

PAMANTASAN NG LUNGSOD NG MAYNILA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION. INC. (PLMAAI)

3F Gusaling Villegas, Pamantasan ng Lungsod ng Maynila (PLM) Campus Gen. Luna St. cor. Muralla St., Intramuros, Manila, Philippines 1002

President's Report

27 February 2010, University Activity Center

The PLM Alumni Association, Inc. (PLMAAI) has, in a short time after it was reorganized, been an active community of alumni in strong partnership with the PLM and the community. Since PLM President Adel A. Tamano welcomed the alumni back to PLM, we have demonstrated that we can be an active and important component of the PLM community.

Your alumni association undertook a number of initiatives and programs aimed at reconnecting and partnering with the alma mater in its various plans and programs.

Since June 2009 when I took over as President, the PLMAAI has actively coordinated with deans, heads of offices, student organizations, and employees in a spirit of understanding and appreciation on the conditions and dynamics of the PLM organization.

This new-found partnership came under severe test in October when, in the aftermath of typhoons Ondoy & Pepeng that hit the country, the PLM administration and the PLMAAI jointly undertook a series of relief operations and medical missions in Manila and the provinces. With enthusiastic and generous support from local and overseas alumni groups, we were able to extend relief and medical assistance to hundreds of families. We saw how students, employees, alumni and faculty members joined hands in helping our needy and displaced neighbors and fellow citizens in the provinces.

The October relief & medical mission exercises demonstrated that the alumni community is a critical component of the PLM community, that unity and genuine spirit of generosity can bring out the best in most of us.

Last December 22, another medical mission and Christmas Cheers program was conducted for the children of marginalized communities in Intramuros and surrounding areas. This program was funded by the alumni groups overseas.

PLMAAI also participated in, and actively supported various alumni programs and alma mater activities:

PLM's 44th Founding Anniversary Celebration, June 17 -19 The February 25 -28 2009 General Alumni Homecoming College of Nursing Founding Anniversary, November 21 College of Engineering & Technology Founding Anniversary, November 27

College of Accountancy & Economics Alumni Association Reunion, November 28

Pamantasan Medical Graduates Association Reunion, December 5 Blood Donation Program, December 7 PLM's University Christmas Party, December 18 PLM CUES Doctors to the Barrio (DTTB) Program with the FG Foundation

It is also worth mentioning that the good Mayor of Manila, Hon. Alfredo S. Lim, appointed the PLMAAI President to the Board of Regents, in recognition of the important role and contribution of the alumni community to the progress and development of the Pamantasan ng Lungsod ng Maynila.

The PLMAAI also received in the last week of November, P146,016.00 in Alumni Funds collected from 2009 graduates. The money is deposited with the Banco De Oro (BDO) at Metropolitan Bank, Makati City under CA account number 00438021932.

All these accomplishments, if we may call it, were made possible through the support, understanding and cooperation of the various alumni groups both local and overseas. To all members and supporters of PLMAAI, we thank you very much and appeal for your continued support, understanding and cooperation despite some difficulties that we may consider humps and obstacles to a growing organization.

Moving forward and inspired by your enthusiastic support, I have drawn a number of plans and programs in the years ahead that, with support and cooperation of the board of trustees and more importantly, you members, will be accomplished to benefit the various segments of the PLM community:

 Pursue the retrofitting of the left wing of the Gusaling Villegas to make available at least 10 classrooms. This is part of the original building that was vacated due to structural defects brought about by the recent earthquakes. An engineering study has been made sometime in 2007. PLMAAI will spearhead the representation with the Board of Regents and the city government of Manila to get this program moving. Beneficiary: Students.

- 2. Make representation with the Board of Regents and city government of Manila to consider the expansion of the PLM campus, in view of the increasing student population, which currently stands at around 8,900. With the increasing population growth, PLM's student population will expectedly grow in the coming years. Beneficiary: Students.
- 3. Consider organizing a Student Cooperative to help those who cannot afford pay for the matriculation and tuition fees. The idea is not mine, it was suggested by one of PLM's officials to help the students become self-reliant, and I find this worth the try. Beneficiary: Students
- 4. Convert the Ospital ng Maynila (OM) into a teaching/training hospital of PLM College of Medicine and College of Nursing. Currently OM is an autonomous institution that caters to medical and nursing students from a number of schools. On many occasions, PLM students are deprived of the opportunity to train at OM and have to go to other private hospitals that charge too much for internship. The UP/PGH arrangement is a good model for PLM to follow. PLMAAI will make representation with, and submit a position paper/business case to the Board of Regents and the city government of Manila. I have made preliminary discussion with stakeholders, the idea is workable and doable they say. Let's try it. Beneficiary: Students
- 5. Establish an installment payment plan for matriculation & tuition fee to deserving/qualified students. The idea again is not mine but a suggestion from another concerned PLM Dean. Representation with the Board of Regents will be made to make the program available in the coming school year. Beneficiary: Students
- 6. Pursue the establishment of a training health center in Intramuros for medical and nursing students. This is the brainchild of PLM CUES and PLMAAI is lending its support. A space has been located, we need support by way of equipment, medicines, furniture and other supplies necessary to operationalize the Center in the immediate future. We are also coordinating with the Rotary Club of Intramuros for support. Beneficiary: Students and the community.
- 7. Establish a Botika Para Sa Alumni. Medicines for arthritis, gout, asthma, cold/flu, allergy, TB and other common ailments of an aging alumni population, my batch in particular. Unilab is offering generics at discounted prices as part of its CSR (corporate social responsibility) community initiative. Overseas alumni groups in medical sales and healthcare

profession may donate these items. The idea is, locally sourced generic medicines will be sold to alumni (or their immediate dependents) at half the price, while donated medicines will be given free. A mechanics will be drawn and depending on the association's financial health, this program is on a first come, first served basis. Beneficiary: Alumni & Employees.

8. Increase the Alumni Fund collected from graduating students, from the current P50.00/student to the level collected presently by state colleges. The idea is not only to strengthen the association's financial health, but more importantly, to give back and share part of the Fund collected to other college alumni associations to solidify the bond between PLMAAI and other college alumni associations. Beneficiary: alumni community

The above programs may sound wistful thinking; it is not. Some are readily doable, others may take some time to accomplish, but it can be done. And these we can accomplish if we unify ourselves and work together.

Your alumni association will continue to be a strong organization and viable partner of the PLM community. In behalf of the board of trustees, I ask for your continued support, cooperation and understanding.

Thank you.

Jesus Trinos, Jr.

President