



University of the Philippines
Los Baños Alumni Group in America
(UPLBAGA)



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**OFFICERS
2021-2022**

Roger Diaz
President

Dr. Ruben Novero
Vice-President

Dr. Ichie Diaz
Secretary

Dr. Mayette Ison
Treasurer

Joy Landicho
Auditor

Dr. Nory Ison
Ex-Officio and PRO

**Board Meeting
February 20, 2021**

Minutes

Zoom meeting (10:00 a.m.): Present: Roger and Ichie Diaz, Ruben and Beth Novero, Nory and Mayette Ison, Joy Landicho, Johnny Abilay, Pan and Julie Belo, Odette Ledesma and Ian Ward

I. Goals/Projects/Activities for 2021- Roger
 In light of the restrictions due to the pandemic, meetings will initially be held via zoom. We can expect the yearly activities of spring/summer picnics and Christmas party to take place, to be scheduled later.
 A golf fundraiser is not impossible to carry out and will be scheduled later. We don't have to touch the money in the bank to fund future projects.
 Other ways suggested to raise funds were 1) as proposed by Johnny, to ask Lifetime Members for \$50 Loyalty donation; 2) according to Odette, ask wealthy batchmates for donation. Joy suggested an informational letter, initially, to the prospective donor to reconnect. Johnny and Nory will summarize UPLBAGA's accomplishments and put together a solicitation letter; 3) Ichie mentioned webinar topics like gardening, cooking, financial talks, estate planning (Mayette) where participants can donate some amount.
 As for the proposed UPLB projects from the wish list that Mayette discovered for the group, the Adopt-A-Student Program (AASP) is most achievable and useful to the students who are probably suffering from the economic effects of the covid pandemic, at about \$800/student. AASP helps deserving students in their final year of college, providing each scholar a living allowance of P3,500 and a semestral book allowance of P20,000.

Ongoing Projects-
 Mayette will follow up on the report about CAFEL (College of Agriculture and Food Science Emergency Loan Program) – similar to AASP
 Johnny Abilay will follow up on the current reports on the UPLBAAA LEO-JMH (Leo E. Oliva and Josefina Malang Hsiao) SELF (Student Emergency Loan Fund) and the UPLBAGA Lifetime Members SELF (UPLBAGA LIME-SELF).

II. Finances – Mayette
 The \$5,000 that FUPFA (Friends of UP) was holding on to had been collected. The total funds in the bank is \$11, 326.21 and includes the aforementioned \$5,000. Mayette, Ichie and Julie will need to go to Chase Bank together as signatories on UPLBAGA business matters.
 Corporation filing with the California Secretary of State had been accomplished, paid the \$20 fee. Julie will file the income tax.
 Mayette will confirm with the bank the minimum required balance. She will also explore the possibility of filing for 501©(3) so UPLBAGA, as a non-profit organization, doesn't have to pay federal tax.
 Johnny shared the Scholarships reports from 2011 when the seed money was P525,910.00 up to 2018, ending balance of P603,807.29. The reports were submitted to past President Nory Ison by OSA Director Eleno Peralta.
 Joy requested to be copied communications regarding the Scholarships Reports.

III. Membership – Ichie
 There are 3 new members – Yhe Laurel, Dr. Ann Gironella and Cesar Bautista. The total number of Lifetime Members is 173, of which 147 are living. Ichie asked if the membership fees need to be added to the SELF funds and Johnny clarified that we don't have to. The SELF funds are income-generating in itself because of the interest on loan payments and Savings account. The new membership fees will be added to the general funds.
 Ichie appealed to Nory so Facebook page and website can be used to attract new members. There are pictures in those sites that were taken during the UPLBAGA activities through the years. Nory described the kinds of information that can be found on the website, where the forms can be found and how to navigate it. He explained that maintaining a PayPal button for taking membership fees may not be cost-effective at this stage of the recruitment.
 Johnny suggested putting a UPLBAGA plaque similar to the one in IBS at the Office of Student Affairs as well as at the Office of Alumni Relations. Budit (George) was the one who has contact

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:
Dr. Pan Belo
Dr. Julie Belo
Dr. Johnny Abilay
Dolly Velasco
Odette Ledesma
Beth Novero

with the plaque maker who probably has the template, too. It may be a challenge to get this done safely during the pandemic though.
Roger suggested sending invites to the Ramirezes.

IV. Website/Facebook page – Nory
In addition to the Facebook page and website information mentioned above, Nory will resend information about e-mail groups.

V. Other matters
UPAA Distinguished Alumni Award – Dr. Nory Ison
Nominated for establishing computer science in UPLB at the ARC (Agricultural Resource Center), IRRI, SEARCA and PCARRD during his sabbatical from the University of Guelph, Canada and during a series of Balik Scientist stints, set up computer facilities in UP Baguio and UP Cebu.
Dr. Ison graduated from UPLB cum laude and worked at UC Berkeley in California, USA.

Johnny reminded Nory about the 2020 Annual Chapter Report which is due soon.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:37 a.m.

