CEAP NCR GENERAL ASSEMBLY: CEAP NCR @75
Contributed by Judith V. Alderete

The Catholic Educational Association of the Philippines (CEAP)-National Capital Region (NCR) celebrated its 75th Year on 22-23 July 2016 in the La Consolacion College Manila, with the theme, “CEAP NCR @75—Promoting the Culture of Mercy with Renewed Spirit and Fervor.” Hence the objectives of the assembly were the following: that educators help nurture and sustain the spirit of the Samaritan in the young and that schools be effective witnesses of God’s mercy.

The celebration of the Holy Eucharist, which was presided over by the Most Rev. Leopoldo C. Jaucian, DD, Bishop of Bangued, Abra and Chairman of the CBCP Commission on Youth, set the tone of the assembly. The welcome remarks, CEAP-NCR report, and the presentation of delegates followed the Mass.

The Keynote Address was delivered by Br. Narciso S. Erquiza, FSC, President, CEAP. He also discussed the history of the CEAP in brief. Next was a panel of meaningful conversations with Michael Tan, Ph.D., Mr. Hans Ponseca, and Dr. Lourdes Q. Baybay on “Compassion in the Formation of Professionals, Youth and the Family.” Some learnings from these conversations were:

a. Dr. Ma. Lourdes Q. Baybay of Miriam College informed the participants of the different social activities of the College and Advocacy Centers (Center for Peace Education, Environmental Studies Institute, and Women and Gender Institute).

b. Dr. Michael Tan of the University of the Philippines shared with the group that it is not easy for a state university like UP to hold discussions on compassion unlike in Catholic colleges and universities, where religion is part of the curriculum. According to him, the simple act of kindness toward another person is in itself a sign of compassion. For instance, he was touched and moved by the camaraderie of the football team as they supported their terminally ill teammate until his last breath. The initiative of the Engineering students to donate bicycles to the UP dormers was also remarkable.

c. Mr. Hans Ponseca shared that in order to nurture and sustain the spirit of the Samaritan in the young, schools must come up with immersion activities that would allow them to experience real-life situations instead of simply teaching theories on compassion and mercy.

A report on the National CEAP was presented by Mr. Jose Allan I. Arellano, OIC-Executive Director.
The delegates of St. Paul University Manila—Ms. Elmgay Valeriano, Ms. Joycelyn Velarde, Ms. Dawn Naval, Ms. April Lynne Bautista, Ms. Judith Alderete, Ms. Rowena Cayanan, Ms. Maria Cecilia Gutierrez, and Mr. Geo Molina (student) joined different committees for the Concurrent Sessions. The committees were as follows:

- Administrative Services Committee on “Restorative Discipline” by Dr. Jasmin Galace
- Basic Education Committee on “Formation and Accompaniment of Formators: Issues and Challenges Among Catholic Schools” by Br. Michael Valenzuela, FSC
- Christian Formation Committee on “SACRED Space” by Dr. Pilar Romero
- Guidance, Counseling and Career Committee on “Building 21st Century Peer Facilitators: The CEAP Way” by Prof. Lucila O. Bance, Ph.D., RGC and Ms. Theresa Jane P. Bruno, MA, RGC
- Library Committee on “Community Engagement for Libraries” by Ms. Ana Fresnido
- Registrar Committee
- Student Affairs Committee on “Expression of Mercy and Compassion through Students Engagement with the Poor by Ms. Ma. Lourdes Meligrito
- Student Leadership Committee on “Student Leaders witnesses to Mercy and Compassion”
- Tertiary Education Committee on “Witnessing: To understand, forgive, accompany and integrate” by Assoc. Prof. Susan Maravilla, Asst. Prof. Darwin Rungduin, and Prof. Virginia Fornias.

On the second day of the assembly, the Ratification of the CEAP NCR Amendments, which was facilitated by Atty. Joseph Noel M. Estrada, was held. Dr. Amelia G. Ronquillo presented the contents of the Philippine Catholic Schools Standards (PCSS) that the association proposes for the member institutions of the CEAP-NCR. And during the closing Eucharistic Celebration, which was presided over by Fr. Filemon I. dela Cruz, OP, the newly elected Board of Trustees of CEAP-NCR, led by Fr. Nolan Que, president, took their oath of office with the presiding officer Rev. Fr. Herminio V. Dagohoy, O.P., Rector Magnificus, University of Santo Tomas.

Following are some pictures of the event:
AWARD WINNING PRODUCER-ALUMNA INVITATION

Dr. Marichen Dychangco, Vice-President for Academic Services, shares the following invitation from an alumna, Madonna Sanchez (AB-Com Arts 1981):

*I would like to invite you and all your colleagues and friends to be my special guests at the screening of my latest movie, EDSA.*
It will be held at the CCP Little Theater on August 12, Friday at 6:15 p.m., as part of CINEMALAYA’s showcase of Best Picture Awardees for this year.

EDSA was written and directed by Alvin Yapan, and created in celebration of the 30th anniversary of the EDSA People Power Revolution this February 2016. EDSA garnered four other major awards at the World Premieres Film Festival held last June, namely: Best Cinematography, Best Sound Engineering, Best Editing, and Best Ensemble Award.

May I take this liberty to mention all the past advocacy films that I have produced?
1. **TULAK** – film about drug addiction and rehabilitation  
   (in cooperation with DDB and PDEA)
2. **PINOY SCOUT** – a film about the environment  
   (in cooperation with the BSP)
3. **LARONG BATA** - a film about school bullying  
   (in cooperation with DEPED)
4. **Si Heidi, si Ivy, at si V?** – a film about HIV & AIDS awareness  
   (in cooperation with the Department of Health)
5. **FILEMON MAMON** – a musical-comedy film about proper health and nutrition and patriotism

Our movies have won multiple awards in FAMAS, METRO MANILA FILM FESTIVAL, WORLD PREMIERES FILM FESTIVAL for Advocacy Film Awards, Best Gender Sensitivity Film, Best Actress, Best Child Star, Best Supporting Actress, Best Musical Score, as well as other nominations.

Forgive me if I may seem boastful, but I just want SPCM, my alma mater, to be proud of one of their ‘pasaway’ babies :)

Sincerely,
Madonna B. Sanchez

**ALUMNAE IN US TRIP FOR SHS**

Mrs. Marionette O. Martinez, Institutional Communications and Alumni Relations Officer, and Mrs. Sherry L. Alingod, President of the St. Paul Manila Alumni Foundation, Inc. (SPMAFI) have returned from a two-week mission in the US for the HOPE Ablaze-Senior High School Program.

They went to five key cities—San Francisco, Los Angeles, Washington DC, New York, and Baltimore, met with alumni groups, and presented HOPE Ablaze, specifically the Senior High School Program.

The gatherings were attended by good numbers of alumni, with whom the duo reconnected and rekindled the Paulinian spirit.
The lunch in San Francisco, which was held in Fort McKinley on 16 February 2016, was hosted by Maria Cariaga-Banatao (HS 1963, AB 1967). The Board of Directors of the St. Paul Manila Alumni USA, which is based in New York and led by Ms. Marilyn Abalos and Patsy Santiago-Schultz (both HS 1969), came to SF to join the reunion. The SF reunion was coordinated by Sylvia Salvador (HS 1963) and Mary Anne Cura-Egan (BSC 1968).

At the reunion, Mrs. Banatao reiterated her consent to channel the scholarship fund she had donated, along with other US based alumni in 2012, to the Senior High School Program. Sr. Evangeline has estimated that the fund balance can subsidize 35 SHS students.

Ms. Abalos and Mrs. Banatao also agreed to organize a special event to raise funds for the SHS.

After the reunion, the hosts treated the visitors to a show, Beach Blanket Babylon, a spoof on current trending personalities.

The dinner reunion in LA was held on 17 July 2016 in the Vegas Seafood Buffet in Glendale.

Additional media mileage was achieved by the coverage of the event by the Asian Journal, which incidentally is co-owned with her husband by an alumna, Cora Oriel.

(See clipping below.)
In Washington DC, the Paulinian get-together was held on 23 July 2016 in the house of BSC alumna, Joy Masakayan-Karaan. It was attended by alumnae from DC, Virginia, and Maryland, and Sr. Stella, who had to leave before the photo-op.
The attendees agreed to organize a fund-raising event for alumnae in the East Coast. A nursing alumna, Techie Ignacio-Gonzalvo, expressed her willingness to help St. Paul Manila nursing graduates get jobs in the Virginia Beach area, where she is based.

A follow-up dinner was held in the house of Araceli Garalde-Carrigan (HS 1966) in Baltimore on 26 July 2016.

The group continued the discussion on the proposed fund-raising for alumnae in the East Coast.

In New York there were two dinner-meetings to accommodate the different schedules of the alumnae in the city.

The first meeting was held on 24 July 2016 in the Holiday Inn Express, followed by dinner in a favorite NY Jewish resto, Kat-z.

The next evening, the second group met at dinner in Connely’s Irish Pub. The oldest attendee was Cora Yabut-Custodio (HS 1958).

An added treat for the visitors was the Rockettes Show in Radio City Music Hall. The NY group chose the show as it is a virtual tour of the City That Never Sleeps.

The alumnae that the visitors met were all in agreement that the success they have achieved in the US was due to their Paulinian education and have promised to give back to the school.