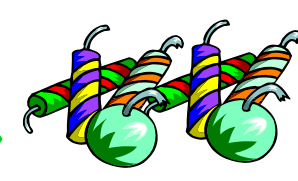




## CLSU INTERNATIONAL ALUMNI GROUP (CIAG)



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Engr. Rod Dioso, Jr.

### WELCOME 2012 Mabuhay CIAG!

Year 2011 is a memorable year for us. We were able to donate thousands of dollars for the construction of the CLSU hostels. We had good representations to the 2011 CLSU Alumni Homecoming. We launched our first scholarship grants. We were able to increase members. We had lots of fun and once more, we showed to our Alma Mater, beloved CLSU, our love and loyalty.

I would like to take this opportunity to publically thank all the officers and committees and all the members for their invaluable assistance in making this a very memorable year under my administration.

2012 is another challenging year for us. But, I want to focus that the theme of our organization in 2012 is "Focus on Behavior". Behavior changes with attitude and social structure. Our behavior is a reflection of who we are and as this image improves or taints our institution. We must be respectful of the members' boundaries. If you have opinion or words that will inflict serious injury to our member and family in particular, or in our organization in general, please "throw it in the waste basket" or "shred it". BE PROACTIVE.

2012 is another colorful year for our forthcoming Grand reunion in Las Vegas in September. Please mark your calendar and see you in Las Vegas.

### VP AT LARGE PARTICIPATES IN THE CLSUA AI SPECIAL BOARD MEETING



CIAG Vice President-at-Large Dr. Leo Abenes participated in a special meeting held by the Board of Directors of the Central Luzon State University Alumni Association, Inc. (CLSUA AI) during his

recent visit at CLSU on November 19, 2011. During the meeting, he briefed the Board of Directors about the status and key activities of the CLSU International Alumni Group including the planned 3<sup>rd</sup> CIAG Grand Reunion in Las Vegas on September 21-23, 2012.

On behalf of the CIAG Executive Board, Dr. Abenes extended a general invitation to all members of the CLSUAAI Board of Directors and key CLSU officials during the meeting. In coordination with CIAG President Rod Dioso and Reunion Committee Co-chair Gerry Galinato, Dr. Abenes requested Dr. Eliseo Ruiz, President of the CLSU Alumni Foundation, Inc. as the guest speaker during CIAG's Reunion Dinner and Dance Program. According to Leo, Dr. Ruiz would accept it as soon as he received the official invitation from CIAG. Other CLSUAAI and CLSU officials also indicated interest to participate and requested that official invitation from CIAG is extended to them as well. The officials who indicated interest to attend the CIAG Grand Reunion in Las Vegas in September include: Dr. Romeo Cabanilla, President and Chairman of the CLSUAAI, Board of Directors; Dr. Zenaida Serna, Director of the CLSU Alumni Relations Office; and Dr. Firma Viray, Member of the Board of Directors and Public Relations

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### CIAG EDITORIAL TEAM

**Floro Gutierrez**  
*Editor-in-Chief*

**Gerry Galinato**  
*Associate Editor*

**Norma Viray**  
*Graphics/Layout*

**Rob Bugawan**  
*Webmaster*

## EDITORIAL

By: Floro R. Gutierrez



### New Year's Resolution Anyone?

**D**o we need a New Year's resolution? Whether you are 20, 30, or even 90 years old, you must have made a resolution or two. Some researchers report that 44 percent of the U.S. population makes a new year's

resolution –a positive and desirable undertaking. Unfortunately, same researchers say 98 percent of them do not keep the resolution(s).

I've learned from Google that the tradition of New Year's resolution dates back to 153 B.C. in Rome. It is said that January is named after Janus, a mythical god of early Rome. Janus had two faces – one looking forward and the other looking backward. On December 31, the Romans imagined Janus looking backward from the old year and forward into the new year. This became the symbolic time for them to make resolutions for the new year and thus was born the tradition of New Year's resolution.

New Year's resolutions run the whole gamut from 'Spending More Time with Family and Friends', to 'Keeping Physically Fit', to 'Learning Something New', to 'Reviewing what relationships or situations one has outgrown that need to shift in some way', etc . Generally, they fall into two

categories of some things (habits, practices, attitude) that need to be stopped or curbed, or engaging in something new to keep one healthy in body, mind and spirit and even materially.

I don't mind sharing that I made more than a dozen New Year's resolutions in my adult life and was probably able to keep only half of them. One was the one I made in the waning days of 1996. At that time I decided to stop cigarette smoking (3<sup>rd</sup> attempt). I was then working at the General Board of Pensions of my church denomination which has a half hour meditation service every Wednesday morning. One Wednesday when I led the morning meditation, I mentioned (with pride) that I have already cut my smoking by 80% only lighting up a cigarette after meals or snacks. During the coffee break that day, an older friend sat down and had coffee with me and challenged me that if I can reduce my smoking by 80%, surely I can completely give up the habit. I took the challenge and never lit a cigarette ever since.

Although resolutions of the type I just shared are good, I think those of the other type are as good or even better. Instead of concentrating in 'I will no longer...', it is important to resolve something like, 'I will Enjoy Life More', or 'I'll Help Others', etc.

This year I resolve to get more organized and stop my bad habit of procrastinating. This editorial must have been written last week, instead of the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of the year. What are your resolutions this year? Will you include loving and being loyal to CLSU, our dear alma mater a little bit more and show this in tangible ways? Thank you. –frg.

## VP AT LARGE PARTICIPATES IN THE CLSUA AI .... (From Page 1)

Officer of CLSUA AI. CLSU President Ruben Sevilleja and Mrs. Giselle Sevilleja indicated that they could not possibly join and participate at this time because they are expecting their sons based in the US to visit the Philippines and plan to have a family reunion at the same time frame that CIAG is holding its Grand Reunion in Las Vegas.

Dr. Abenes also advised those who are planning to attend from CLSU to plan for a week; three days for CIAG's formal reunion affair and four days for possible tours in the Las Vegas area and other tourist destinations in the vicinity.

During the CLSUA AI Board meeting, Dr. Serna also reiterated their solicitation for page Ads for their April CLSU Alumni Homecoming Souvenir Program. Dr. Serna also mentioned that a few of her own staff at ARO are interested in attending the CIAG Reunion in Las Vegas. Dr. Abenes responded that CIAG is developing a "Print your Own Invitation" which is currently being developed by the CIAG Reunion Committee and will soon be available at the CIAG website.

An update of the CLSUA AI Hostel project was also shared during the meeting. The expected donations and pledges from Science City of Munoz Mayor Efrén Alvarez and Senator Antonio Trillanes IV did not materialize fully and that CLSUA AI would like to appeal for additional donations

to complete the conference and meeting rooms at the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of the Hostel.

Leo was very appreciative of his visit at CLSU and enjoyed a very comfortable stay at the CLSUA AI Hostel for two nights. "They even served lunch after our meeting," he quipped. (Contributed by Gerry Galinato).



From left: Dr. Romy Cabanilla, Dr. Leo Abenes, Mrs. Ning Abenes and Dr. Catalino de la Cruz.



## CLSU ALUMNI RECEIVE FULBRIGHT FELLOWSHIP AWARDS



**D**r. Gilbert C. Sigua, a CLSU alumnus, BSA batch '78, also a CIAG Vice-President for the Southeast U.S. Region and a Research Soil Scientist at USDA-Agricultural Research Service has been recently awarded a Fulbright Fellowship by the Board of Educational and Cultural Office's Fulbright Specialist Program in the Philippines at the Institute for

Climate Change and Environmental Management, Central Luzon State University in 2012, according to the United States Department of State and the J. William Fulbright Scholarship Board.

Dr. Sigua will give series of technical seminars to promote strongly the integration of the physical environment, ecology and biodiversity into a sustainable agro-ecosystem. He will also teach a summer term course in Pollution Prevention and Waste Management to graduate students of the Environmental Management Institute where students will be taught and be trained on the development of appropriate and new technologies, thus ensuring and promoting sustainable development in natural and agricultural resources and environmental health of the people.

As a Fulbrighter, Dr. Sigua will be joining the ranks of distinguished scholars and professionals who are leaders in the educational, economic, social, cultural research worldwide. The Fulbright Specialist Program, created in 2000 complements the traditional Fulbright Scholarship Program, providing short-term academic opportunities to prominent U.S. faculty and professionals to support curricular and faculty development and institutional planning at post secondary, academic institutions around the world.



**A**nother CLSU alumnus, Dr. **Fiorello Abenes**, a CIAG Vice President at Large and Emeritus Professor at California State Polytechnic University, was previously awarded a Fulbright Scholarship to lecture and conduct research at Mariano Marcos State University in Batac, Ilocos Norte in 2009.

Dr. Abenes conducted research on the use of carabao rumen fluid as biodegrading agent for biomass to produce ethanol. A write up of his work was adjudged agriculture story of the year and bagged the top prize in the 2008 Bright leaf

Agriculture Journalism Awards sponsored by Philip Morris Philippines. The winning story was published in the May, 2008 issue of Agriculture Magazine, a monthly publication of the Manila Bulletin. It detailed a new finding by Abenes and Perla Florendo of the Philippine Carabao Center at CLSU that the microorganisms from the rumen of the carabao can be used to produce ethanol out of agricultural wastes such as rice straw, corn stover, sugarcane bagasse, grass, wood and other biomass. Dr. Abenes, was also a "balik scientist" program awardee of the Department of Science and Technology..

Dr. Abenes was one of approximately 1,100 U.S. faculty and professionals who traveled abroad through the Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program in 2009.

Fulbright recipients are among over 40,000 individuals participating in U.S. Department of State exchange programs each year. For more than sixty years, the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs has supported programs that seek to promote mutual understanding and respect between the people of the United States and the people of other countries.

The Fulbright Program, America's flagship international educational exchange program, is sponsored by the United States Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. Since its establishment in 1946 under legislation introduced by the late Senator J. William Fulbright of Arkansas, the Fulbright Program has provided approximately 286,500 people – 108,160 Americans who have studied, taught or researched abroad and 178,340 students, scholars and teachers from other countries who have engaged in similar activities in the United States – with the opportunity to observe each others' political, economic, educational and cultural institutions, to exchange ideas and to embark on joint ventures of importance to the general welfare of the world's inhabitants. The Program operates in over 155 countries worldwide.

Recipients of Fulbright awards are selected on the basis of academic or professional achievement, as well as demonstrated leadership potential in their fields. Fulbright alumni have become heads of state, judges, ambassadors, cabinet ministers, CEO's university presidents, journalists, artists, professors and teachers. The Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program is administered in the Philippines by the Philippine American Educational Foundation.

Any CIAG member interested to learn more about the Fulbright Scholarship Program can visit [www.fulbright.state.gov](http://www.fulbright.state.gov). (Contributed by Celia Sigua and Gerry Galinato)



## KNOW YOUR CIAG OFFICERS

BY: FLORO GUTIERREZ

We started this column the other year. We discontinued it temporarily due to urgent matters that were needed to be posted in relation to the two major alumni homecoming events we had in Las Vegas and in CLSU.

In this issue, we planned to feature the Vice President at Large and the three Canadian Regional Vice Presidents but we were not able to hear from one of them even after some repeated reminders. Fortunately, Celia Sigua offered her article on our Southeast Coast VP, Dr. Gilbert Sigua, which was expanded by Engr. Gerry Galinato (see Fulbright Scholarships, Page 3). We, therefore, feature the following officers...



Dr. Fiorello Abenes, our Vice President at Large is a professional animal scientist, teacher, and scholar with over 30 years of diversified work experience in private industry, agricultural extension, university teaching, and research in the United States, Canada and the Philippines. He trained in the areas of Animal Industries, Animal Breeding, Nutrition and Reproductive Physiology at the University of Connecticut. He has been a CalPoly University Professor since 1986, and was awarded early tenure and promotion to full professor in 1991. In the Philippines, he worked for the UN-FAO Dairy Training and Research Institute at the University of the Philippines (Los Banos) and became a member of PCARRD National Carabao Research Team. At CalPoly Pomona, Dr. Abenes taught animal production and computer applications courses in the Animal and Veterinary Science Department. He also advised undergraduate and graduate students in research projects studying amino acid content of by-product feeds, the efficient utilization of controlled-release urea, dairy calf nutrition and forage evaluation. He spearheaded the establishment of the College of Agriculture Computer Teaching Lab and for more than a decade, he was the Department's curriculum committee chair.

He was a recipient of numerous awards including the Meritorious Performance and Professional Promise Award in 1988 and 1989, Gamma Sigma Delta Junior Faculty Award in 1992 and the College of Agriculture Outstanding Academic Adviser Award in 1995. His contributions to teaching were also recognized by the Philippine Association of Southern California, bestowing him the Most Outstanding Educator Award in 1997. In 2007, he was awarded the CLSU Centennial Most Outstanding Alumni Award in the field of Education. A 2008 DOST Balik-Scientist awardee, he was attached to the Philippine Carabao Center as Visiting Scientist and at Central Luzon State University as Visiting Professor. His pioneering work (with collaborator Perla Florendo of PCC at CLSU) in the use of Carabao rumen fluid

to produce biomass ethanol won two awards at the 7<sup>th</sup> PCIERD Science and Technology for a first place in Luzon Regionals and third place in the National competitions. His Bioethanol Technical Team at PCC/CLSU is seeking grants to commercialize the technology. In 2009, he was selected ERDT Fellow at the University of the Philippines and lectured at the Ateneo de Manila University, University of the Philippines at Los Banos, Araneta-De La Salle University, Mapua Institute of Technology, PhilRice, University of San Carlos and MSU-Iligan Institute of Technology. He was recently selected as a U.S. Fulbright Professor and spent 6 months at Mariano Marcos State University working on a consolidated bioprocess to produce biomass ethanol. He served as Mentor to two Philippine Scientists who were selected 2009 Borlaug Fellows at North Carolina State University and Kansas State University. He recently returned to the Philippines to continue his research and lecturing activities at universities and research institutions in the country as a Balik-Scientist at MMSU. His team developed the MMSU hBE-20, a hydrous ethanol blend that is undergoing rigorous testing at several engineering laboratories in the Philippines.



Manny Buado is our Regional Vice President in Toronto, Ontario, Canada. He was born in Umingan, Pangasinan, and was a consistent honor student from elementary to high school. At a young age, he was involved in many community activities playing key roles including his election as KB Vice Chairman in his home town during the Marcos regime.

Manny graduated with the degree of Bachelor of Science in Agriculture, major in Crop Protection/Entomology in CLSU. He was in the top Ten GPA-Average from the College of Agriculture graduating class of 1979-80 and was hired as an Instructor in the Department of Crop Protection. After almost a couple of years of teaching, he was head-hunted by the San Miguel Corporation as one of the Company Research Entomologists in the Agri-Business Projects Group Division.

Manny is married to Leticia Callanta from Sta. Barbara, Pangasinan with whom he was blessed with two sons, Jeffrey Ian and John Vincent. The family immigrated to Canada in 1987 and while there he pursued further studies in the field of Interior Landscaping, creating solutions for "Sick building-Syndrome". He worked as one of the Horticultural Service Supervisors in the City of Toronto for six years, and then decided to shift to a completely different career in the booming Financial Services in North America.

(Turn to Page 5)

## KNOW YOUR CIAG OFFICERS *(From Page 4)*

Manny's ideology of being in a job in North America could not curtail his ambition and activity of attaining a better quality of life for his children and family. He went back to school and then pursued a career in the Financial Services joining Primerica as Personal Financial Analyst, eventually being promoted a Regional Vice President. This resulted from building his business organization, serving and educating the financial needs of most Filipinos residing in the Greater Toronto Area. Currently, he belongs to the elite group of Financial Independence Council of Primerica as a Hundred Thousand Dollar Club member.

An activist in Toronto, Chairman of the Philippine Independence Day Picnic from the year 1997 – 2000, and one of the core founders of the Filipino Center in Toronto, Manny was also the Founding President of the well known PANA (Pangasinan Association of North America), the umbrella organization of all the town associations of Pangasinan in Metro Toronto.

Worshipping the giver of ALL and Salvation atop his priority, Manny is currently a covenant disciple of BLD (Bukas Loob sa Diyos – Open Your Spirit to the Lord), a Catholic Charismatic Group actively involved in the mission work of the community and tracking his path of the Covenant Discipleship Program.

Manny's wish is for CIAG to be able to recruit more CLSU graduates situated in Toronto and vicinity and participate in strengthening our camaraderie as ONE CLSU alumni group so that we can get more involved in projects that benefit our Alma Mater.



Another leader in our northern neighbor is Dr. Lun Mateo, Regional Vice President for Central Canada.

Lun graduated from CLSU in 1974 with the degree of Bachelor of Science in Agriculture, major in Soil Science and minor in Agricultural Extension Education. In 1981, he earned a Master's degree in Plant Breeding in UP Los Banos and in 1987, a Research Degree in Plant Nutrition at the Miyazaki University in Japan. Then in 1993, he completed his PHD in Agronomy from

CLSU.

Lun was hired by CLSU as an Assistant Instructor in 1974 and rose to the rank of Full Professor in 2006. He served as Department Chairman of Soil Science and Crop Science for both graduate and undergraduate degree programs for many years. Currently, he is a Sales Representative of the Primerica Financial Services in Canada.

Lun got married to the former Ms. Zenaida Florendo who also served as Instructor and later rose to the rank of Associate Professor teaching for 26 years at the Department of Statistics in the College of Arts and Sciences. Currently, Zeny is a Professor at the Department of Statistics, University of Manitoba.

Lun and Zeny were blessed with two kids. Their son Mark holds a Master's degree in Data Mining from the University of Manitoba. Earlier, he graduated as Valedictorian in the CLSU University Science High School and from the University of the Philippines, Diliman with a bachelor's degree in Computer Science Magna Cum laude. He is now employed by OECD in Paris, France. Their daughter, Abigail has just graduated from the University of Manitoba with a B.S. in Microbiology. She is now pursuing an MS in Molecular Genetics at the University of Toronto.

Lun and Zeny currently support one CLSUAAI scholar. They belong to the group that donated 65,000 Philippine pesos (the others in the group are Gilbert Sigua, Manny Boado, and others) to the CLSUAAI Hostel Project.



**The Mateo Family**



*PLEASE JOIN US DURING THE:*

*3<sup>rd</sup> Grand Reunion – CLSU INTERNATIONAL ALUMNI GROUP*

**September 21-23, 2012**



**Las Vegas, Nevada – “The Entertainment Capital of the World”**

**Reunion Theme: “Wherever I am, What Does CLSU Mean to Me – Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow”**

### **Reunion Headquarters**

*Most of our Reunion Program activities such as the General Assembly Meeting, Election of new CIAG Officers , and Dinner & Dance Program will be held at the Gold Coast Hotel and Casino. The Hotel is a resort destination located one mile west of the strip and one-half mile from Chinatown. It has a free shuttle bus that carries guests to its sister property “The Orleans” as well as the Las Vegas Strip. It is a popular Reunion Headquarters by various Fil-Am organizations in the USA.*

**GOLD COAST**  
HOTEL & CASINO • LAS VEGAS



### **Location map:**

Hotel Address and Contact  
Information:

### **Gold Coast Hotel and Casino**

4000 West Flamingo Road  
Las Vegas Nevada 89103

**Toll Free Phone: 1-800-331-5334**

**Local Phone: 702-367-7111**





## *Open Invitation Letter to All CLSU Alumni, former Faculty, Staff and Students, Friends and Supporters*

### **CIAG HOMECOMING AND REUNION 2012**

The CLSU International Alumni Group is sponsoring a Central Luzon State University (CLSU) Global Alumni Reunion on **September 21-23, 2012** at the **Gold Coast Hotel & Casino in Las Vegas, Nevada, USA**. On behalf of the organization, we cordially invite you to attend and meet your old friends, classmates and acquaintances.

We will be able to reminisce memorable experiences and share stories of success and most especially to renew our commitment to the noble ideals of our beloved Alma Mater.

The reunion registration fee is **US\$75** per person payable in advance. The deadline for paying registration fee is **August 7, 2012**. Payment of the registration fee after the deadline or during the event is **US\$85**. The registration fee will cover attendance during the General Assembly Meeting, Dinner and Dance Program and Sunday Brunch/Picnic at a Las Vegas Park. Please make your check payable to CLSU International Alumni Group and mail your registration fee to:

**CLSU International Alumni Group**  
**c/o Norma Viray**  
P.O. Box 582713  
Elk Grove, CA 95758

You are responsible for your own accommodation arrangements. We have reserved a block of rooms at the **Gold Coast Hotel & Casino**, Las Vegas | 800-331-5334 | Website: [www.goldcoastcasino.com](http://www.goldcoastcasino.com). The following are the discounted group rates:

**Standard Room rates:** \$29.00/day on Thursday and Sunday (September 20 and 23, 2012)  
\$78.00/day on Friday and Saturday (September 21 and 22, 2012)

**Premium Room rates:** \$39.00/day on Thursday and Sunday (September 20 and 23, 2012)  
\$98.00/day on Friday and Saturday (September 21 and 22, 2012)

Additional taxes and fees added to base rates: Clark County Room Tax-12%, Resort fee-\$3/night

To reserve rooms, please call 1-888-402-6278 and mention **Group Reservation ID: A2CLC09** or register online at <http://www.goldcoastcasino.com/groups>. Deadline of registration with the group rate is **August 21, 2012**.

Please check our website, **www.clsuiag.org** for other details of the event or contact the CLSU Alumni Group on Facebook.

Sincerely yours,  
Reunion & Homecoming Committee

Fiorello B. Abenes, Ph.D.  
Co-Chairman

Gerry Galinato, P.E.  
Co-Chairman

Rodrigo Dioso, Jr.  
CIAG President



## CLSU International Alumni Group (CIAG)

### Fellow Alumni, Friends and Benefactors:

Greetings from the CLSU International Alumni Group!

#### OFFICERS 2010-2012

**President** Rodrigo Dioso, Jr.

**Vice President** Juanito E. Campos

#### **Regional Vice Presidents:**

##### **At Large**

Fiorello Abenes

##### **Central Canada**

Lun Mateo

##### **Eastern Canada**

Manny Buado

##### **Western Canada**

Florentina Alcos

##### **Hawaii**

Jesus Guirao

##### **Las Vegas**

DG Lakay Elegado

Lilia D. Lopez

##### **Los Angeles**

Cornelio Binoya, Jr.

##### **Midwest**

Gil Valenzuela

##### **Northeast Coast**

Renato Cuizon

##### **Northern California**

Lorie S. Malonzo

##### **Pacific NW Inter-Mtn**

Gerry Galinato

##### **San Diego**

Annie A. Silva

##### **Southeast Coast**

Gilbert Sigua

**Secretary** Nenita G. Perez

**Treasurer** Norma B. Viray

**Auditor** Rey Osoteo

**PRO** Floro R. Gutierrez

**Business Mgr** Bart Cinense

**Webmaster** Rob Bugawan

CIAG is holding its 3<sup>rd</sup> Grand Alumni Reunion in the City of Las Vegas, Nevada on September 22, 2012. To mark this event, CIAG will be publishing a souvenir program in magazine form. We are therefore soliciting your help and support by advertising your business, your family photo, a congratulatory message or a piece of article or literature. The proceeds generated from this event will go to the scholarship fund established by CIAG for the deserving students of Central Luzon State University, Science City of Munoz, Nueva Ecija, Philippines.

The following are the rates of advertisements:

Outside back page .....	\$200
Inside front/back page .....	\$150
Inside full page.....	\$100
Half page.....	\$60

If you choose to advertise, please print your name below and indicate the amount of your donation/sponsorship. Please make your check payable to CLSU International Alumni Group and send to the address below along with your picture or camera ready advertisement either by mail or email **no later than July 15, 2012:**

**CIAG c/o Norma Viray**

P.O. Box 582713

Elk Grove, CA 95758

Email Address: [ohmaviray@aol.com](mailto:ohmaviray@aol.com)

**Yes, I want to advertise: Sponsor's Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Message:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Amount: \$** \_\_\_\_\_ **Solicited by:** \_\_\_\_\_

Should you have any questions, please call any of the following members of the

#### Souvenir Program Committee:

Ohma Viray ..... (916) 897-9001

Lorie Malonzo....(510) 799-7700

Rob Bugawan ....(510) 427-5308

Johnny Raniel ... (408) 209-6236

Ray Peralta .....(408) 988-4709



## SOUTHERN & NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CIAG MEMBERS CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS

Our fellow CIAG'ers in Southern California had a mini reunion and celebrated Christmas a little early last December 10. Organized by Regional Vice President Annie Arcinue Silva and hubby Nestor, the reunion was hosted by Gilbert and Marlie Ruba Ayala in their fantastic mansion in Murietta, CA. As some may recall, Marlie Ruba was a Miss CLSU while a student in CLSU.

Gilbert and Marlie were very gracious and perfect hosts. Their home was in tip-top shape and fully decorated for Christmas – both inside and outside in a gate-guarded community.

Among those present in the occasion are CIAG Secretary Nenet Garcia Perez, Rudy and Linda Olaires, Gloria Arcine DeVera, Advisers Drs. Ed and Nenet Cabacungan, of course, the hosts Gilbert and Marlie Ayala, Alexander and Jean Gocon Almazan, Nestor and Annie Arcinue Silva, and Chito Sace, a CLSU Associate Professor on a Fulbright Scholarship grant at the University of Arizona. It is interesting to note that in the group are five former Cocofed (President Ferdinand E Marcos Coconut Federation Scholarship Grantees): Nestor Silva, Nenet Garcia Perez, Gloria Arcinue DeVera, Chito Sace and Jean Almazan.

The group had a fun moment of togetherness and camaraderie. In front of the Christmas tree, they sang many Christmas carols, and enjoyed sharing stories of their student life in CLSU and how they met their respective spouses for the first time, how they came to the U.S., what work they had, etc. The participants also expressed their feeling that being a CLSU alumnus/alumna goes a long way after their graduation. They consider it a privilege accorded only to those who worked hard – and meeting fellow alumni regardless of age, background and current status was truly a blessing.

Meanwhile on the other side, and a week later, the CIAG/Northern California and the Fil-Am Aggies held their Christmas party last December 17 at the residence of President Rodrigo and Francisca Dioso in San Jose City, CA. More than 30 officers and members of the two associations who attended the event had great moments of

exchanging pleasantries, reminiscing yesteryears in CLSU and other experiences in other institutions and enjoying the great food which was provided by the Fil-am Aggies Association, USA.

Below are some pictures of the two events. –  
Contributed by Annie Arcinue Silva, Ed Cabacungan and Floro Gutierrez



*CIAG Officers members from Northern California –picture taken at the Dioso's Residence in San Jose on December 17, 2011.*



CIAG PRESS  
RELEASE #9

CLSU  
INTERNATIONAL  
ALUMNI GROUP  
(CIAG)

P.O. Box 582713, Elk Grove,  
California 95758.

Phone: (916) 897-9001

We're on the web  
<http://www.clsuiag.org>

## CIAG ENDOWMENT FUND

**T**he CIAG Endowment Fund ("EF") is an investment fund established in 2008 for the purpose of providing scholarships to the underprivileged and deserving CLSU students and for research and educational programs. EF is being funded by voluntary donations from CLSU Alumni, former staff/faculty and CLSU friends and supporters.

All donations of CLSU alumni and friends to the CIAG Endowment Fund will be deposited by the CIAG Treasurer in a safe, interest-bearing account, like a Certificate of Deposit (CD), which is insured/guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) of the U.S. Government.

Only 90% of the interest will be used to fund CLSU scholarships and research and educational programs; the remaining 10% of the interest will be re-invested into the CIAG Endowment Fund. Hence, all donations will always increase and never decrease through the years—forever.

Ed Cabacungan, PhD  
Chairman, Endowment Fund Committee

## From the Treasurer's Desk

By: Norma (Ohma) B. Viray

**A**s of January 10, 2012, CIAG's bank account balances at Wells Fargo Bank totaled \$16,513 and are broken down into:

<b>Endowment Fund (EF)</b>	<b>\$ 12,948</b> (includes 10% int. - EF)
<b>Scholarship Fund</b>	<b>\$ 2,822</b> (includes 90% int. - EF)
<b>General Fund</b>	<b>\$ 743</b>

In recapping the 2011 transactions: CIAG's net assets increased last year from \$13,062 to \$15,312 on December 31, 2011, primarily due to the increase in the Endowment fund from \$8,025 to \$11,925 (\$3,900 increase). Other sources of fund increase (\$2,050) were donations from CIAG members and additional membership dues collected in 2011. On the other side of the equation, CIAG incurred significant disbursements in 2011 (i.e. \$2,000 donation to CLSU Hostel Project, \$1,000 legal expense - down payment to the Attorney assisting CIAG to obtain its tax-exempt status from IRS, \$600 - CIAG scholarship grant for 2011 and \$100 in other miscellaneous expenses). Overall, CIAG's net balance increased by \$2,250 in the year ending December 31, 2011.

Great news! I recently received a very generous donation of \$1,000 from one of CIAG's strongest supporters, Jeff and Edita Cabacungan Donnelly (son-in-law and daughter of Kuya Ed and Ate Net Cabacungan). They have contributed so far a total of \$2,800 to CIAG EF. Thank you and God bless!

The next major fundraising activity for CIAG is the 3rd Grand Alumni Homecoming to be held in Las Vegas, Nevada. Please see pages 6&7 of this Press Release for more details.

Additionally, to mark this event in Las Vegas, CIAG will be publishing a souvenir program in magazine form. We are therefore soliciting your support by advertising your business, your family photo, a congratulatory message or a piece of article or literature. The Solicitation Letter for the CIAG's Souvenir Program is on Page 9. Please fill out the form and send to me

preferably before the deadline. We encourage everyone to participate so we may be able to create a nice and thick souvenir book for this coming Las Vegas reunion. The proceeds generated from this project will go to the Scholarship Fund established by CIAG for deserving students of CLSU.

CIAG currently has two scholars but the number of scholars may increase in the next year or so. President Rod Dioso has just made a pledge to donate \$100 to the Scholarship Fund and he has challenged everyone to join him and do the same. Actually, this campaign to donate to the Scholarship Fund (while waiting for EF to grow to generate enough interest to support the Scholarship Fund) was started a couple of months ago by the Galinato brothers (Dan, Tino, Noli & Gerry) who collectively donated \$300. Last year, a group of CLSU Ag. Engineering graduates based in USA also donated \$275 (the excess proceeds collected to cover the Ag En Grads' Ad in the 2011 CLSU Grand Alumni Homecoming) to the Scholarship Fund. To keep the ball rolling, Lito and I are pledging to donate \$100 as well. Our goal is to increase the number of CIAG's scholars each year and this could be done with everyone's help.

Well, happy New Year everyone! I wish you all good luck, good health and more blessings from above the whole year through. I hope and pray that all your wishes for 2012 come true.



*"Another fresh New Year is here, another year to live, to banish worry, doubt and fear, to love and laugh and GIVE."*

Cheers to a brand New Year!

*Fondly, Ohma (& Lito)*