In a historic voting April 11, the Aquinas University of Legazpi Board of Trustees reelected Rev. Fr. Ramonclaro G. Mendez, OP, as Rector and President of Aquinas University of Legazpi for the third time.

Fr. Mon was first installed as the seventh Rector and President of the University in 1999. He replaced Rev. Fr. Virgilio A. Ojoy, OP. He was reelected to his second term in 2003.

He introduced many changes to the University since his first election. He has also expertly guided AQ during some of its toughest times.

He is responsible for the expansion and enhancement of the University’s educational programs, networking, and infrastructure with the creation of several offices that enhanced the services of the University.

During his two terms, he streamlined the systems and procedures and developed an organizational culture for AQ.

He activated the Council of Deans that acted as a collegial body in performing the functions of the Academic Provost. It is during his term that offerings on Bikol history and culture were added to the academic curriculum to give attention to Bikol literature and language.

The creation of the Center for Campus Infrastructure and Development (CCID) facilitated improvements in the University’s infrastructure. It is during his term that the Daragang Magayon Hall, the AQ Chapel, and the AQ Dome were constructed.

“He has a unified vision on what the role of the university is in regional development,” said Center for Culture and the Arts Director Jazmin B. Liana.

His latest reelection comes five months after the University was dev-

Page 2, pls.
Aquinas University of Legazpi officially conferred the first St. Dominic de Guzman Award to Architecture board national first placer Mikael Jay B. Bonto, April 21 during the 59th Solemn Investiture at the AQ Dome.

Bonto, a 26-year old resident of San Lorenzo, Tabaco City, is the first graduate of the AQ College of Architecture and Fine Arts to top the licensure examination.

He graduated from the University in 2004. After initially taking up Bachelor of Science in Fine Arts major in Advertising, he shifted to Bachelor of Science in Architecture in June 1999. He took a two-year apprenticeship before taking the examination for the first time in June last year. He passed the board during his second take in January this year.

Bonto was also given a monetary award of P100,000 during the ceremony.

According to a resolution by the Council of Deans on the conferment, the monetary award is given as seed money as the recipient starts his practice and as motivation for other students to pass the examinations with flying colors.

The St. Dominic de Guzman Award is an institutional award conferred to AQ graduates of four or five-year degree programs who garner any of the top 10 spots in the national licensure or board examinations in recognition of their exemplary performance.

The conferment was announced by OIC Vice-Rector for Academic Affairs Dr. Pedro B. Bernaldez during a testimonial program for the school's Architecture board passers March 24 at the AQ Chapel.

AQ confers first St. Dominic Award

Fr. Mon... from page 1

Fr. Mendez's installation has been set in June this year. His term expires in 2011.

He becomes one of the longest serving Rector and Presidents of Aquinas University, second only to Rev. Fr. Ramon C. Salinas, OP who was Rector and President of the University from 1965 to 1978.

“I think the way the University has developed in the last eight years is the best testament to the leadership of Fr. Mon,” said Llana.

AQ alumna elected BU prexy

Aquinas University alumna Faye Mata-Lauraya has been elected as the new president of Bicol University (BU), March 6, 2007.

Lauraya, 49, was elected to the BU presidency after a nationwide search which started in December last year. She assumes the post vacated by Dr. Susana Carretas Cabredo.

She graduated Magna Cum Laude from Aquinas University of Legazpi in 1980 where she took up Bachelor of Arts major in Economics in the College of Arts and Sciences. She was a recipient of the MASICAP scholarship and academic scholar- ship awards during her time in the University.

She becomes the second alumna of Aquinas University to be elected into the BU presidency. Her predecessor is also an AQ alumna.

She joins the long line of AQ alumni who hold key positions in the province. Other notable alumna in public service include Albay Governor Fernando V. Gonzalez (Legazpi College), Judge Cesar A. Bordeos and Legazpi City Mayor Noel E. Rosal, among others.

Her installation as BU President was on April 14, 2007.
NEW LAWYERS, Aquinas University’s new lawyers with Rev. Fr. Ramonclaro G. Mendez, OP (3rd from right, 2nd row) and Dean Emerson B. Aquende (4th from right, 2nd row) during the testimonial dinner for new Aquinian lawyers at the Kanzo Hall in Legazpi City April 18.

14 AQ personnel finish graduate studies

Some 14 personnel of Aquinas University of Legazpi have completed their post-baccalaureate degrees as of school year 2006-2007, according to data from the Office of the OIC Vice-Rector for Academic Affairs (OVRAA) and the Human Resource Management Office.

The doctorate degrees for Dr. Arlene A. Aguilar of the Office of the Vice-Rector for Academic Affairs (Ph.D. in Developmental Education) and Dr. Norma E. Bron of the College of Business Administration (Doctorate in Business Administration) were conferred during the 59th Solemn Investiture April 21 at the AQ Dome.

Dr. Aguilar is the Assistant to the OIC Vice-Rector for Academic Affairs while Dr. Bron is a Program Chair of Business-Related Courses at the College of Business Administration. They also garnered this year’s Rector’s Award for Outstanding Dissertation.

Aside from the new doctorate degree holders, 10 academic personnel, one academic non-teaching personnel and one non-academic personnel have also completed their master’s and Bachelor of Laws degrees.

As of April 2007, the University has 22 doctorate degree holders and 91 master’s degree holders.

US-based charity foundation links with AQ

Aquinas University of Legazpi has linked up with United States-based charity group Ayala Foundation USA (AF-USA) in a bid to boost funding for the rehabilitation of the University.

AQ has been undergoing rehabilitation after supertyphoon “Reming” caused massive damage to the University November 30 last year. In January, AQ Rector and President Fr. Ramonclaro G. Mendez, OP announced the implementation of Sirangan, a knowledge resource center in the University.

The partnership was formalized in February this year after AQ’s application was approved by AF-USA Board, said Development and Alumni Affairs head Rona M. Padilla.

AF-USA is a registered public “On our part, it would mean that we will start featuring articles about your project in the E-Bulletin and other media outlets we have as well as put Aquinas University of Legazpi, Inc. who support social development in the list of approved projects initiatives in the Philippines. (Website: www.af-usa.org.)

The link-up makes it possible for benefactors in the US to channel their donations to AQ projects that need fund-raising through AF-USA.

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In March, AF-USA tapped the Aquinas University Foundation, Inc. to be the project implementor of the Tiwi School Reconstruction Project (TSRP).

The TSRP is under a $100,000 grant from Chevron Corporation to AF-USA. It will be used to reconstruct three public schools in Tiwi, Albay damaged by supertyphoon “Reming.”
IMPLEMENTING GUIDELINES—SABBATICAL LEAVE

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We’re more blessed than Philwomenan employees! This is what I uttered when I had the chance of perusing the personnel development program of the Philippine Women’s University. Over there, they don’t have such thing as discount privileges for personnel on advanced studies. Tuition fee discounts for family members are given to non-academic employees only. They don’t have thesis-dissertation grants for faculty members. On the other hand, they have outside funding for faculty scholars aside from CHED and other government agencies. And, they have exchange programs with sister schools abroad. Nonetheless, the benefits we get from the University in terms of faculty development are something that we have to reckon with. This is because the Administration is conscious of the fact that we need to further develop the academic competencies of our faculty not only to meet CHED requirements but also because we want to maintain a high standard of instruction.

Currently, we have faculty members on advanced study programs both in our Graduate School and other institutions. They need our constant support not only financially but also psychologically. Please take some minutes of your time to follow up on them. They need to be prodded, especially those who are at the last part of their course program: thesis or dissertation writing. I wish I could personally reach out to them but, at times, they avoid meeting me on the corridor because I am such a great pusher! Honestly, I just want to tell them: Procrastination is a sin!

The AQ Graduate School has calendared March 31, 2007 as the last day of the final defense.

Time flies faster than an arrow!

Herewith is a copy of the implementing guidelines of sabbatical leave approved by Fr. Rector and President.

To be considered by the endorsing and recommending offices are the following:

a. Timeliness of the application and effectivity of the sabbatical leave: Ex: Application must be received two (2) months prior to the effectivity of the leave; the effectivity of the leave must follow the academic cycle.

b. The employee has no pending important project.

Chapter IV – Section 90 – Sabbatical Leave:

Regular employees shall be entitled to a sabbatical leave, without pay, consisting of one (1) semester every seven (7) years of continuous, unbroken service in the University, or an extended sabbatical leave of one (1) year for ten (10) years of continuous unbroken service counted from initial employment or last sabbatical leave. Employees taking an extended sabbatical leave shall be entitled to advance one (1) month salary, payable upon return to work on staggered basis for at least one (1) year. During the period of sabbatical leave the Administration shall maintain the active membership in Social Security, Medicare/PhilHealth and Pag-IBig of the employee, with the Administration advancing the payment for the contributions due to the employee, which amount shall be subject to reimbursement by the employee upon resumption of work.

Implementing guidelines:

1. The interested regular employee shall write a letter of application for sabbatical leave addressed to the Rector and President as endorsed by the Head of Office, recommended by the respective Vice-Rector and cleared by the HRMO Director.

2. The Rector approves or disapproves the application.

3. The disapproved application is returned to the employee. Copies are retained in the Offices of the Head, the Vice-Rector and the Director.

4. When the application is approved, the employee is advised by the Director to complete the clearance designed for the purpose.

5. The HRMO issues the approved application to the employee copies of which are provided to the Offices of the Vice-Rector, the Director, the Head and the Finance Division.

6. When the sabbatical leave is over, the employee notifies in writing the HRMO of his/her reinstatement for proper coordination with concerned offices.

7. Non-appearance of employee, after the leave is over, means resignation from service.

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OFFICE OF THE RECTOR AND PRESIDENT

Executive Order No. 1, s. 2007

TO : All Vice-Rectors, Administrators and Heads of Offices
FROM : The Father Rector and President
SUBJECT : Approval for Department/Office Outings
DATE : April 23, 2007

It has come to my attention that some University divisions/units/offices plan to have outings which would entail so much cost (time and money) to the University.

While I interpose no objection to the recreational programs of/for our personnel, such activities should be practical both in schedules and costs. The same should also clearly state its objectives. In no way should outings jeopardize the rendition of the services of the University. Likewise, personnel joining said activities should not be unduly burdened which may deprive their respective families of much needed finances.

Henceforth, all plans for an outing by any University division/unit/office should be endorsed in writing by the respective Vice-Rectors or the highest ranking officer of a unit or office for my approval/de-nial/comment.

This supersedes all orders, memoranda, and similar issuances to the contrary effective April 26, 2007.
Thank you.

In keeping with our institutional thrusts of Sustainable Resource Management and Organizational Effectiveness, may I ask all concerned to return to the Property Office the tarpaulin sheets used in our preparation for supertyphoon “Reming.”

However, if some of them are still in use you may inform the Property Manager accordingly and arrange for another date of their return. If they have been damaged, the same should be returned. If they are lost, please inform the Property Manager in writing on the circumstances including the persons responsible if there are.

Thank you.

OFFICE OF THE OIC, ADMINISTRATION DIVISION
TO: All Department Heads
FROM: The OIC, Vice-Rector for Administration
SUBJECT: Tarpaulin Sheets Used in Preparation for “Reming”
DATE: March 3, 2007

In keeping with our institutional thrusts of Sustainable Resource Management and Organizational Effectiveness, may I ask all concerned to return to the Property Office the tarpaulin sheets used in our preparation for supertyphoon “Reming.”

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Thank you.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEW LAWYERS
2006 Bar Examinations

Atty. Arturo B. Almajeda, Jr.
Atty. Jasmin Cecilia V. Banzuela
Atty. Joel C. Bornilla
Atty. Charline M. Budao
Atty. Eric A. Ciriostomo
Atty. Ryan L. Estevas
Atty. Gezel L. Garcia
Atty. Glenn V. Jaymalin
Atty. Renato Diosdado C. Killos, Jr.
Atty. Roy P. Liadoc

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEW POST-BACCALAUREATE DEGREE HOLDERS

DOCTORATE DEGREE
Dr. Arlene A. Aguilar, Ph.D. in Development Education
Dr. Norma E. Bron, Doctor in Business Administration

MASTER’S DEGREE
March 2007
Mr. Salvador B. Balisbis, Master of Arts in Nursing (MAN)
Mrs. Ma. Teresa Perez-Bondad, Master of Science in Management Engineering (MSME)
Mrs. Jean E. Cardillio, Master of Arts in Psychology (MAP)
Miss Jocelyn B. Calleja, Master of Arts in Nursing (MAN)
Mr. Dexter A. Liao, Master in Business Administration (MBA)
Arch. Delfin Mirabete, Jr., Master of Science in Architecture (MSA)
Mr. Darilto A. Perez, Master of Arts in Philosophy (Ph.M.)
Mrs. Lillian L. Legson, Master of Arts in Education (MAEd)

2006
Mrs. Jayne S. Faustino, Master of Arts in Education (MAEd)
Miss Donna Hope L. Moran, Master of Arts in Linguistics (MAL)

BACHELOR OF LAWS
Mr. Fernandino J. Pancho
Mr. Solomon B. Yap
Mr. Charles Julius L. Bautista (AQH)

Sources: OV’RAA, HRMO

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEW POSITIONS

OIC, Office of the Vice-Rector for Administration
TO: Non-Academic Non-Teaching Personnel
FROM: Miguel O. Navarro, HRMO Director
NOTED: Engr. Virgilio S. Perdigon, Jr.
SUBJECT: Registration of Fingerprint for Biometric Sensor
DATE: May 2, 2007

Please be informed that we will be using the Biometric Sensor instead of the Bundy Clock for our attendance/punctuality monitoring purposes.

Please visit the HRMO monitoring section or Mr. Cenando A. Banta on May 9, 2007 from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm for registration of your right index fingerprint.

Thank you.

---O---

OFFICE OF THE OIC, ADMINISTRATION DIVISION
TO: All Department Heads
FROM: The OIC, Vice-Rector for Administration
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DATE: March 3, 2007

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Thank you.
Two Dominican Fathers hold new positions

AQ Rector and President Rev. Fr. Ramonclaro G. Mendez, OP has appointed two Dominican Fathers to posts in the University.

Fr. Mon has appointed Fr. Mars Saria, O.P. as the Executive Assistant of the Center for Culture and the Arts (CCA), effective February 15, 2007.

The appointment came five months after CCA Director Jazmin B. Llana left for the United Kingdom in September last year to pursue her doctorate in Theatre Arts at the University of Wales in Aberystwyth.

As executive assistant, he is responsible for the operation of the Center and works in consultation with CCA director-at-large Jazmin B. Llana.

Fr. Mars is also the Vice-Rector for Religious Affairs and the current head of TITIG, which was formed last year to initiate a film literacy program in the University.

Aside from Fr. Mars’ appointment, Fr. Joseph Raquid, OP has also been appointed Acting Vice-Rector for Finance, effective March 22, 2007.

Fr. Raquid takes over Vice-Rector for Finance Fr. Senen Ecleo, OP who is now in Manila for medical treatment.

Aside from his appointment, he also serves as the Convenor of the Commission on Ethics and Advocacy (COMETA) and is the Executive Assistant to the Rector and President.

His appointment is co-terminus with the Rector and President's term.

Meanwhile, Department of Physical Education, Sports and Fitness Director Reynaldo Bobadilla has been appointed Property Manager of the University effective January 8, 2007. He replaces Mr. Rafael Roque.

Fr. Mars Fr. Joseph

Biometric Sensor replaces Bundy Clock

In an effort to curb employee tardiness, the Human Resource Management Office (HRMO) has now shelved the traditional Bundy Clock in favor of a fingerprint-based biometric sensor for attendance and punctuality monitoring purposes.

The machine, AV 200 Finger-print T and A (Time and Attendance) and Access Control System, was acquired by the HRMO in April this year.

“Using this system, we will be able to do away with employees tampering with time records. It is more reliable because it requires the fingerprint of the employee when logging in,” said Cenando A. Banta of the HRMO Monitoring Section.

The sensor will be used by non-academic and academic non-teaching personnel of the University.

Full implementation has been set by the first week of June this year “provided that there are no glitches,” Banta said.

Post “Reming”

WSP revenue up by 40%

The debris left by “Reming” generated a 40% increase in revenue for the University’s Waste Segregation Program (WSP), according to OIC Vice-Rector for Administration Virgilio S. Perdigon, Jr.

The program was started in 2001 to make the University a model for waste segregation, encourage the production and use of organic fertilizer, and to provide additional income for janitors, among others.

Perdigon said the increase is attributed from the sales of damaged GI sheets alone.

About 60% of roofing in the campus was destroyed when super-typhoon “Reming” struck November 30 last year. The accompanying flood also brought debris from washed out houses along Yawa River.

Aside from the sales of GI sheets, he said roughly P4,000 have also been generated from the sales of other scrap materials.

“We are also stockpiling driftwood collected from the flood-damaged soccerfield. People can use it at home for various purposes. It can be given away to whoever requests for it,” said Perdigon.

Under the agreement with the Commission on Administration, 60% of the fund generated from the program can be loaned by the MDM crew while 40% will be shared among them.

GI SHEETS FOR SALE. MDM crew haul scraps of damaged GI sheets for recycling near the St. Albert the Great Building a month after the typhoon. It is estimated that 60% of roofing in the Ravis Campus was destroyed during super-typhoon “Reming.”

Mystery Solved.

The HRMO has set the registration for the employees’ right index finger print May 9.

Banta said they are now preparing for the dry run which is scheduled by the third week of May.

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