

UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES



# ANNUAL REPORT 2016

DIEZE 61, 5032 XG TILBURG  
THE NETHERLANDS

[www.upalumni.nl](http://www.upalumni.nl)

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## ABOUT UPAA-NL

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The University of the Philippines -The Netherlands Chapter, (UPAA-NL) is an independent association (“vereniging”) of UP alumni residing, working or studying in The Netherlands. It was founded in 1992 and re-established in 2006. It is duly accredited by the UP Office of Alumni Relations in accordance with the constitution and by-Laws of the University of the Philippines Alumni Association, Inc.

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## FOREWORD

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In 2016, UPAA-NL celebrated its 10<sup>th</sup> year since its re-establishment in 2006. This was celebrated with an event well-attended by the members. During the year, UPAA-NL continued communications with various UP units in efforts to find ways to help the UP community. For the coming year, UPAA-NL aims to further its assistance to UP while promoting Philippine culture and supporting the Philippine community in the Netherlands.

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## PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES IN 2016

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*10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration.* UPAA-NL celebrated its 10<sup>th</sup> year since its re-establishment in 2006. The anniversary was celebrated with an outdoor event for its members. It was held in Oostende, Belgium, on 24<sup>th</sup> of August 2016. 17 members attended accompanied by their invitees.

*Participation in Filipino Community events.* UPAA-NL was invited by the Philippine Embassy to a general meeting of Philippine-related associations in The Netherlands attended by around 40 organizations. One representative from UPAA-NL attended the meeting. During the said gathering, held on February 26, the Embassy informed the attendees of its achievements the past two years since January 2014, when Ambassador Jaime Victor Ledda started his term, as well as the plans of the Embassy for the rest of the year. The meeting gave UPAA-NL the opportunity to network with other Philippine-related associations. A meeting held on 29 December, in which UPAA-NL was also represented, was the 150<sup>th</sup> year commemoration of the death of Dr. Jose Rizal. The event, held at the Philippine Embassy, included speeches from members of the Knights of Rizal. This event also gave the chance for UPAA-NL to be introduced to the Knights of Rizal members and at the same time connect them with the UP community.

*Communication with UP community.* To find projects in which UPAA-NL could participate, contact with representatives of a number of UP campus units continued. While there were no concrete results, UPAA-NL has informed the UP campus units of its interest in funding future projects. There were a number of projects for funding presented to UPAA-NL. However due to lack of concrete details, UPAA-NL has not yet sent its financial support. In the meantime, the funds allocated to projects are kept whole in UPAA-NL’s account.

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## FUNDRAISING

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UPAA-NL decided to have no fundraising event in 2016 as it awaits for more concrete information on the proposed UP-related projects. The goal for 2017 is to disburse the available

project funds when a feasible project is available. Likewise, for 2017, UPAA-NL aims to hold at least one fundraising event for future UP projects.

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#### **ORGANISATION**

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UPAA-NL's business address is Dieze 61, 5032 XG, Tilburg, The Netherlands. It is registered at the Kamer van Koophandel. From 1 January 2014, the Executive Committee is composed of the following persons:

President: Jonathan Palero

Vice-President: Marlene Macatangay

Secretary: Bituen Hidalgo

Treasurer: Ave Baxa

During the course of 2016, a new Auditor was appointed.

The annual General Assembly Meeting was held on April 9, 2016. In addition to this, four meetings

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#### **CLOSING REMARKS**

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In 2016, UPAA-NL celebrated its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary since re-established in 2006. During this landmark anniversary, UPAA-NL continued to actively communicate with UP to extend assistance, reached out to more alumni based in The Netherlands, and through various activities become more involved in promoting the welfare of the Filipino community.

UPAA-NL's looks forward to continuing its efforts in being a positive contributor to UP and the Filipino community in The Netherlands. The organisation thanks its success the past decade to the generous support of its partners in businesses, academic institutions and individuals. UPAA-NL also recognizes the efforts of its members in soliciting donations, selling tickets for its activities and doing the legwork in communicating with UP and the Filipino community.

### **UPAA-NL Activities and Projects from 2006 to 2016**

#### **Projects:**

- *Donate A Book to UP Tacloban (2014 – 2015).* To help UP Tacloban in rebuilding its library, UPAA-NL organised a book donation drive. Books were collected from various sources in the Netherlands. A total of 1,405 books were sent. UPV Tacloban estimated the value of the books it received to be PHP 1.3 million or approximately €25,000.
- *Support for students affected by Typhoon Haiyan (2013).* In November 2013, typhoon Haiyan (local name Yolanda) drastically affected the lives of the many students enrolled in the different campuses of UP Visayas. UPAA-NL decided without hesitation to assist the students. Through contacts in UP Diliman, UPAA-NL donated funds to address the immediate and basic needs of these students (cross-registrants in UP Diliman). The UPAA-NL donations were given to the “One Stop Shop” (€750) and to the “Meals” of the UP students affected by typhoon Haiyan (€190).
- *Digitisation of the UP Main Library (2007 – 2012).* The UPAA-NL raised € 20,000.00 for four server units and the structured cabling of the Main Library building to upgrade and enhance the capability of the University of the Philippines Library Systems in providing students, faculty members, staff of all university constituents and outside researchers the best possible access to information they need in support of instruction, research and extension.

#### **Major Activities:**

- *2016: UPAA-NL 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration.* UPAA-NL celebrated its 10th year since its re-establishment in 2006. The anniversary was celebrated with an outdoor event for its members. It was held in Oostende, Belgium, on 24th of August 2016.
- *2015: “English Only Please” - a Movie Gala On Board the ss Rotterdam.* One of UPAA-NL's goal is to promote Philippine culture and arts. This fundraising event was attended by over 150 guests. The movie gala was held in the afternoon of September 28, 2015 in Rotterdam. The film “English Only Please” is a Philippine award-winning romantic comedy film produced by Atty. Joji Alonso, a fellow UP alumna. After the film showing at the ss Rotterdam Theater, a concert and raffle prize draw was held at the Queen's Lounge. Nine sales booths were present. Raffle prizes were given away, with as grand prize an overnight stay at the ss Rotterdam.
- *2014: Strike for a Scholar, an Open Bowling Tournament.* In August 2014, UPAA-NL held a sports event, to benefit University of the Philippines students affected by typhoon Haiyan. More than 100 participants joined the afternoon of bowling at Bowling Scheveningen at Gevers Deynootweg in The Hague.
- *2013: Harana't Piyesta.* With more than 150 guests and 20 stalls (“marktkramen”), UPAA-NL celebrated “Harana't Piyesta” - a Filipino feast with music, food and drinks. In the afternoon of the 28th of September 2013 at the Church of Our Saviour in The Hague, guests were treated to a “Harana” - a concert of Philippine and Western classical, pop and hiphop music and dance. In the Church Atrium, the “Piyesta” went on. Philippine specialties and goods were sold in an indoor market.
- *2012: A Uniquely Pleasurable Afternoon of Music: Volunteers for Volunteers.* With the help of amateur musicians who volunteered to perform and with the support from

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generous sponsors and friends, a successful concert was staged in The Hague at the Hogeschool Helicon in 16th of September 2012. The matinee concert of light classical music was enjoyed by a hundred guests in a fully packed concert hall.

- *2011: Umindak sa Pier!* On 28th of August 2011, UPAA-NL held a successful fundraising summer party in De Pier Restaurant at Scheveningen, The Hague. More than a hundred guests enjoyed the buffet dinner, unlimited drinks, dancing and raffle draw. The dinner guests were treated to song and dance performances.
- *2010: Jonathan Badon – Concert in The Hague.* On 18 June 2010, UPAA-NL proudly presented “The Philippines’ Prince of Operatic-Pop” Jonathan Badon In Concert. An audience of more than 100 gathered in a fully-packed “Rode Zaal” auditorium of the Hogeschool Helicon in The Hague. Funds raised during this event were used for the fulfilment of its pledge to the University’s Main Library.
- *2007: “Patikim” - a dinner to remember.* In September 2007, the UPAA-NL held “Patikim” a fund-raising event which featured Philippine culture. The event, held in the residence of the Philippine Ambassador to The Netherlands Romeo Arguelles, started with a piano concert of Adolovni Acosta. This was followed by a dinner featuring Philippine cuisine. Restaurateurs Romy Dorotan and Amy Besa took charge of the dinner. More than fifty guests were present.