



LAST WEEK IN SPU MANILA...

FIRST PAULINIAN ADVOCACY WEEK

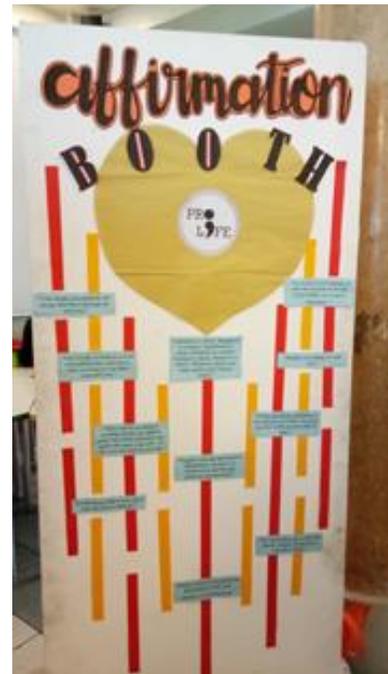
SPU Manila observed the First Paulinian Advocacy Week on 16-21 September 2019 with a number of activities, starting with the opening of exhibits on the advocacies of the school.

The Paulinian Advocacies are as follows:

- * Pro-life
- * Social Participation
- * Peace Education
- * Environmental Stewardship
- * Disaster Preparedness



Following are some pictures of the exhibit on Paulinian Advocacies:





One of the activities during the Paulinian Advocacy Week was a forum on the SOGIE Bill.

Following is the welcome remarks of Sr. Evangeline Anastacio, SPC, University President for the forum:

We have been celebrating the First Paulinian Advocacy Week, with the theme, "Inspire, Collaborate, Engage," since Monday. This being

the first advocacy week does not mean that we are just beginning to have advocacies—for you all know that SPU Manila has been advocating many causes: Pro-Life, Social Participation, Peace Education, Environmental Stewardship, Disaster Preparedness, among others; as we are well aware that we do not exist in a vacuum, and that it is our mission to help the Earth and all its inhabitants, human and non-human.

Today, we are facing an issue that has come to the fore lately: sexual orientation and gender equality. The issue, which was precipitated by an incidence in a mall restroom, is something we cannot ignore. It has given rise to a bill, the SOGIE (Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity and Expression), which is being deliberated on in Congress and the Senate. As informed citizens, we should strive to understand the bill and all its implications. We have organized this forum so that all our Paulinian administrators, faculty, staff, and students will know what this bill is all about.

We do not intend to take sides. Some will say, surely, we are against discrimination, but do we need a SOGIE Equality Bill? Others will say, of course we do, for without a law, differently oriented sectors of society are helpless and will continue to be discriminated against. The purpose of our forum today is for us to see clearly all the facets of this bill and its future implications. Which side to take is a decision you alone can make.

So, let us proceed with the discussion that our esteemed invited guests will lead us to—and I hope that however heated the discussion may become and whatever you decide, we can still remain friends and celebrate tomorrow as International Peace Day.



The speakers with Srs. Evangeline, Flor, and Anunciata, and forum organizers

The Paulinian Advocacy Week ended on 21 September 2019, International Peace Day.



SMEC Extension Committee Spearheads 1st Volunteers Gathering

Contributed by Elvie Manalansan

Inspired by the theme, "Building a Meaningful Connection through Volunteerism," the SMEC Extension Committee led the 1st Volunteers Gathering on 6 September 2019, 8:00 AM-4:00 PM in the Lyceum of the Philippines University, Manila. The gathering was attended by 143 volunteers composed of students, faculty, staff, and community leaders. SPU Manila sent 16 students-volunteers, accompanied by the two CDC personnel.

Speakers from the Philippine National Volunteers Service Coordinating Agency (PNVSCA) and selected SMEC member schools shared experiences on various thematic aspects of volunteerism, such as Empowerment of Community Leaders and Promoting the Identity and Self-Determination of Indigenous People, emphasizing on the importance of volunteerism in the areas of Development and Leadership.

Through the event, the participants were given the opportunity to deepen their sense of engagement in various outreach and development activities in and outside SPU Manila. Also, they had the chance to establish rapport with other participants from different SMEC member-schools.

Below are some of the photos during the event.



Participants' unfreezer activities



SPU Manila Delegates



SMEC Extension Committee members with invited speakers



Pauline Pedro, BSP 3, as one of the student-reactors

FR. ERNO DIAZ CELEBRATES GOLDEN SACERDOTAL JUBILEE



Fr. Erno Diaz, former Theology professor in St. Paul Manila, celebrated his 50th Sacerdotal Jubilee in the Church of the Epiphany in New York City recently. In attendance were his family and friends and a number of Paulinians.

He is shown here with Marilyn Abalos, Lett Llagas-Dayao, Neneng Llagas-Cruz, and Myrna Gutierrez.

Fr. Diaz is the brother of Sr. Agatha Diaz, SPC, former science professor in St. Paul Manila.

