4th floor given to the school library, it is wide enough to accommodate hundreds of students in a fully air-condition state with a thousand books available in all areas of learning. The chapel has become more comfortable also with the air-conditioning project of the new management.

HCC is also an environment-

friendly community that reduces the use of plastic by encouraging Crusaders to bring tumblers; this will give them a discount of five pesos, usable in any meal to all concessionaires.

Classrooms and facilities are still in the president's mind as the three-story building becomes more visible to Crusaders that will serve as classrooms both on the ground floor and second floor, a room for journalists or the student publication room and a photo studio. The top floor will serve as the covered court that will hold big events like intramurals, foundation celebration and more, available for Grade School, Junior High School, Senior High School, and College Department.

With the new president's caliber – valedictorian in elementary and secondary at Santiago Elementary School and Holy Cross Academy respectively and cum laude in Bachelor of Arts Major in Political Science at University of Assumption. Pangan is also a valedictorian in Bachelor of Laws at San Beda College of Law and a certified law practitioner and professor earning the 17th spot in 1993 bar examinations with 84.05%.

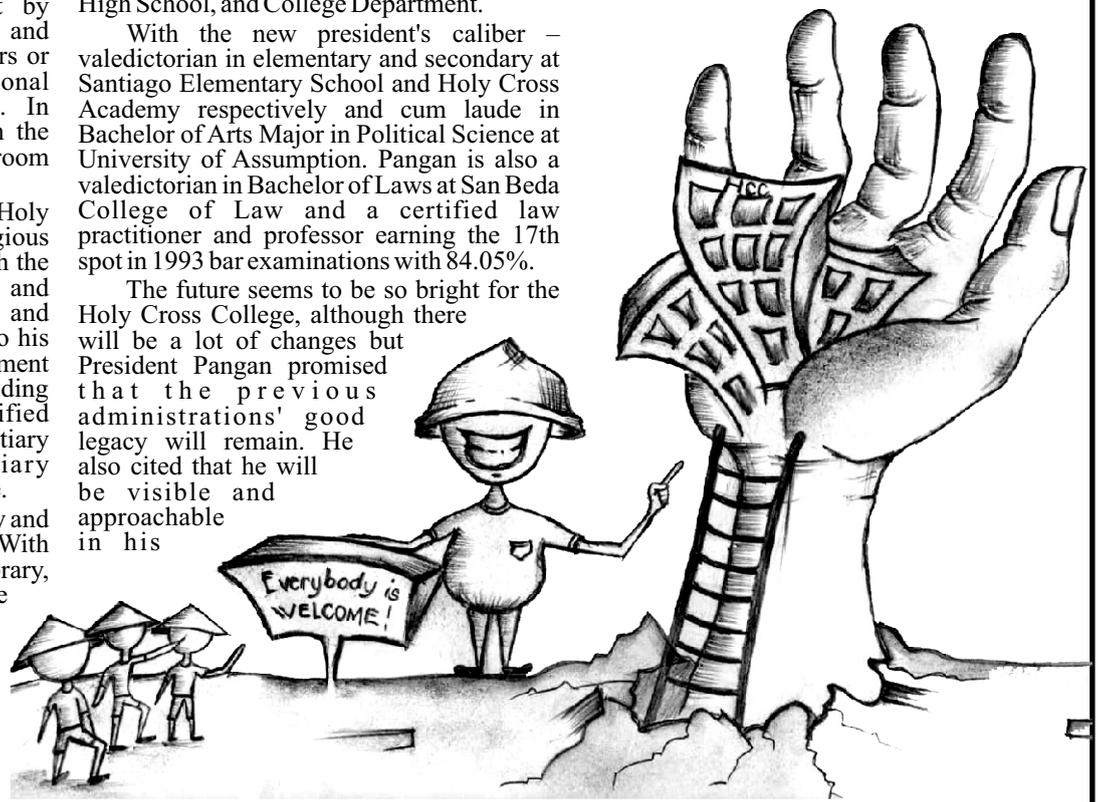
The future seems to be so bright for the Holy Cross College, although there will be a lot of changes but President Pangan promised that the previous administrations' good legacy will remain. He also cited that he will be visible and approachable in his

administration by welcoming all the students in his office.

With all of these plans and vision, the crusaders will ensure to keep an eye in the new administration towards the fulfilment of a beautiful dream for the Holy Cross College.

Crusaders will expect positive changes consistently and will always hope of not just a good take-off – HCC will soar high until the dream of every Crusader will finally be a reality.

Students will not have a blind eye on the Presidents promises and will wait until words turned into actions. **CDR**



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## The Crusader

### EDITORIAL BOARD

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# Supremo



Aaron Sombillo  
Editor-in-Chief

## Hayahay ang buhay estudyante!

*“Kamakailan ay umugong ang balitang pagpapanukala ng “no-assignment policy” para sa mga mag-aaral sa elementarya hanggang sekondarya na sinuportahan ni Department of Education (DepEd) Secretary Leonor Briones sa paniniwalang wala ng oras na natitira ang mag-aaral para sa kanyang pamilya – bine-baby masyado ang mga estudyante.”*

**N**akakasukang isipin na pabor na pabor sa mga mag-aaral ang sistema at mga patakaran ng edukasyon sa bansa habang nabubugbog sa trabaho ang mga guro. Maging ang Child Protection Policy ay ginawang lisensya ng mga mag-aaral upang pagsamantalahan ang mga guro. Sa panukalang no-assignment policy, ang mapatutunayang lalabag ay mapaparusahan ng pagkakulong o kaya'y multang nagkakahalagang P50,000 at ang pagbawi ng lisensya sa pagtuturo – kawawa na naman si titser.

Maging ang pangakong pagtaas ng sahod ng guro ay butil-butit na nararanasan, napakatagal ng taun-taong kaunting pagtaas sa kabila ng patuloy na pagbibigay ng nakapapagod na trabaho, umaasa sa kalidad na edukasyon kahit walang pakuswelo.

Ang assignment ay isang follow-up reinforcement na kailangan ibigay sa mga mag-aaral upang masukat ang kaalamang nakuha sa talakayan at malaman ang na-retain na karunungan sa isipan ng bata. Karaniwang ginagawa ang assignment ng mga

estudyante katuwang ang kanilang mga magulang – oras na magkakaroon ng pagtutulungan sa pagitan ng magulang at bata.

Kung tatanggalin ang assignment ay tataas ang posibilidad ng pagiging makakalimutin ng mga bata at nadaragdagan ang oras na maaaring ilaan sa kanilang mga bisyo't libangan. Kailangan ding repasuhin ang paggawa ng lesson plan dahil nakatala rito na parte ng lesson plan ang assignment.

**“Ang pagpapatanggal ng assignment ay pagnanakaw sa karapatan ng mag-aaral na makakuha ng kalidad na edukasyon kaya't nakaiinis isiping ang departamento pa ng edukasyon ang nagnanakaw ng karapatan ng mag-aaral. Ito ang dahilan kaya napag-iiwanan na ang edukasyon sa Pilipinas!”**

# One Voice



**Regine C. Dela Rosa**  
*Editor-in-Chief*

## Come to a Sticky End

***“Just before 2019 end, the number of suicide case continues to increase not just in the Philippines but also worldwide.”***

**R**ecently, a report about Filipino actor made rounds on the internet after he was found dead in a residential area in Santolan town in San Juan.

Also, the daughter of a famous director and actress ended her life because of depression a year ago.

A lot of suicide cases keep hounding the country's authority to make an action.

Depression among students is imminent. Youth who are meeting the expectations of the family and dealing with criticisms are more prone to this.

Depressed people ended up questioning who they are and may come to a sticky end.

Depression (major depressive disorder) is a common and serious medical illness that negatively affects how you feel, the way you think and how you act. This is according to the American Psychiatric Association.

**“An illness, not a weakness, make your eyes wide open!”**

World Health Organization (WHO), stated that close to 800,000 people die due to suicide every year, which is one person every 40 seconds.

A loss of energy, a change in appetite, sleeping more or less, anxiety, reduced concentration, indecisiveness, restlessness, feelings of worthlessness, guilt, or hopelessness, and thoughts of self-harm or suicide are the symptoms of depression.

This thing has something to heed much attention while getting worse, how we can get support if the resources in the Philippines are inadequate?

There is one psychiatrist for every 250,000 in the

people. Ideally, it should be one psychiatrist for every 50,000, according to the Department of Health (DOH).

In the large population we have in the country, there are only 12 mental health facilities nationwide, which can accommodate 200-300 patients.

Data from the Global Burden of Disease Study (2016), we have close to 9 million prevalent cases of mental, neurological, and substance use disorders, 3.3 million of which are anxiety disorders, and 2.6 million of which are depression.

Are they enough for meeting this mental crisis?

WHO predicted that by 2020 the rate of death will increase to one every 20 seconds.

Evidence has been proved that the internet and social media can influence suicide-related behavior.

A teenage girl in Malaysia has reportedly ended her life after posting a poll on her Instagram account asking her followers if she should die or not, and 69% of responders voted in favor of suicide.

K-pop fans are sorely upset in losing their idols contagiously. The artists mental health were destroyed due to online bullying and criticisms.

Familiar with an OFW who hanged herself to death in Oman and broadcasted it live on Facebook? Her body was now sent home in the Philippines last November.

Fortunately, depression is treatable.

Depression is not a joke. Proper diagnosis and treatment will help depressed people to overcome it.

If you are experiencing symptoms of depression, tell your family and see a psychiatrist.

Psychiatrists recommended that patients should continue their medication six months or more until symptoms have improved.

The Department of Health (DOH) launched a national crisis hotline to assist people with mental health concerns.

New National Center for Mental Health (NCMH) Crisis Hotlines 0917 899 8727 (USAP) and 989 8727 (USAP). **CDR**



## Eye Opener



Jaria Mallari  
Feature Editor

# Dismal results in reading and science, displays PH incompetency

***“Philippines ranked lowest in reading comprehension and second to the last in both Mathematics and Science based on the research of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).”***

Philippines ranked lowest in reading comprehension and second to the last in both Mathematics and Science based on the research of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).

The Program for International Student Assessment (PISA) examined 600,000 students in 79 countries last 2018.

However, the results are alarming as they will represent the whole education system. It also hampers and distorts our global competencies among other nations.

Today where information is widely disseminated on the internet, the news regarding the result of this educational competence survey had received numerous reactions from the public.

Instead of just reacting to the striking headlines, it is our responsibility to have a clear grasp of the nature of this educational competence survey.

OECD's PISA intends to test critical thinking in reading, math, and science to 15-year-olds. The test does not measure memorization of facts but rather demands students to draw on knowledge and real-world problem-solving skills.

The survey is carried out every three years but this time among its 37 member states and 42 partner countries and economies.

The latest study was taken by 600,000 15-year-olds last year and showed that students in the four Chinese regions of Beijing, Shanghai, Jiangsu, and Zhejiang as well as Singapore topped the rankings ahead of their Western counterparts in reading, math, and science.

In an interview, Frederick Sotto Perez, president of the Reading Association of the Philippines, said that it is the first time that the country joined the PISA of the OECD. The country ranked lowest among PISA-participating countries and scored with an average of 340 points in reading comprehension.

The summary of the PISA 2018 result reads, “Reading proficiency is essential for a wide variety of human activities from following instructions in a manual; to finding out the who, what, when, where and why of an event; to communicating with others for a specific purpose or transaction.”

The Philippines also ranked low in Mathematics and Science with an average of 353 and 357 points against a 489 OECD average for both categories, of which the results were released on December 03.

With all of these dismal ranking, it will be hard to fully comprehend the results from our perspective because we know

that our education is working out well.

Aside from the fact that the country has a lot of teachers to serve, Filipinos are known to have good mastery and fluency over the English language.

Nevertheless, why?

Frederick Sotto Perez theorized that narrative texts in which Filipino students are exposed to led to this result. He said that students at the age of nine should be taught expository texts that focus on factual information.

Another reason that we may look into is the far-flung areas of the country. What happened to the highest budgetary priority in education?

***“We believe that the government must provide for and reach out to schools with poor connectivity to all the reading materials and facilities they need to catch up with the progressions of mobilized schools.”***

At some point of view, parents also blame teachers regarding the result. However, we believe it not to be entirely true.

Children are supposed to have the foundation they need the moment they enter the school. Parents should take part in building the education of their children.

Indeed, it is a handful of pressure on the part of our teachers. The call on the educational authorities is to reevaluate the work of our teachers. Limit the numbers of learners inside a classroom. Review the curriculum. Remove the piled up unnecessary paper works and give them training instead, to be able to produce the quality education our country needs.

Whatever the excuses and explanations, the result says what it says.

We, Filipinos, are not globally competent. The rest of what will happen in our education in the country lies in our educational authorities, politicians, and lawmakers. We challenge you to close the gap. **[CDR]**



Fides • Caritas • Libertas

# Process

**Holy Cross College**  
Sta. Ana Pampanga  
Grade School Department

Fides • Caritas • Libertas

<b>STEP 1</b>	<b>STEP 2</b>	<b>STEP 3</b>	<b>STEP 4</b>	<b>STEP 5</b>	<b>STEP 6</b>
<b>SUBMISSION OF REQUIREMENTS</b>	<b>FILLING-OUT OF FORMS &amp; SLIPS</b>	<b>PURCHASE ORDERS OF BOOKS &amp; OTHER SUPPLIES MEASUREMENT OF UNIFORM</b>	<b>ASSESSMENT OF FEES</b>	<b>PAYMENT OF SCHOOL FEES</b>	<b>PICTURE TAKING FOR ID</b>
<b>Where:</b> Grade School Principal's Office	<b>Where:</b> Grade School Principal's Office	<b>Where:</b> Bookstore	<b>Where:</b> Grade School Principal's Office	<b>Where:</b> Cashier's Office	<b>Where:</b> TO BE ANNOUNCED
<b>Requirement:</b> admission/enrolment requirements*	<b>What:</b> Duly approved class schedule	<b>Requirement:</b> Order Slip/s & Official Receipt on School Uniform	<b>Requirement:</b> checked Enrolment Form & Slips	<b>Requirement:</b> Enrolment Form & Assessment Slip	<b>Requirement:</b> Enrolment Form, Official Receipt & ID Slip

**Note**

\* Admission/Enrolment Requirements:

For New Students : PSA Birth Certificate (original & photocopy) & 3pcs. 2x2 pictures in white background with name tag

For Old Students: Report Card & Clearance

For Transferees: Permit to Enrol, Report Card, Form 137-A (if available), PSA Birth Certificate (original & photocopy), Certificate of Good Moral Character, Letter of Request for Admission from parent or guardian & 3 pcs. 2x2 pictures in white background with name tag

**Transferees must follow steps A-C before going to step 1.**

Step A. Present to the GS Registrar the admission requirements (except for the Permit to Enrol).

Step B. Proceed to the Guidance Services Office for interview and other guidance procedure.

Step C. Go to the GS Principal's Office for approval and issuance of Permit to Enrol.

**Holy Cross College**  
Sta. Ana Pampanga  
Senior High School Department

Fides • Caritas • Libertas

<b>STEP 1</b>	<b>STEP 2</b>	<b>STEP 3</b>	<b>STEP 4</b>	<b>STEP 5</b>
<b>SUBMISSION OF REQUIREMENTS</b>	<b>FILLING-OUT OF FORMS &amp; SLIPS</b>	<b>ASSESSMENT OF FEES</b>	<b>PAYMENT OF SCHOOL FEES</b>	<b>PICTURE TAKING FOR ID</b>
<b>Where:</b> Grade 1 St. Joseph ( near Cashier's Office)	<b>Where:</b> Grade 1 St. Joseph ( near Cashier's Office)	<b>Where:</b> Grade 1 St. Joseph ( near Cashier's Office)	<b>Where:</b> Cashier's Office	<b>Where:</b> TO BE ANNOUNCED
<b>Requirement:</b> admission/enrolment requirements*	<b>What:</b> Duly approved class schedule	<b>Requirement:</b> checked Enrolment Form & Slips	<b>Requirement:</b> Enrolment Form & Assessment Slip	<b>Requirement:</b> Enrolment Form, Official Receipt & ID Slip

**Note**

\* Admission/Enrolment Requirements:

a. PSA Certified Birth Certificate

b. Original Gradee 10 Report Card with LRN

c. Photocopy of Certificate of Junior High School Completion

d. Original Certificate of Good Moral Character

e. 3 2x2 pictures in white background with name tag

f. For Private JHS Completers only: ESC Certification with E-SID

**Check the Enrolment Schedules & Copy of your control and document numbers.**

If your STRAND is scheduled, proceed to Step 1.

If your STRAND is not yet scheduled, go back on the scheduled date/s.

If you missed the scheduled date/s for your STRAND, enrol on April 25-27, 2016.



# of Enrolment



## Holy Cross College Sta. Ana Pampanga Junior High School Department

Fides • Caritas • Libertas

**STEP 1**  
SUBMISSION OF REQUIREMENTS

**Where:**  
Room 105, Grade 9 Romans (near Cashier's Office)  
**Requirement:**  
admission/enrolment requirements\*

**STEP 2**  
FILLING-OUT OF FORMS & SLIPS

**Where:**  
Room 105, Grade 9 Romans (near Cashier's Office)  
**What:**  
Duly approved class schedule

**STEP 3**  
ASSESSMENT OF FEES

**Where:**  
Room 105, Grade 9 Romans (near Cashier's Office)  
**Requirement:**  
checked Enrolment Form & Slips

**STEP 4**  
PAYMENT OF SCHOOL FEES

**Where:**  
Cashier's Office  
**Requirement:**  
Enrolment Form & Assessment Slip

**STEP 5**  
PICTURE TAKING FOR ID

**Where:**  
TO BE ANNOUNCED  
**Requirement:**  
Enrolment Form, Official Receipt & ID Slip

**Note**

\* Admission/Enrolment Requirements:

For New Students: PSA Birth Certificate (original & photocopy) & 3pcs. 2x2 pictures in white background with name tag

For Old Students: Report Card & Clearance

For Transferees: Permit to Enrol, Report Card, Form 137-A (if available), PSA Birth Certificate (original & photocopy), Certificate of Good Moral Character, Letter of Request for Admission from parent or guardian & 3 pcs. 2x2 pictures in white background with name tag

Transferees must follow steps A-C before going to step 1.

Step A. Present to the GS Registrar the admission requirements (except for the Permit to Enrol).

Step B. Proceed to the Guidance Services Office for interview and other guidance procedure.

Step C. Go to the GS Principal's Office for approval and issuance of Permit to Enrol.

No Enrolment for:

- a. Boys with long hair
- b. Boys with earrings
- c. Boys & girls with hair highlights
- d. enrollees without accompanying parent/guardian



## Holy Cross College Sta. Ana Pampanga College Department

Fides • Caritas • Libertas

**STEP 1**

SUBMISSION OF REQUIREMENTS / APPROVAL OF SUBJECT, EVALUATION/ADVISING

**Where:**  
Registrar's Office/Program Head's Office  
**Requirement:**  
admission/enrolment requirements\*

**STEP 2**  
COPYING OF IMPORTANT SCHED.

**Where:**  
Registrar's Office

**STEP 3**  
FILLING-OUT OF FORMS & SLIPS

**Where:**  
Dean's Office  
**What:**  
Duly approved class schedule

**STEP 4**  
ASSESSMENT OF FEES

**Where:**  
Registrar's Office  
**Requirement:**  
checked Enrolment Form & Slips

**STEP 5**  
PAYMENT OF SCHOOL FEES

**Where:**  
Cashier's Office  
**Requirement:**  
Enrolment Form & Assessment Slip

**STEP 6**  
PICTURE TAKING FOR ID

**Where:**  
TO BE ANNOUNCED  
**Requirement:**  
Enrolment Form, Official Receipt & ID Slip

**STEP 6**  
CLASS CARD

**Where:**  
Registrar's Office  
**Requirement:**  
Registration Form (Student's Copy)

**Note**

\* Admission/Enrolment Requirements:

For New Students: PSA Birth Certificate (original & photocopy) & 3pcs. 2x2 pictures in white background with name tag

For Old Students: Report Card & Clearance

For Transferees: Permit to Enrol, Report Card, Form 137-A (if available), PSA Birth Certificate (original & photocopy), Certificate of Good Moral Character, Letter of Request for Admission from parent or guardian & 3 pcs. 2x2 pictures in white background with name tag

Transferees must follow steps A-C before going to step 1.

Step A. Present to the College Registrar the admission requirements (except for the Permit to Enrol).

Step B. Proceed to the Guidance Services Office for interview and other guidance procedure.

Step C. Go to the Dean's Principal's Office for approval and issuance of Permit to Enrol.

**KRUS FESTIVAL 2019:****Celebrating devotion and harmony***By Regine C. Dela Rosa*

**T**he Krus Festival was centered on having stronger faith, deeper wisdom, and unity on its 74th Founding Anniversary last November 28-29.

It was attended not only by the Crusaders but also by residents of nearby barangays. People witnessed the majestic celebration, unprecedented performance and a colorful festival.

Resounding tunes of xylophones and pounding beat of drums of Junior High Marching Band engulfed the area around the Patio, Sta. Ana Parish Church.

Four competing teams grooved to the beat of the Krus Festival music to showcase their festive dance moves in the Street Dance Competition.

Team HUMSS-TVL Strand claimed a back to back championship in the Street Dance Competition.

It was cuteness overload as Elementary students dressed up like little saints in the Bible and Marian Costume contest.

The casts of a stage play (Y Reyna Elena, Y Constantino at ing Banal a Krus) directed by Arlene Marie Ocampo, set up the mood and filled the contingents with astonishment.

Everyone left amazed with their goose bump performance.

One of the most-awaited parts of the festival is the free interpretation dance prepared by the four teams competing for the title.

Showing off their creativity in various forms, each team shines like stars from the night sky with their colorful costumes and artistic props.

In this 6th Krus Festival, two teams were hailed champions.

Team JHS and Team STEM-ABM Strand declared victorious in the Free Interpretation Dance Competition.

"Ing kekatamung Krus Festival eyamu contest. Ing tune pake ning Krus Festival, yapin itang kasalpantayan," said Atty. Dennis Pangan, president of HCC.

Each team did not go home empty-handed, they also received Special Awards.

Some lucky audience also won a raffle of Noche Buena package from HCC.

**SPECIAL AWARDS**

BEST IN COSTUME (TEAM STEM-ABM STRAND)  
MOST DISCIPLINE (TEAM JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL)  
MOST COOPERATIVE (TEAM COLLEGE)  
MOST SPIRITED (TEAM HUMSS- TVL STRAND)

**STREET DANCE COMPETITION**

1st Place (HUMSS-TVL STRAND)  
2nd place (STEM-ABM STRAND)  
rd Place (TEAM JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL)

**FREE INTERPRETATION DANCE COMPETITION**

CHAMPION (TEAM JHS and STEM-ABM STRAND)  
2nd runner up (TEAM HUMSS-TVL STRAND)  
3rd runner up (TEAM COLLEGE)

**BIBLE AND MARIAN COSTUME CONTEST****MARIAN CONTEST**

1st place- Sabria Shellby Cayaban  
2nd place- Chrislyn Sabile  
3rd place- Elleyla Rae Reyes

**BIBLE CHARACTER**

1st place- Benjamin Murvey David  
2nd place- Xian Vaughn Enzo Suba  
3rd place- Faith Yassy Josette Reyes **CDR**





# Innovated Learning Center sets to equip modern day learners

By Jaria Mallari

After the long wait, the much-awaited plan of the Library Services Division to rejuvenate the school's library is now a reality.

The new library is on the fourth floor of the new college building with a two hundred and fifty (250) seating capacity.

Three divisions of the new learning resource center will equip and hone students to be the modern day learner.

The Basic Education Learning Resource Center is made specifically for Junior High School and Senior High School Department.

Instructional Media Center can be accessed by everyone including the Science and Technology Academic and Research-Based Openly Operated Kiosk Station (STAR BOOKS), eight (8) electronic computers and maps; and the College Learning Resource Center for College Department.

Moreover, the improvement of the library will continue as the plans of the Library Services

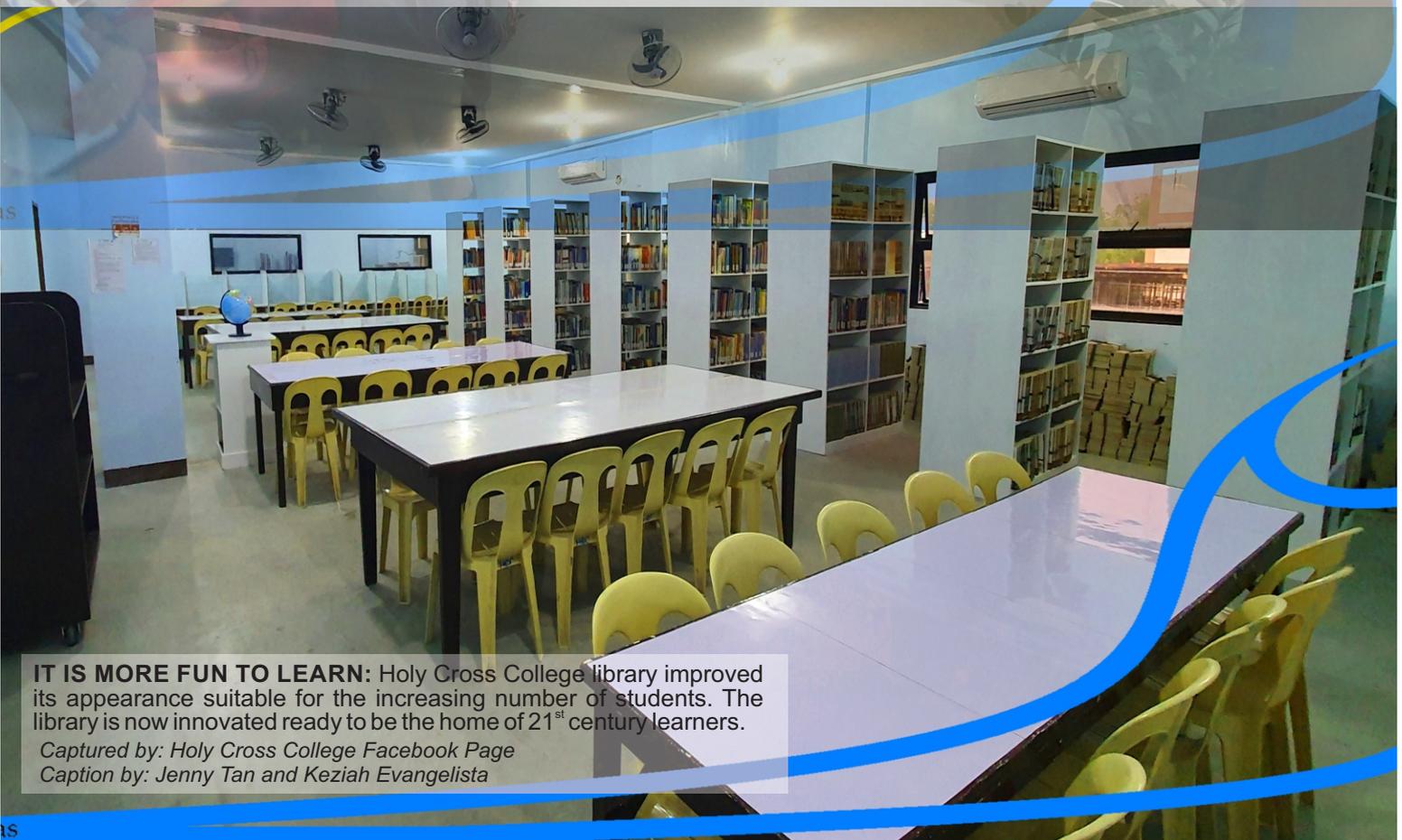
Division are vividly bright.

Vince Calma, Chief Librarian of the Library Services Division said that the team is planning to acquire new books for Junior High School, Senior High School, and College Department that are connected in the curriculum.

However, the acquisition of books on the next school year is focused on the new programs in the college department: the BLISS, BS Development Communication, BS Criminology, BS Psychology, Computer Engineering, and Civil Engineering.

Calma said it is important to take into consideration the environment and ambiance of the library to make it more not just appealing but also conducive to the part of the students.

Also, the Learning Resource Center of the Elementary Department is planned to be constructed on the ground floor of the same building to accommodate more students for the next academic year. **CDR**



**IT IS MORE FUN TO LEARN:** Holy Cross College library improved its appearance suitable for the increasing number of students. The library is now innovated ready to be the home of 21<sup>st</sup> century learners.

Captured by: Holy Cross College Facebook Page  
Caption by: Jenny Tan and Keziah Evangelista

# Fides, Caritas, Libertas: HCC's New PMVGO

*By Joymee Cullado*

**T**he philosophy, vision, mission, goals and objectives of the PVMGO Review and Revision Committee proposed a revised educational institution guide of Holy Cross College last November 2019.

The committee comprises of department heads, student council president, Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) president, faculty and Alumni Secretary Ester Muldong, headed by Mr. Benjie B. Nolasco as the appointed Chair together with Mr. Rizalde M. Capio as his Vice-Chair in the said committee.

The regular review and revision process of the school is mandatorily required by the Department of Education (DepEd), Commission on Higher Education (CHED), Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) and other monitoring and accrediting agencies after 3 to 5 years of cycles.

"Dapat i-review yung' HCC, kung ang PVMGO ay naka-angkla pa ba kung anong gustong mangyari ng national government, ng DepEd at ng school as a specific institution," said Mr. Benjie B. Nolasco, Chair of PVMGO Review and Revision Committee.

The PVMGO has a big role in setting the direction in the school's educational work and it addresses the current need of the society. Specifically the curriculum changed from basic education to K to 12.

According to Mr. Nolasco, the heart of the process is a consultation where stakeholders' participation is important.

Stakeholders or students participation will ensure the dedication to the PMVGO.

Likewise, participation of stakeholders will also show their support for the effort and work of the institution and its development.

Unlike the previous PVMGO, the revisions made it shorter and simpler.

The new PMVGO clearly stated and specified the school's key results area wherein students, faculty and all employees of HCC will be able to memorize it quickly,

Additionally, the committee chair said the consultation is over and the revised PVMGO is forwarded to the president's office.

"Inuumpisahan na naming i-cascade... mula sa taas, i-orient namin ang lahat ng stakeholders. Para malaman na nila yung bagong PVMGO," Nolasco said.

HCC family is now using the new educational institution guides especially the core values, in school papers such as letterheads.

The core values Fides (Faith), Caritas (Charity) and Libertas (Liberty) are inspired by the initials of the late Rev. Msgr. Fernando Capati Lansangan who founded the Holy Cross College.

The revised educational-institutional guides will serve as an instrument that leads the growing family of Holy Cross College towards its excellence in providing quality education with Christian moral principles that once founded by love.

In Hoc Signo Vinces! **CDR**



# Cyberbullying threatens more youth worldwide

*By Anjaneth Leaño*

**C**yberbullying affected 70 percent of the youth around the world from 2016 to 2019 according to a study conducted by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF).

The study revealed that social media is one of the dangerous inventions in history because people can easily threatened or bullied through like cellphones, and computers.

Cyberbullying is the use of technology to harass, threaten or embarrass another person through online posts and rude messages that can lead to serious problems and sometimes can even lead to depression.

UNICEF revealed that 70 percent of young people experience digital harassment, online violence, and cyberbullying - most of them are girls.

Twenty-two cases of cyberbullying were reported this year. Cyberbullying is not only limited to vulnerable people like out of school or in a difficult or unfortunate situation. It can be experienced by everyone. Take it from an outstanding student in her class, Christine.

When she was in high school, she got a grade lower than her classmates. Because of this, her classmates sent a messages that read "Ang bobomo naman!"

"Sipsip ka lang kaya ka nakakuha ng mataas na grades dati," the rude messages continue.

According to Christine, it was not the last time she received a similar message. The worst part was when her classmates posted the same messages on social media and even tagged her.

The experience, it was awful. However, this painful memory did not make Christine lose her determination to succeed in her academic journey.

"To avoid cyberbullying, you need to be confident and if someone bullies you, block them and walk away as nothing happened," Christine said.

A study reveals that most cyberbullies are students. This piece of information is a call to schools to go against these improper behaviors and reach out to them through interventions such as counseling, symposiums, and the like.



***Cyberbullying is against the law. It is punishable by law and other policies protecting the character and rights of every citizen. It may go as far as suspension and dismissal depending on the weight of the offense. More serious penalties are embodied in the Anti-Bullying Act of 2013.***

# The Flat Line and Sirkulo bags Crucian Film Festival major awards

*By Jenny Tan*

As for the appreciation for the entries of each participant with corresponding categories, a certificate of recognition was given to the following:

- Ayako M. Bangcoleng - Best Writer, Best Director (The Flat Line)
- Janevi Lee M. Capulong - Best Actress (The Flat Line)
- Daniel Aaron M. Lucban - Best Actor (Sirkulo)
- The Flat Line - Best in Pictures, Best in Poster, Best in Soundtrack, Supporting Actress, Box Office Hits
- Sirkulo - Best in Cinematography, Best in Screenplay, Best in Trailer, Supporting Actor

Ayako M. Bangcoleng, awarded as the best director, recognized the difficulties in crafting the film.

There are lots of difficulties and problems encountered especially in managing their time plus the struggle of her team because of their different responsibilities and obligations in school. For her, all the odds that came along the way are still worth it. **CDR**



Captured by: Holy Cross College Facebook Page  
Caption by Anjaneth Leaño and Joymee Cullado

**GENUINE TALENTS REVEALED!** Skills and creativity of students was also celebrated in the seven competing films in the 3<sup>rd</sup> short film festival in line with the Foundation day of Holy Cross College.

A Film Festival was highly participated by student as part of the celebration of the 74th Founding Anniversary of Holy Cross College, last November 28, 2019.

The goal of the contest is to help the students not only in academic matters, but also served as another platform for the students to showcase their talents and skills in short film-making.

This contest is spearheaded by Engr. Marvin Mallari, Dean of College of Engineering and Criminology, together with Edwina Muldong, Senior High School teacher, to provide a learning experience for the students.

Muldong, one of the organizers of the event, said the film making contest is not just a contest, it is chance for the students to show their hidden talents especially in acting.

## **HOSPITALITY MANAGEMENT STUDENTS EXHIBITS PH CULTURE**

*By Janette Franco*

The Bachelor of Science in Hospitality Management students of Holy Cross College shows the exceptional beauty of the Philippines by presenting the culture, traditions, and the tourist destinations.

The students presented the three main domains which are Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao.

In Luzon, they introduced the century-old mambabatok or tattoo artist named Apo Whang Od.

They also showed the Paoay church, and the traditional clothes of our Aetas - lubay for men and tapis for women.

Hospitality management student also introduced the mother of all festivals which is the Sinulog Festival of Cebu City in Visayas.

It is celebrated every third Sunday of January to honor the Santo Niño (child Jesus), and the well-known festival Maskara festival of Bacolod City which is known as the City of Smiles.

The amazing handicrafts and culture of Muslims of Mindanao were also showcased.

Ivan Mallari, professor and one of the advocates of Philippine Geography Tourism and Culture of the Philippines said this event is like awareness to all Filipinos.

He urged the youth and fellow Filipinos to be proud of what we have here in our country.

The Philippines is very rich in history, home of the genius artists and a home to world-class discoveries.

It is the country made of more than 7,000 islands, beautiful beaches, and wonderful tourist destinations that you don't wanna miss.

It's more fun in the Philippines. **CDR**

## Mr. and Ms. HCC crowned to be student role models

*By Mark Justine Batuhan*

Marjolette Pangilinan and Earvin Ko hailed as Mr. and Ms. Holy Cross College last November 29 in line with the celebration of 74th founding anniversary.

The newly crowned queen and king are tasked to be the role model of 21st-century learners who will embody Fides, Caritas, and Libertas, the vision and mission of the school.

It is a wish come true for Pangilinan who is a senior high school student who always dreams to be a queen someday. Pageantry is her passion and hard work is her ace to win. She reminds herself that you need to put your crown in your heart and not in your head.

On the other hand, the newly-crowned King Earvin Ko is a junior high school student. He considers himself lucky because of the warm support of his family, friends and their whole department.

Ko always believes that "great pleasure in life is doing, what people say you cannot do."

Candidates were stunning in their opening production number; the smile of the candidates reflected their great joy in representing their department.

After the opening production, they looked charming in their red-black casual wear, looked dazzling in their swimwear competition and look marvelous and elegant in their white black shimmering long gown and formal attire.

All the candidates squeezed their mental juices as they relate their answers in real-life situations in the Question and Answer portion. This is proof that Crucians are exceptionally beautiful with a heart and wit. **CDR**



**Precious Night:** Earvin Ko from JHS Department and Marjolette Pangilinan of SHS Department crowned as the Mr. & Ms. HCC 2019, the new epitome of beauty and brains.



# Sana all Crusaders!

*By Aaron Sombillo*

Dream school – hindi natin maitatangging mayroon tayong mga pinapangarap na paaralang mapapasukan 'pag hayskul o kolehiyo at marahil ang mga unang sumasagi sa ating isip ay ang gaya ng UP, UST, Ateneo at La Salle, sa mga naglalalaking unibersidad gaya nito, ni isa ay walang tumalo sa kwento ng mag-aaral na si Miamor Juan, isang Crusader.

Aniya, "saksi ang bawat dilaw, bughaw at puting kulay ng pasilyo sa kung papaanong nahubog ang inosenteng pagkatao ko, kaantabay ang mga matitiyaga't mahuhusay na guro sa pagpapalago ng

kaisipan gamit ang mga dekalibreng pasilidad at kagamitan sa anumang uri at antas ng karunungan kasabay ng pagsuporta ng aking paaralan sa pangangailangan kong pinansyal."

Bagamat hindi ito ang paaralang pinangarap niya, ito naman ang paaralang naging kasama niya sa pagtupad ng kanyang mga pangarap sa pamamagitan ng mas pinaunlad at pinagandang silid-aklatan, mas malinis na palikuran, mahigpit na pagbabantay ng seguridad, masasarap at abot kayang makakain, maayos at maaliwalas na kapaligiran,



mga karapat-dapat at marurunong na guro at mahusay na pamamahala.

Ang mandato ng paaralang Holy Cross College na maging kaagapay sa pagtupad ng mga pangarap na bawat mag-aaral sa pamamagitan ng paghubog

ng produktibo, responsible at makataong mamamayan ay kitang-kita sa mga mata ni Miamor. Isang tunay na karangalan ang maging mag-aaral ng HCC kaya't ang lahat ay napapa-sana all Crusaders!

**CDR**

# If Destiny Will Not Approve

*By Jaria Mae S. Mallari*

As the new decade paved way, leaving the burnt memoirs of last year's nadir and zenith, 2020 is another who-am-I beginning. Truth be told, there is always a compelling force inside me whenever I think of what and who I would like to become, to say "My heart is not foolish, I must follow it." But life, as it gets older, I realized that it isn't easy as counting 1, 2, and 3. I could be sure of what I want and who I want to become, but knowing and becoming, as correcting truths, are two different things.

I lived up my childhood rushing to become a teenage girl. When I was in elementary, I was already fantasizing of becoming a woman of fancy and of girlfriend just like those of what I see in movies. And so what I did is spend my time reading, studying, and sometimes, if there is a spare for me to go out and play with my cousins, I would just so I could forget that I am just an 11 of age, anxious and excited to enter the world of adolescence.

The solitude—it was just fine and normal for me. It was when I had to confirm myself that silence, peace, calm, are all part of who I am. And then in a snap, high school happened.

All of what I imagined during my younger years about entering high school all came into crumble. There were neither fancy girls nor basketball hunks. There were fist fights, stampede during break time, endless copy-writing on the board—it was plainly suffocating.

Four years, I told myself, it will be done. The mental images I, myself, created about high school are what tortured my reality. There was social anxiety kicking—who am I going to be friends with; the denying—I have to do what they do to keep company; the sudden surrender (which was the hardest

and painful for me and my parents) — letting go of all the achievements I once had during my elementary days, because high school should just be about fun.

Little did I know, there was a surprise that awaits me. "What do you want to take up for college?", I remember my friend asking me this question. Senior high school was fast. Wanting to answer the question with pure honesty, I answered, "Psychology."

The thing is, when every detail of your life is planned out and a sudden change of heart happened, it feels unknown. My parents knew from the start that I wanted to be a teacher. And when I saw that I have a need that no one could fill because of the fear of being misunderstood by other people, I wanted to be my own hero.

But life, whether a she or he, is a bitch.

Yes, I was not able to take it up. Currently, I am an education student, still left wondering why life led me to this. Am I unhappy? Well, I was disappointed. The greatest plot twist of all these uncertain possibilities led me to a realization: Life is a bitch; you have to play its games smart.

If you are to ask me if I even cried over losing the chance to do what I want, yes, I did. Persuading my parents to allow me to take other routes was exhausting. It was like crying over spilled milk—it really didn't help. Then I remembered one of my teachers who told me, "What you think is what you create." From that moment, I asked myself the same question over again: "What and who do you want to become?"

Grateful to destiny's denials, I smile because I found the right answer.

"I want to be alive. I want to be happy." **CDR**

## MUSIC REVIEW

# Leaves in Freefall

By: *Jaria Mae S. Mallari*

From all the saddening events happening around the world—the fearsome fight between United States and Iran, the Australian bushfires, the new-found disease in China, the sudden rains and flooding in Middle East, and the recent eruption of Tall Volcano, here is Ben & Ben's Leaves to remind us, “All will be all right in time.”

Listening to it the first time, I thought it is addressed to a girl who happened to have a painful memory with one of the writers of the song, the twins Miguel and Paulo Gueco. In an interview, they said was written and inspired by a difficult time in a relationship.

Upon watching its music video, a kind of loss is depicted.

The twins revealed that this idea was from the team behind the video—the song was associated with a perspective of a family, a death of a mother which caused higher walls between the father and his son. “The process of healing and forgiveness is the essence of the video,” they added.

Indeed, when our mouth fails us of words we need, music speaks. Just like how the song was given another interpretation by other people that were outside the writing process, we could also relate to it.

Sometimes, when life puts us into painful circumstances, we tend to overthink, drown ourselves with our emotional baggage, succumb ourselves with the pain until we realize that it is becoming too much and we give up. A friend of mine told me, “Leaves taught me to fall without breaking.” I thought to myself, “Okay, but what about the people who broke us?”

Surprisingly, the song answers us, “You never really love someone until you learn to forgive.” Through its heart-struck lyrics, it connects us and the whole universe into the same journey. And I guess my friend was right. We can fall without dragging the ones who hurt us fall, too.

And now, as we run the race of this new decade, may we always remember that life has its sufferings and the only way they end is when we open ourselves to new adventures and possibilities twinned with the desire to reach out, love without conditions, and forgive. The start of the year may have baffled us, but as the song says, “From waves overgrown come the calmest of seas, and all will be all right in time.”

CDR



## AN OPEN LETTER



*An open letter to myself on what if I never met Jesus.*

Thank you for letting me discover what life and purpose really about.

Thank you for just being my curiosity now and not my current situation.

Thank you for making me afraid of who will I become that it made me believe that Jesus is my only hope and yes, I was not wrong.

You are the reason why I am thankful to Jesus. You are the future of my past that I do not want to come back yet I still look at you as a reference of His goodness and faithfulness in my life. How He transformed me from a dirty rag to an acceptable, washed and cleansed cloth. I do love to imagine you because it makes me think that everything in my life is all God's plan – and nothing is accidental.

Because of you, I really appreciate the beauty of trust and obedience that whatever I lay down and sacrifice, though it may hurt

and break me, it is all worth the pain. It is you who taught me that living a life without purpose is the greatest tragedy a man could ever experience – and that's how I met Jesus.

I am void, full of blanks and there is always space in my heart that cannot be filled by the world. I was you who suffered a lot of depression trying and trying to please everyone, getting all the bests and firsts, wanting all the trendy things. I was you who forgot to love myself more than anyone else and begging to be loved by another. I was you who doubted all my talents and skills because of criticism and I was you who one day felt tired not knowing any reason to live so I was also you who wanted to end my own life.

And here I am today, thinking of the best 'what ifs' of my life. Meeting, knowing and loving Jesus is my favourite turning point in life. Today until forever, I will never forget you – you are the lost one and I am the one who is found, you are the blind one and I am the one who can see, you are the cursed one, far from being blessed, freed and favoured me. You and I are separated by God's love and grace.

CDR



# Junk food infiltrates campus canteen

By: Jenny P. Marin and Jenny G. Tan

Amid the Department of Education (DepEd) policy and guidelines on healthy food and beverage choices in school, the Holy Cross College food stalls paved the way to sell junk foods inside campus.

In 2017, the department encouraged school canteen operators to develop and serve nutritious food and promote healthy eating habits.

It is a policy in every public and private school around the Philippines to fight malnutrition or lack of proper nutrition.

According to the United Nations Children Fund (UNICEF) every day, about 95 children die because of malnutrition.

The burden of under and over-nutrition is due to the inadequate and wrong choice of food. DepEd explained in their order that children are prone to develop unhealthy eating patterns influenced by their environment.

However, the prohibition of unhealthy foods like junk food is disagreeable for Lance Aaron Soliman, a junior student.

“Magkakaroon ng problema tuwing break time dahil kokonti ang mga maaaring piliin na ibenta lalo na hindi madaling lutuin ang



**HEALTH VS PROFIT:** Despite the promotion of healthy campus canteen student still prefer to buy fatty and salty foods that lacks nutritional benefit.

Photo and Caption by Anjaneth Leaño and Joymee Cullado

mga masustansyang pagkain gaya ng gulay,” he said.

He argued that food selection will be limited and vegetables will take a bit longer for cooking.

Junk foods have low nutritional value and have high calorie, sugar or fat content became the student go-to food inside the campus during snack and lunch break.

Pinoy street foods like fish balls, deep-fried snacks, fries powdered juice drinks and soft drinks are easily available at some food stall in the campus canteen.

While some vendors are willing to follow this rule, some would be reluctant as fries and burgers are the stall's best-selling snacks.

“Oo, masama rin naman kasi sa mga bata yung junk foods so kahit hindi sa bata kahit sa mga matanda. Okay lang sa amin kung tatanggalin,” said Sheryll Gabriel, vendor at HCC.

Jesus A. Sigua, Head of Canteen, Bookstore and Security management said they ensure the enforcement of the policy from DepEd and Holy Cross College.

“Yung mga bawal na pagkain talagang hindi ibebenta yon sa canteen kaya now and then chinicheck yung ibebenta sa canteen pag may bawal ipinapaalis,” Sigua said. **[CDR]**

# New committee to solve garbage woes

By: Mark Edwin Dizon

Waste management committee was formed to solve garbage woes in Holy Cross College.

The movement was implemented through the stewardship of



**CARING THE ENVIRONMENT:** Students practice the proper waste management to promote a healthy environment.

Photo and Caption by Anjaneth Leaño

Benjie Nolasco, the Dean of Students Affairs and Services Division and Christine Concepcion, Prefect of Discipline.

Along with this, an Oplan Linis will be conducted to ease the growing waste problem.

“I was chosen as the chairman for the waste management committee because it involves the discipline of students and other stakeholders such as employees and concessionaires,” Christine Concepcion said.

The project serves as an ultimate clean up of different facilities, classrooms and restrooms.

The committee also administered waste management talks to students in order to instill cleanliness and discipline.

Even employees where encourage to have their own waste disposal.

The administration set up a solid waste management facility and designated trash cans separating biodegradable, non-biodegradable and recyclable materials.

Moreover, the Junior High School (JHS) department pushed the advocacy to the next level.

JHS set a good example of recycling plastic bottles and selling collected plastic and paper. The profit was used to buy classroom materials.

Concepcion also appeals to the students to work hand in hand upon achieving one common goal and that is a clean and healthy environment. **[CDR]**

# PAGGUNITA SA SAF 44 2015

Sa Kanilang Ika-5 Taong Anibersaryo  
Isinulat ni: Prof. Dennis C. Pangan noong Enero 27, 2015

Ika-25 ng Enero bayan ay nagulat  
Sa balitang nagmula sa Maguindanaw  
Sa bakbakang tumagal ng dose oras  
Na 'kinasawi ng mga tagapagligtas.

Apat napu't apat ang kanilang bilang  
Magigiting na mandirigma ng bayan  
Na handang ialay ang kanilang buhay  
Mapanatili lang ang kapayapaan.

Mga piling pulis ng kanilang hanay  
Ang mga nasawi sa isang labanan  
Na posibleng naiwasan ang pagpanaw  
Kung tinupad yaong mga panuntunan.

Ang operasyon ay 'sinakatuparan  
Ng mga taong ganid sa kapangyarihan  
Na kahit suspendido ay nakialam  
Sa pagpalakad ng ating Kapulisan.

Ito ba'y dahil sa tatlong milyong pabuya?  
Pabuyang dolyares na galing Amerika?  
Na pwedeng makulimbat at makuha  
Ng mga talamak, halang ang bituka.

O ito ba ay dahil sa karangalang  
Matatamasa sakaling magtagumpay?  
Nang mapagtakpan kasalanan sa bayan  
Sa di mapaliwanag na nakaw na yaman.

Niluwas mga kaawa-awang bangkay  
Upang sa Camp Bagong Diwa paglamayan  
Mabigyan ng pahalaga at Parangal  
At gawaran Medalya ng Kagitingan.

Pagdating sa kampo iyong matatanaw  
Tumatangis na pamilya ng pumanaw  
Na humihikbi sigaw ay katarungan  
Para sa kanilang mga minamahal.

Nguni't imbes na kanilang maramdaman  
Ang pagdamay ng pinaglingkurang bayan  
Upang pagdadalamhati ay maibsan  
Malamig na salubong ang nasaksihan.

Dahil ni anino ay di nasilayan  
Ng Pangulong minsa'y ating dinamayan  
Noong ang amang si Ninoy ay pinaslang  
At siya'y sumisigaw ng katarungan.

Tanong ng bayan, Pangulo ay nasaan?  
Bakit di sinalubong ang mga bangkay  
Ng mga bayaning nagbuwis ng buhay  
Upang tupdin ang tungkuling  
sinumpaang?

Aba, sadyang busy iskedyul ng Pangulo  
At naroon sa pagawaan ng Pajero  
Doon sa Sta. Rosa na di malayo  
Kung saan binaba ang mga yumao.

Madaling marating kung pinagsikapan  
Nguni't kahit paano man pag-isipan  
Kung gusto ay magagawan ng paraan  
Pero kung ayaw ay laging may dahilan.

Sadyang naging makakalimutin na ba?  
Ang isang Noynoy na minsa'y naisalba  
Sa kamatayan ng 'sang sundalong aba  
Nang siya'y ambush-in habang may  
kudeta?

O nalunod na rin sa kapangyarihan  
Ang Pangulong tinitingala ng Bayan  
Na inakalang mag-iingat sa ngalan  
Ng mga magulang na pinagpitagan.

O dakilang Ninoy madasaling Cory  
Sana ay bumangon kayo at mawari  
Mga pinaggagawa ng inyong lipi  
Na napalibutan ng ganid at pipi.

Nakisawsaw rin, mga pulgas ng bayan  
Imbes na dumamay, panay pa dahilan  
Lea Navarro? Etta Rosales? Ispoksmán?  
Itikom ang bibig, galit na ang bayan.

Magkagayon pa man, huwag  
malulumbay  
Mga kapamilya ng nasawing kawal  
Dahil kinikilala ng buong bayan  
Kanilang kagitinga't kabayanihan.

Tulad nila'y mga bayaning dinarangal  
Na ating dinadakila't  
pinararangalan  
Dangal ng ating lahi  
magpakilanman  
Ngalan nila'y nakatatak sa  
aming isipan.

SAF 44, Tagapagligtas.  
Saludo po. kami. **CDR**



# #SAF44

# ALAMIN: Mga tradisyunal na isports sa 2019 SEA Games

By Anjaneth Leaño

**B**asketball, Volleyball, Badminton at Tennis...  
Ilan lamang ito sa limampu't anim na isports na  
ibinida nitong nakaraang Southeast Asian Games  
(SEA GAMES) 2019 na ginanap dito sa Pilipinas.

Marahil popular na sa mga Pilipino ang ilan sa mga  
isports na ito, marami pa rin ang mga larong tila hindi pinansin  
ng ilang manonood.

Nagsilbi rin ang SEA games na tagapagtaguyod ng mga  
tradisyunal na laro kung saan muli nitong pinag-alab ang puso  
ng mga atleta. Naging bukas rin ang kompetisyon sa mga  
bagong isports na gumamit ng makabagong teknolohiya.

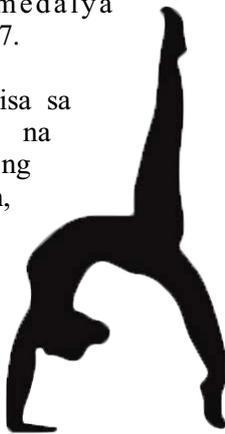


Kabilang sa paligsahan ang  
**Pencak Silat** o mas kilala  
bilang indigenous martial  
arts, sinimulang laruin ang  
Pencak Silat sa SEA  
Games noong 1987.

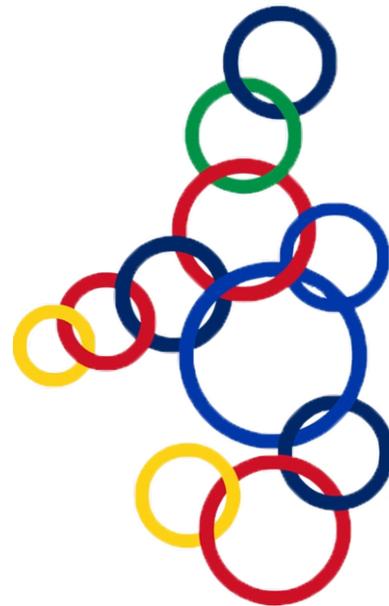
Nag-uwi ng gintong  
medalya si Edmar  
Tcauel na sinundan  
ang yapak ni Dimes

Dumaan na nag-uwi rin ng  
gintong medalya  
noong taong 2017.

Nagpahanga ng maraming fans ang isa sa  
atleta ng Pilipinas na si Carlos Yulo na  
nakabingwit ng gintong medalya sa larangan ng  
**gymnastics**. Nahahati sa iba't ibang division,  
ito ay ang artistic all-around, rhythmic,  
parallel bars, pommel horse at horizontal  
bars. Taong 2005 naman pormal na kinilala  
ang gymnastics bilang isports sa SEA  
games.

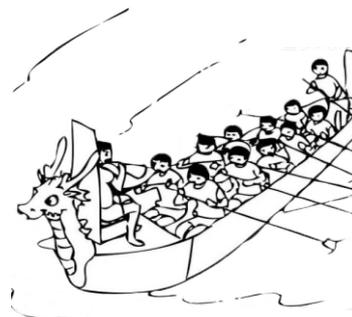


Ang **modern pentathlon** ay mayroong  
limang manlalaro na sasabak sa fencing,  
freestyle swimming, equestrian show  
jumping, pistol shooting at 3-km running. Hindi rin naman  
nagpahuli sa isports na ito ang Pilipinong atleta na si Michael  
Camaling na humakot ng gintong medalya.



## PHILIPPINES 2019 30<sup>TH</sup> SEA GAMES

Nag-ingay rin ang **wushu** sa  
nagdaang SEA games dahil sa  
Filipino-Chinese na manlalarong si  
Agatha Wong na sumungkit ng  
dalawang gintong medalya. Ang  
wushu ay isang full-contact  
sport o kilala rin bilang Chinese  
martial arts.



Tiningala rin ang larong  
traditional **Boat Race** na  
sinimulang laruin noong taong  
2010 na may 18 miyembro  
hanggang 20. Mag-uunahang  
makatapos sa karera ang mga  
kasaling grupo upang makuha  
ang tropeyo. Nag-uwi naman ng  
dalawang bronze medal ang  
Philippine Dragon boat nitong  
nakaraang taon.

**Kurash o Folk  
wrestling** ay nakilala sa  
bansang America, ang  
kurash o folk wrestling ay  
isang laro na kailangan mong  
mapatumba ang kalaban sa  
sahig para makakuha ng  
puntos.



Kakaiba rin ang 2019  
SEA Games na ginanap sa Pilipinas dahil pormal ng isinali ang  
Mobile Legends sa e-sports. Kauna-unahan ring ginanap dito sa  
Pilipinas ang paligsahang ito. Nakamit ng Pilipinas ang  
kampeonato sa 5v5 kontra Indonesia.

Sa huli ay itinanghal na overall champion ang Pilipinas na may  
149 gold medals, 117 silver medals at 121 bronze medals na may  
kabuuang 387 medals. **CDR**

# SPORTS



THE OFFICIAL STUDENT PUBLICATION OF HOLY CROSS COLLEGE  
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## HCC dominates PAMPRISAA Men's Badminton

By Anjaneth Leño

**T**hed Vincent Galang snatched gold in Pampanga Private School Athletic Association (PAMPRISAA) Badminton last October 10 in Shuttle Pro, Santa Ana Pampanga.

The 15-year-old player ousted his opponent in west zone with outstanding performance for his fourth gold medal in Men's single division.

Galang will advance to Central Luzon Regional Athletic Association (CLRAA) to represent the province of Pampanga.

Eagerness and perseverance have been the center

of Galang's training, according to his Coach John Paul Escover.

"Kapag season ng laban, talagang pinaghahandaan at nagbabawas siya ng timbang para hindi ma-down yung resistensya niya and may time management siya between sports and academics, nababalance pa rin niya yung time niya with family and friends kahit loaded nayung schedule niya," he said

Galang aims not just to make the whole HCC community proud but also to raise the pride of his family.

"I'm very glad and overwhelmed because my passion

in badminton is more than enough that I'm expecting. It gives me hope and self-esteem to face more challenges in my life, also I'm very happy because I made my parents proud," Galang said.

Galang started playing badminton when he was eight and never stopped despite the setbacks.

Love and support of his family are one of his strengths to face these challenges.

The badminton star of Pampanga also aims to play in National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA). **CDR**



## The Observer



**Mark Edwin Dizon**  
Associate and Managing Editor

## Indeed, We Won as One

***This year's Southeast Asian or SEA Games was indeed an extravaganza not only because the Philippines hosted the event but because after 14 years the country regained the overall championship title.***

**T**eam Philippines bagged 149 shining golds, 117 shimmering silvers, and 121 splendid bronzes for a total of 387 medals.

However, SEA games is not just about us winning, as their team suggests, we win as one together with 11 Asian countries.

We had witnessed the diversity, sportsmanship, and camaraderie among athletes.

The Philippines as a host and a country that tops the use of social media perhaps made it trending worldwide. Putting it in retrospect, Filipinos had shown a magnificent show to the world.

However, before the official start of the SEA Games, social media was shaken with negative

reports and unpleasant comments on the country's preparation.

The early arrival of the guests was a disaster. Organizers mismatched the hotel rooms and athletes irked about the improper accommodations.

A Filipino streetfood, 'kikiam' became viral in social media as it was served as breakfast for the players who will compete for the much-awaited sporting event.

All of these problems led to the questioning of the organizers spearheaded by House Speaker Allan Peter Cayetano.

Despite all the setbacks that occurred, the Philippines still delivered a marvelous and grand opening ceremony at the Philippine Arena.

Moreover, the P56-million cauldron-type structure that was lit during the opening ceremony also went viral. It was tagged as "Kalderong Ginto" because of the over-priced torch.

Senate minority leader Franklin Drilon questions the integrity and justification of the expensive cauldron. He pointed out that this amount could build 250 classrooms.

Even ordinary Filipinos asked that P56-million cauldron would be worth it for a single event?

Furthermore, online games such as Mobile Legends and PC games such as Dota 2 made its debut as an official sports competition.

But some questioned their validity compared to other sports

that require physical coordination.

Nevertheless, it became successful as the Team Sibol, Ph's representatives for E-sports secured golds from the different tournaments.

The Heroes. Indeed our athletes are our new heroes but Pinoy surfer Rodger Casugay brought something way more than gold.

Casugay was hailed after saving his Indonesian opponent from getting swept by the waves. A real act of heroism and showing a genuine friendship to the brother competitor.

SEA Games is over but the values it instills among players stays, as an athlete and a nation should not be blown away like the fire of the torch. **CDR**