

2020 CLSU ALUMNI HOMECOMING & CLSUIAA CLARK'S EVENT ON FEB 9TH

If you are now in US resting from your long trip in PI, welcome back. But if you are still in Pinas, please stay safe from novel coronavirus or 2019-nCoV, and always remember to wear face masks when mingling around with crowd of people.

I just want to thank you all for your zealous and noble participations in our event at Clark's and in the 2-day CLSU ALUMNI Homecoming. (I wish Gerry and Letty should have made it, but I would like thank them both anyway for their effort trying their best to attend which I know they would if weren't restricted by the travel ban issued by Phil gov).

Overall, in my opinion I think all the events came out to be very successful including the Mayor's night, Pres Undan's-sponsored dinner invite, and the CLSU Pres-sponsored breakfast invitation to all alumni attendees.

SUMMARY:

- **Thursday Feb 6**, @ 3PM. Led by Leo A, expats met with ASTS (Agri Science and technical School) High School Principal Mrs. Manangan with about 5 of her staff. Conversated with them how we can assist their student's educational needs, it was decided that CLSUIAA to sponsor their high-speed internet connection for at least a year. A check issued from the treasurer in the amount of P30,000 was handed over to Mrs. Manangan's proxy, a College of Education Dean (I don't remember his name), who was in attendance during the Feb 9th President-sponsored breakfast. The money re-allocated for this sponsorship was taken from savings CLSUIAA would have gotten back as a result of 3 litsons cancellation supposedly delivered to Quest Hotel.
- **Friday Feb 7**, 7AM-4PM. After the early morning 75th Commemoration of Vivenso Saulong, "Testimonial Lectures (TL)" held concurrently at different university colleges, while Rob B was asked to give a welcome greeting remarks to 'jump start' the TL at the College of Business Admin. Its selected testimonial speaker was MR. RONALD S. LEABRES, a 2008 BS in Accountancy Grad.

Those who did not attend any of the testimonial lectures had the options of joining the CLSUAAI sponsored tour of various research agencies and center sites in CLSU. Vehicles and snacks were provide on tour including lunch in RET cafeteria to all tour participants. Likewise, everyone involved in the testimonial lectures, speakers and faculty members from different colleges were also treated for lunch, also held at RET cafeteria.

- @6PM until 11PM. Mayor Nestor Alvarez, hosted a Mayor's night held in front of Munoz Municipal Building fully decorated with elaborated lightings used for the recently held town's fiesta couple of week earlier, has postponed taking them down, and continually had their lights on and up every night for the people of Munoz to see, until the time for his hosting of CLSUIAA/CLSUAAl dinner-dance night, provided with lots of DI's.
- **Saturday Feb 8**, 8AM – 3PM. Alumni General Assembly, Award presentations and election of CLSUAAI Board of Directors have taken place, resulted into new set of CLSUAAI BOD. Director Nora Bagalso was awarded one of two 'Siever Award for Professional achievement'.
- @ 6PM until ~ 10PM. President Rudy C. Undan invited expats for a buffet dinner at their place in Munoz. Pres Undan noted if possible that he would like this event is repeated and held annually at his place.
- **Sunday Feb 9**, 7AM-8AM. CLSU President Edgar Orden hosted a breakfast in the front of the executive house to all alumni homecoming attendees, with roughly over 100 alum presents.

- @ 4PM until 11PM. Finally, on this night, CLSU IAA hosted its 7th Grand Alumni Reunion at Quest Hotel in Pampanga. Pending official report from the committee, it was attended by more than 290 at last count. The mayor of Munoz, 4 CLSU presidents - past and present, cocofed scholars, alumni from different colleges, faculty, staff, and friends were in attendance.

Starting at 4pm, I thought it was early. As attendees started trickling in, registration was a breeze with only Treasurer Ohma and Dir Lito Viray at the registration table. But then within the hour, attendees started coming-in in groups. Fortunately, Shena and Kristina from the Hostel staff were around and I requested them both to assist. Walk-ins came in, registered, then started taking on pre-assigned seats so those who arrived a little later but still on time for the event have found their pre-assigned seats no longer available and we had to seat them somewhere. Well... you can pretty much guess what happened next. As we request for new round tables and chairs, some were left standing waiting for their chairs.

Thanks to the ballroom's adjacent long alley, where one of its sides was used set up for the buffet food located at 3 stations. Finger foods, snacks (papaya chips, peanuts), water, coffee and tea were also setup at multiple locations on the other side of the alley for alumni who love to mingle around with friends before the program started. Picture booth set up by the committee at one end of alley enables guests to making themselves occupied while some were dancing to the music in the ballroom.

Timewise, it was already a little behind schedule when the evening's program started. And without complaining, the singing of the national anthem should have been accompanied, queued up by music from the DJ's disc player but a DJ was not attentive to what was happening. Thanks to our talented singers, Lory and Ohma, they still remember all the lyrics and were able to finish off the Phil and US national anthem without the music with flying colors.

Not in the original program but halfway into it, as requested a new set of elected CLSUAAI BODs was introduced by Tim Aganon to come forward and installed into office by President Edgar Orden, followed by a short acceptance speech from the CLSUAAI President Romy Padilla.

As we interspersed items in the program with fun music and dance to relieve stresses to dancers with restless feet that it became apparent that time is getting shorter. On or around 10PM, I noticed guests started leaving and therefore, with my instructions, I requested our Emcee Dr Del to jot down and improvised on the fly what comes next on the program. We even requested Director Gloria De Vera to make her introduction of inspirational speaker President Orden to be really brief. And, oh, it was super brief indeed, that President Orden used her part to even introduce himself, hahaha.

Handing off the CLSU IAA's appreciation plaques to Presidents Orden and Torres also did not happen as they have left early for the evening citing it was getting late for them to be on the dark road heading back to CLSU.

After all, it was almost closing time. I'd say 75% of attendees have already left and gone. But for those remaining, were still enjoying and dancing the night away to a live music performed by one-female-3-man band team.

In conclusion, our hosted event did not go 100% smoothly as we would have liked, with only minor hiccups occurred, but with everyone's collective efforts, I have received compliments from attendees indicating they enjoyed the evening and that our CLARK'S event is nothing but a success, which I truly believe. Thank you all.

For pictures; <https://www.smugmug.com/gallery/n-JqRm78/>,

for video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4jfynxgLvko&feature=youtu.be>

Note from Clark: Nemesio Torres said he will sponsor 10 national alum participants for the September cruise.

- **Monday Feb 17th** at 10 AM Monday. A week after Clark's, with appointment I met President Edgar Orden at his office and a plaque of appreciation was hand delivered to him for being our Clark's event inspirational speaker. Attempt to do the same for President Torres was unsuccessful due to his presence at the University is no longer consistent as he already retired as professor of CLSU last December.

NEXT EVENT: September 20-24 General Assy on a Mexican Cruise.

Let's have one more quarterly meeting, say mid May? Or earlier? Any volunteer who would like to host the meeting.? National alumni inquiries have started trickling in.

Please call or email me for anything. Thanks, Rob. 510-427-5308