



In our collective efforts to help perpetuate the existence of St. Mary's School of Sagada (SMSS), the quality brand of education introduced by Dr. Dennis Faustino in this school gave substance and direction to the vision and obsession of the late Frank Longid to save SMSS at all cost. Likewise, it provided the impetus of the fund raising campaign spearheaded by the 1st Chairman of the Board of

Trustees of St. Mary's School of Sagada, Inc. (SMSSI), Engr. Rufino Bomasang.

In 2005 a technology oriented learning approach centered on the student; and focused on critical thinking, knowledge application, results, team play, social and environmental consciousness was introduced at SMSS by Dr. Dennis Faustino.

The student-centered learning approach (SCLA) was designed to answer the demands of most industries and governments obsessed in maintaining a competitive edge in an ever growing competitive technology-driven global economy.

Dr. Faustino had extensive experience implementing SCLA at International School, Manila, where he was a former assistant principal of the High School Department. So upon assuming the principalship at SMSS, he crafted and implemented a 5-year development plan with SCLA as the guiding philosophy even as this was being hotly debated in the Philippine academe and legislature.

In effect, the aforesaid development plan explained the why, what, and how of sustaining the relevancy of SMSS not only in the Philippine setting but, more importantly, in the context of current internationally accepted accreditations parameters in institutions of higher learning and the global labor market.

Properly implemented, (i. e., not just going through the motions to show compliance to a government mandated program), this learning approach affords a learner a concerted shot at excellence; a ticket out of mediocrity; a vehicle for dismantling a diploma mill reputation; and an antidote to dole-out mentality.

Additionally for SMSS, it updates the meaning of "digging wells and building fires for those coming after us" in the pursuit of internationally accepted education standards. Thus, this poetic allegoray, originally espoused by manong Max Batong and popularized by manong Frank Longid to rally alumni and friends

in support of SMSS' continued existence, remains a potent rallying cry for SMSS alumni and friends.

In 2012, or 7 years later, the Philippine Congress passed the K-12 Education Program which adopted SCLA as its underlying philosophy. Dr. Dennis Faustino was one of the education experts recruited by the Philippine Department of Education (DepEd) to help craft and implement the K-12 program, no doubt in recognition of his pioneering SCLA related efforts at SMSS.

Since then, SMSS has been a training venue for best teaching methodologies for the K-12 program; and Dr. Faustino has been going all over the Mountain Province School District training heads of schools on how to administer the new K-12 program.



Indeed, after sharing most of his his time, talents and treasure at SMSS, including donating a valuable land inheritance of his to the school, he expanded his missionary work beyond the borders of Sagada. He was being true to the SMSS motto of "aditako bokodan di gawis"

meaning we should share our blessings to those in need.

He is now the headmaster of the federation of Episcopal mission schools north of Baguio composed of: SMSS, All Saints Mission School of Mountain Province, Inc., Bontoc; St. James School of Mountain Province, Inc., Besao; and St. Paul's Memorial School, Balbalasang. Concurrently, he is the Vice President of SPRINT [Schools for Peace, Relevant Instruction, Nurturance, and Tolerance] comprised of secondary Philippine Episcopal Mission Schools. Ursula Daoey of Brent School is the President. Dr. Faustino, likewise, renders consultancy services on the K-12 program for Trinity University of Asia.

Outside Episcopal mission schools, Dr. Faustino is a K-12 program consultant for DepEd, Commission on Higher Education (CHED) and the ABS CBS Foundation. Thus, he was instrumental in including the Guina-ang National High School, the Namatec Elementary and National High School as pilot projects of educational excellence based on student-centered learning. These public schools join SMSS, ASMIS, SJHS. and some other schools in Laguna and Manila to model SCLA for which they will receive free training materials, workshops and/or seminars on best SCLA teaching methodologies, courtesy of the ABS CBS Foundation.

For all of the above, we say to this non-alumnus of Episcopal

(Contd. on page 2)

A Tribute to Dr. Dennis Faustino, contd.

mission schools, non-Igorot and a convert to the Philippine Episcopal Church only in 2012: may the Good Lord continue to bless you with good health, good fortune and good cheer for you to continue your missionary work not only for the youth of Ka-Igorotan but the entire Philippines.

Thank you sir Dennis.

<u>*Signed / Approved / Endorsed by:</u>	<u>Donation</u>
1. Lambert & Leona Sagalla	\$ 50.00
2. Dr. Andrew Bacdayan	\$100.00
3. Catherine L. Carlin	\$ 10.00
4. Gloria B. Simon	\$100.00
5. Inez & Joe Saley	\$ 50.00
6. Erwin & Cora Killip	\$ 50.00
7. Rose and Clause Nabert	\$ 50.00
8. Dr. John Alipit	\$ 100.00
9. Annabelle & Roel Marchadesch	\$ 50.00
10. Anonymous from Sagada	PhP1,000.00
11. Anonymous from Toronto	Cn\$ 50.00
12. Norman & Grace Killip	\$100.00
13. Linda & Tony Sucdad	\$ 30.00
14. Betty B Kurzdorfer	Euro 50.00
15. Marie & Raymond Buring	\$ 25.00
16. Rommel Mapile	\$ 50.00
17. Florence & Judith Omengan	\$ 50.00
18. Rachel & Clifford Killip	\$ 25.00
19. Val & Roy Salvador	\$ 25.00
20. Jane & Joseph Giles	\$ 25.00
21. Angel Galas	\$100.00
22. Hilda Tamking Shortall	\$ 50.00
23. Engr. Rufino Bomasang	PhP10,000.00
24. Gertrude Ullocan Thompson	\$ 50.00
25. Rebecca and Samson Baon	\$ 50.00
26. Tom Killip	PhP 5,000.00
27. SMSS faculty, staff and student body.	Mamangset kamii.
28. Ellen Reyes Gawigawen	PhP3,000.00

Note: Of the total amount of donations, \$200.00 will be allocated to the cost of this 2-page ad. The rest will go to either the SMSS scholarship or endowment funds. Donors may indicate where their donations will be allocated.

Excerpts from selected tribute emails to Dr. Dennis Faustino.

From Gloria Bawa-an Simon.

Dr. Faustino answered the call and St. Mary's "rises from the ashes of the phoenix." St Mary's lives and Dr. Faustino pioneers the implementation of a new paradigm in the Philippine educational system."

From Marie Ullocan Buring.

Sir Dennis is well deserving of such a "Tribute". Back in March 1974, it was a "love at first sight for St. Mary's and Sagada" and from then on, he made yearly visits to his "Shangrila" and eventually settled. Added to his youthful talents esp. on music and theatre the people of Sagada enjoyed his presence for over 2 decades. His SAGADA song composition is now a global hit amongst "Highland music lovers" and oft times taken as a loyalty song for the people of the place. His expertise in the field of Education finally brought him back to become head of the SMS he loves so well. Big hearted as he is, he now shares his time and talents with other learning institutions of which we are all aware. Especially to SMS class 1974 whose school play attracted him that day in March, Dennis is the "Sound of Music".

From Toronto Anonymous

Thanks and more power to you as you challenge everyone to give thru a worthy figure - giving credit to whom credit is due! And I agree that tributes should be given when people/individuals are still alive....for due recognition.

From SMSS

We, the Faculty, Staff and Student body of Saint Mary's School of Sagada send our vote of confidence for Sir Dennis Faustino. Matago-tago ka Sir Fau! Thank you for keeping SMS alive.

From Ellen Reyes Gawigawen

Dennis talents not only came in for my alma mater. During the "dark ages", as our cashier describes the condition of STH mid '90's, Dennis advanced the rental of his house to augment the depleted pharmacy and the unpaid salaries (usually paid after 3 to 5 mos.) of the staff. At that time, closing the hospital was the best option. I thank God of this intervention. When I joined the hospital late 1996 as working consultant, Dennis provided the funds for that item for 3 months where I was tasked to administer the hospital. With his leadership in the Management Committee, we worked hard to keep the hospital going. I dreaded the thought of STH closing then.