RECENT ACTIVITIES...

SENIOR BS TOURISM STUDENTS
PRESENT RESEARCH STUDIES FOR VALIDATION
Contributed by Jerome Cleofas, RN, MA, Senior Research Associate

As an integral requirement to obtain their college degree, the BS Tourism students batch 2015 have conducted research studies to contribute to the growing interdisciplinary field of tourism. Under the guidance of their respective advisers, twelve groups of student researchers presented their papers to panel members from the roster of faculty researchers in SPU Manila teaching business, social, and natural sciences. Oral presentations and validation sessions of the students’ theses were held in the College of Business Management wing on 17, 22, and 23 September 2014.

Topics of the student theses include online tourism, film tourism, development and promotion of tourist destinations and spas, Philippine festivals, tour packaging, tourism education in the ASEAN context, transportation and traffic studies, hotel employee welfare, and organizational policy studies. Various methodologies were utilized, namely descriptive surveys, interviews and focus group discussions, content analysis, film analysis, case studies, policy appraisal, predictive models, and developmental designs.

SPU Manila Supports Walk for Peace
Contributed by Elvie Manalansan- CDC/NSTP

On 14 September 2014, an estimate of 16,000 delegates from 21 universities and colleges in Manila, various government offices, and non-government organizations gathered to support the Manila Youth Development and Welfare Bureau’s (YDWB) campaign against hazing and all other forms of violence in schools and communities. The activity was initiated primarily to denounce the alarming cases of students who die due to hazing.
In support to the campaign, SPU Manila sent a total of 242 students, faculty members, and staff to join the said event. They braved the early morning rains and strong winds brought about by Typhoon Luis. Despite the unfriendly weather, all delegates finished the walk and enjoyed the closing part of the program called “cleansing,” where more than 10 fire trucks sprinkled water on the participants. YDWB through its FB message thanked SPU Manila for joining and expressed the hope to having another partnership with the university next year.

Meanwhile, it was announced that the SPU Manila delegates’ participation in the event will be considered as four hours of community service.

Below are some of the highlights of the event...
Freshmen students received a warm welcome from the Paulinian community during the Initiation Day, held on 29 August 2014 in the Fleur-de-lis Theater. The theme for this year’s Freshmen Initiation was *Fiesta Pilipinas* (Philippine Festivals). The newbies, with the aid of their “mommies and daddies” from the seniors, prepared intricate props, eye-catching costumes, and lively performances with a festival assigned to each course, and all were a joy to witness. From the College of Arts, Sciences, and Education: the AB Mass Communication program presented an energetic *Sandugo Festival*-themed dance number, while the BS Psychology, together with the Education program, captivated the audience with a performance showcasing the beauty of the *Panagbenga Festival*. From the College of Business and Management: The Tourism program enchanted the crowd with their interpretation of the *Karakol Festival*. The BSA/FMA program, on the other hand opened the show with a unique *Bailes de Luces Festival* performance. Students from the Entrepreneurship program stood out as they presented a dramatic skit about the *Moriones Festival*. With their colorful masks, freshmen from the CSIT program owned the stage as they recreated the *Maskarra Festival*. Music and Nursing students teamed up and gave a well- applauded performance of the *Kadayawan Festival*; and finally, the HRM students delighted the audience with their own rendition of one of the famous tourist attractions of Cebu, the *Sinulog Festival*.

Just like any other competition, winners were chosen among the performers. Ms. Elmgay Valeriano cheerfully announced the winners for the Best in Costume award: the BSBA/ENTREPRENEURSHIP students featuring the *Moriones Festival*. The following were declared as best performers during the initiation: 2nd runner-up was the *Moriones Festival* by the BSBA/ENTREPRENEURSHIP, while *Panagbenga Festival* by the BS Education and BS Psychology won as 1st runner-up. The College of Music and the Performing Arts and the College of Nursing and Allied Health Sciences were the deserving champions of the competition. More precious bonding moments between the freshmen and their mommies and daddies happened after the initiation. This tradition of the university has fostered camaraderie among freshmen and other year levels.

**Newly Approved NRCP Members**

Two SPU Manila faculty members became official members of the National Research Council of the Philippines (NRCP) as they were sworn in during the recent oath taking ceremony. Dr. Gerardo Guiuan, Chair, Master in Religious Education, and Ms. Ma Encarnacion Dychangco, Director, Planning and Quality Assurance, were approved as associate members under the Catholic Faith Mariology, Spirituality, and Culture Division and Education and Nursing Division, respectively. Other NRCP
members are Dr. Brian Bantugan, Research Director, and Dr. Nieves Medina, Dean, Graduate School.

The National Research Council of the Philippines (Pambansang Sanggunian sa Pananaliksik ng Pilipinas) is a research organization that contributes to the country’s development and the improvement of life of the Filipino people through provision of research grants and research and development projects. Applicants go through a screening process prior to acceptance to the council.

Congratulations to both of you!

Members of the National Research Council of the Philippines

ALUMNI GATHERINGS

High School 1966
Mini-Reunion in New York
Cristina Bernardo, Erlinda Tobias,
Gloria Villanueva

High School 1968
Reunion in Wyoming