

Paying it forward

A “Professorial chair”* holder is defined as one who is *outstanding, distinguished, and hardworking*. Importantly, the Chair also connotes that one lives by *gratitude* and *selfless service* to deserve this award.

On 19 December 2019, the University of Santo Tomas (UST) and Metrobank Foundation, conferred the **Doña Victoria Ty Tan Professorial Chair in Medical Education** upon **Prof. Fidela L. Moreno, MD** and **Prof. Sandra Teresa V. Navarra, MD** at the **Dr. George S. K. Ty Hall**, Blessed Buenaventura Garcia Paredes, OP Building, UST.

The invocation was led by Rev. Fr. Angel A. Aparicio, OP, Regent of the Faculty of Medicine and Surgery (FMS), imploring the Holy Spirit for Christmas blessings of strength, guidance, freedom, and true love. Asst. Prof. Ma. Lourdes D. Maglinao, MD, MHPEd, Dean of UST FMS, welcomed the awardees, their families, colleagues, and friends. Dr. Maglinao reminded us of the attributes that a Thomasian should possess... competence, commitment, and compassion, and that UST’s thrust should always be excellence, performance, and humanity.



Clockwise from top: Fr. Aparicio, Dr. Maglinao, Rev. Miranda, and Mr. Sobrepeña during the Solemn Investiture preliminaries.



Left: Mr. Sobrepeña recognizes Fr. Dagohoy for his support to Metrobank Foundation.



Metrobank Foundation, Inc. was represented by its president, Mr. Aniceto M. Sobrepeña, who also gifted Rev. Fr. Herminio V. Dagohoy, OP, PhD, UST Rector, a painting from the Metrobank Foundation collection as thanksgiving for his support to the foundation. Rev. Jesus M. Miranda, Jr., OP, PhD, Director, Office for Grants, Endowment, and Partnerships in Medical Education, then narrated the history of the Doña Victoria Ty Tan Professorial Chair in Medical Education.

The conferment rites for Prof. Navarra and Prof. Moreno were headed by Assoc. Prof. Estrellita J. Ruiz, MD, Assistant Dean of UST FMS, and Assoc. Prof. Maria Piedad R. Natividad, MD, Chair of the UST Department of Internal Medicine, respectively.



Fr. Dagohoy, together with Prof. Cheryl R. Peralta, DrPH, UST Vice-Rector for Academic Affairs, and Prof. Maribel G. Nonato, PhD, UST Vice-Rector for Research and Innovation, and Mr. Sobrepeña, presented the

* A position awarded to a professor who, in recognition of a significant contribution to scholarship and and research and/or the development of the university/community to which he/she belongs, has distinguished him-/herself in their respective discipline.

certificates, professorial medals, and tokens to the honorees.

Prof. Moreno is a Consultant for Strategic Operations, Regulatory Compliance, and Medical Writing at the Intermountain Heart Institute in Utah, USA. In her lecture entitled “Teaching and Research: Are they exclusive?,” she emphasized the importance of good clinical practice in the conduct of research activities. She discussed several cases of violation of ethical issues and stressed diligence in **learning and teaching** research guidelines and methodology.

Training Choices Need to be Made
Modular vs. Full Course



One size does not fit all!



Prof. Navarra is Chief of Section of Rheumatology of UST FMS and UST Hospital and president and CEO of Rheumatology Educational Trust Foundation, Inc. (RETFI). She is the prime mover of Lupus Inspired Advocacy (LUISA) project and People Empowerment



ROADS LESS TRAVELED

Clinician as Teacher and Researcher

Prof. Sandra V. Navarra, MD
University of Santo Tomas

Conferment of the **Dona Victoria Ty Tan Professorial Chair in Medical Education**. 19 December 2019.



for Arthritis and Lupus (PEARL). She has authored and co-authored more than 100 papers and is presently engaged in several clinical trials.

Her lecture is a reflection of her almost 40 years of being a clinician, a teacher and researcher... a strong advocate of mentorship and stewardship. She talked about the uniqueness of each patient and of patients and experience being the best teachers. She said that research pervades every aspect of clinical practice and that educational and research partnerships and collaborations bring about breakthroughs and success. Teaching is certainly the noblest profession and a life dedicated to teaching and creating more knowledge for the generations to come is more profound than any award or achievement.

Prof. Navarra ends by saying, “It thus seems that by taking the **roads less**

traveled, by teaching and doing research, I have come full circle to be a better doctor to my patients. With the countless blessings that have come my way, I am just as grateful for the countless opportunities to continue to **pay it forward.**”

And indeed, to her patients and students, she has made a difference.



Recollections by *Ma. Theresa Collante, MD*

and *Annabel Joy Yap, MD*

All photos above were obtained from the University of Santo Tomas FB page.



Prof. Sandra V. Navarra, husband
Dr. Salvador S. Navarra, Jr.,
and UST Rheumatology, 12192019