



SPU Manila INTER-OFFICE BULLETIN

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CATHOLICS OBSERVE FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

There are no classes today in SPU Manila and other Catholic schools because we are observing the Feast of the Immaculate Conception.



The **Feast of the Immaculate Conception** celebrates the Roman Catholic dogma of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. It is celebrated on 8 December, nine months before the Nativity of Mary, which is celebrated on 8 September.

Prior to Pope Pius IX's definition of the [Immaculate Conception](#) as Church dogma in 1854, most missals referred to it as the Feast of the Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The festal texts of this period focused more on the action of her conception than on the theological question of her preservation from original sin. A missal published in England in 1806 indicates the same collect for the feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary was used for this feast as well.

In 1854, [Pius IX](#) made the [infallible](#) statement *Ineffabilis Deus*: "The most Blessed Virgin Mary, in the first instant of her conception, by a singular grace and privilege granted by

Almighty God, in view of the merits of Jesus Christ, the saviour of the human race, was preserved free from all stain of original sin."

SHARING ... SHARING ... SHARING

From the College of Music and the Performing Arts

Ms. Bing Morado of the College of Music and the Performing Arts shares the following news:

The Paulinian Guitar Ensemble will be featured in Paco Park Presents at 6:00 P.M., 5 December 2008 in Paco Park, San Marcelino, Manila. Admission is FREE.

THE PAULINIAN GUITAR ENSEMBLE

The Paulinian Guitar Ensemble began as a duet playing popular arrangements of Maestro Jose Valdez. Earning popularity with the student populace later on, the duet evolved into an ensemble.

They performed in St. Paul University Manila Founders' Hall and Paco Park Presents in 2005 and 2006.



Members of the ensemble are Victor Jan Abella, Jeremiah de la Luna, Richard Anthony de Leon, Gino Francis Mauricio, Rocky Reambonanza, Paul Rivera, Emmanuel Valdoz and Norman Villegas.

They are all guitar majors of the College of Music and the Performing Arts, St. Paul University Manila, under the guidance of respected classical guitarist and music educator Jose Valdez.

MAESTRO JOSE VALDEZ

Jose Valdez, Filipino guitar virtuoso, untiring champion of Philippine music, pedagogue, orchestrator and composer, was born in Manila and first received musical training from his father, an accomplished clarinetist and military brass band conductor. His most significant contributions to Philippine guitar are his numerous transcriptions and arrangements of Philippine Music and his effectiveness as a mentor to generations of students who have developed into guitar virtuosos and dedicated guitar teachers.

PROGRAMME

2 GUITARS : Paul Rivera and Norman Villegas
My Lord Willoughby's Welcome Home J. Dowland
Jesu, We Behold Thy Name J. S. Bach

3 GUITARS : Emmanuel Valdoz, Gino Francis Mauricio, Victor Jan Abella
Invention in 3 Voices No. 10 J. S. Bach
Ciacona S. L. Weiss
Spanish Dances E. Granados
No. 2 "Oriental"
No. 4 "Villanesca"
No. 5 "Andaluza"
Rumores de la Caleta I. Albeniz

5 GUITARS : Rocky Reambonanza, Richard Anthony de Leon, Gino Francis Mauricio
Emmanuel Valdoz, and Jeremiah de la Luna

Bach's Theme J. S. Bach arr. by J. Valdez
El Vito Traditional
Dirait - on M. J. Lauridsen
Theme from "Star Wars" J. Williams arr. by J. Valdez
Theme from "Zorro" arr. by J. Valdez

Bing also shares these photos of the SPU Manila Chorale when they performed the Oratorio of St. Paul by Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy in the Francisfest 2008 of the Santuario de San Antonio on 25 November 2008:



The chorale with Ms. Amelita Guevara, program coordinator ... Mr. Ronan Ferrer, one of the soloists



and Ms. Wynna Medina, who was so proud of them.

SPU MANILA RESEARCH OFFICER TO ATTEND INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

Mr. Brian Bantugan, SPU Manila Institutional Research Officer, will be attending the **7th Annual Hawaii International Conference on Arts and Humanities**, which will be held from 9 to 12 January 2009 at the Hilton Hawaiian Village Beach Resort & Spa in Honolulu, Hawaii.

Honolulu is located on the island of Oahu, which is often nicknamed "*the gathering place.*" The 2009 Hawaii International Conference on Arts and Humanities will once again be *the gathering place* for academicians and professionals from arts and humanities related fields from all over the world.

The main goal of the 2009 Hawaii International Conference on Arts and Humanities is to provide an opportunity for academicians and professionals from various arts and humanities related fields from all over the world to come together and learn from one another. An additional goal of the conference is to provide a place for academicians and professionals with cross-disciplinary interests related to arts and humanities to meet and interact with members inside and outside their own particular disciplines. Performing artists (live dance, theater, and music) interested in displaying their talents will be accommodated whenever possible.

The Research Paper

The research paper titled "Whale Shark Tales: Voices from Donsol, Sorsogon" conducted and written by Karen Elizabeth Belen and April May Baldemor, 2007 alumnae of the Mass Communication Program of St. Paul University Manila, and their adviser, Brian S. Bantugan, has been accepted in two conferences next year. The first conference, **The Fifth International Conference on Environmental, Cultural, Economic and Social Sustainability** in the **University of Technology in Mauritius**, is scheduled on 5-7 January 2009. The second is the **Seventh Annual Hawaii International Conference on Arts and Humanities**.

The research was first published in **The Peace Forum**, a research journal of **The Graduate Institute of Peace Studies** of the **Center for Reconstruction of Human Society** in Kyung Hee University (Gwangneung, South Korea). The journal is a recipient of the **1993 UNESCO Peace Prize for Peace Education**. It was also accepted for e-publication in **The International Journal of Environmental, Cultural, Economic and Social Sustainability**, a fully peer-refereed journal, one of the Common Ground journals that are internationally recognized and indexed in major databases around the world.

The research was conducted in Donsol and involved conversations with fishermen who volunteered to share their experiences about the whale shark before and after the introduction of ecotourism in the area, and with gradeschool children in the same locality, who were asked to draw the whale shark as they know it. Online narratives of non-Filipinos who were able to personally experience the whale shark in Donsol were also analyzed and integrated in the study to come up with a triangulated perspective on human and social constructions of whale sharks that complement existing and often lacking information on the whale shark that is critical in its protection.

The Authors



[Kareen Elizabeth Belen](#) is currently the gallery assistant of Exhibition Center of Contemporary Art (ECCA). She is also affiliated with OBRA or Organisasyon ng Batikan at Respetadong Artista ng Bayan and Art Association of the Philippines (AAP). She was formerly working for Ogilvy Public Relations and Casroll Global PR firm.

[April May Baldemor](#) is now an account executive for Speed Magazine and Action and Fitness Magazine under Airo Media International, Inc. She was formerly a writer of V2day or Values and Virtues for Today, a Student's Digest Publication under Vibal Publishing House, Inc.



[Brian Bantugan](#) has been teaching in St. Paul for six years and is currently the Institutional Research Officer of the same institution. He is finishing his studies in Ph.D. in Communication at the University of the Philippines' College of Mass Communication (Graduate Studies Department) where he served as president of the Graduate Students' Association for 2007-08. He is a member of the European Network of Film and Media Studies, Asian Media Information and Communication Centre (AMIC), the Philippine Association of Communication Educators (PACE), the Art Association of the Philippines (AAP), and Green Peace Southeast Asia. He has been elected as a Director in charge of research journal publication of the Association of Pacific Rim universities' Doctoral Students' Network. He has presented his research papers in the Philippines, Malaysia, Korea, China, Japan, Hungary and Russia. His other papers have also been accepted for presentation in the US and Austria. He is the editor of *The Paulinian Compass*, a research journal of St. Paul University Manila that strives to build a culture of compassion in the world.

From the Student Affairs Office

Mrs. Pat D. Fortes shares this news report:

SPU MANILA DELEGATES ATTEND INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE IN CHINA



Mrs. Patria D. Fortes, Head of the SPU Manila Student Affairs Office, and two student leaders attended the **11th Asia Pacific Pacific Student Services Association International Conference**, which was held on 20-23 October 2008 in the Huazhong University of Science and Technology, Wuhan, Hubei Province, Central China. The theme of the conference was "Student Affairs and Services - Promoting All-Round Development of Students."

The conference was participated in by Student Affairs Practitioners, Student Services Administrators, and Student Leaders from HongKong, Macao, Philippines, Taiwan, Indonesia, Brunei, Australia, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, Japan, the United States of America, United Kingdom, Germany, and Mainland China. There were 350 participants, including those from the following Philippine universities: St. Paul University Manila, De la Salle University, DLSU - College of St. Benilde, Adamson University, the University of Santo Tomas, the University of the Philippines, and Far Eastern University.

The other SPU Manila participants were Ma. Victoria Ortega, Supreme Student Council Treasurer, and Lyndon Kenneth Baguisa, Supreme Student Council, Auditor.



From Wuhan, the Philippine Delegation proceeded to Beijing for a tour. SPU Manila, DLSU, and FEU delegates met with student leaders during the Marcos regime who went to China, but were not able to come home because of Martial Law: Ericson Baculinao - former UP Student Council President and now the Bureau Chief of National Broadcasting Company (NBC); Chito Sta. Romana - former DLSU Student Council President, who is now the Bureau

Chief of ABC News; and Jaime Flor Cruz - former editor-in-chief of the official school paper of Philippine Polytechnic University (formerly known as Philippine College of Commerce), now the Bureau Chief of CNN.

From the Human Resource Services Office

BIRTHDAY CELEBRANTS

Ms. Sheryl Nobleza of the Human Resource Services Office shares this list of birthday celebrants, which will be a regular feature of the Inter-Office Bulletin:

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|----|---|---------------------|----|---|----------------------|
| 01 | - | Ma. Isabel Abear | 01 | - | Evelyn dela Peña |
| 01 | - | Aileen Macanas | 03 | - | Maria Leah Sabayle |
| 04 | - | Edita de Guzman | 06 | - | Ma. Lourdes Estoesta |
| 07 | - | Jerome Cleofas | 07 | - | Michelle Rea Gandam |
| 07 | - | Veronica Villanueva | 11 | - | Nancy Dormal |
| 12 | - | Maridel Negradas | 14 | - | Catherine Mojado |
| 14 | - | Michael San Pablo | | | |

