

# SUCNAAI *update*

Silliman University College of Nursing Alumni Association International, Inc.  
December 2024 Issue



## MISSION

The mission of SUCNAAI is to be a uniting force for overseas SUCN alumni who are committed to support the delivery of high-quality nursing education at Silliman University, and the development of nursing leaders who can make a difference in health at national and global levels.

## VISION

The vision of SUCNAAI is to create a global community of SUCN alumni who are actively engaged in Silliman University's utilization of knowledge, competence, and faith to improve the health of people at home and worldwide.

## VALUES

**Courage Competence  
Character Faith Excellence**

### Membership application

<http://sucnaai.org/>



Scan me!



## SEASON'S GREETINGS

Once again, 'tis the season of celebration of gatherings, joy, peace and love, with families and friends! We wish you a Happy Christmas and a very peaceful and productive 2025. As a Governing Board, we continue to work harder with our goals and objectives. Some of the highlights in 2024 was the inauguration of the Luz Sobong Porter Centre of Leadership Education in Nursing (CoLEN) in partnership with the SU College of Nursing and the donation of Dr. Brian Porter, son of the late Dr. Luz Sobong Porter for the co-directors who are leading and directing CoLEN.

SUCNAAI has launched its first successful Raffle Draw Fundraising in support of the CoLEN and its programs. Thank you to all those who supported the cause.

Baliktalent was also restarted after 4 years of hiatus during the Covid pandemic. Thank you to SUCN Class 1981 and to Dr. Felella K. Millman who sponsored the event. It was attended by 120 faculty, staff and students at the College of Nursing.

SUCNAAI could not be prouder to have one of its governing board members, Estrella Cayaba Mercurio from Ontario, Canada and SUCN class 1971 as one of the four Outstanding Sillimanian Awardee in the field of Nursing Practice & Community Leadership: Specialization in Gerontology, Wound, Ostomy, and Continence.

As we ponder about our New Year's resolution, I hope that you will consider giving back to our very own Silliman University, the College of Nursing and the SUCNAAI. Be a member and collectively, we can make an impact on the students, health and healthcare, locally, nationally and internationally.

*Betsy*

# SUCNAAI *update*

Silliman University College of Nursing Alumni Association International, Inc.  
December 2023 Issue



## NEWSLETTER SPOTLIGHT: HONORING THE BEST

### *OUTSTANDING SILLIMANIAN AWARD 2024*



#### **NURSING PRACTICE AND COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP: SPECIALIZATION IN GERONTOLOGY, WOUND, OSTOMY, AND CONTINENCE**

Being a nurse for more than 50 years, Ms. Estrella C. Mercurio has a wealth of knowledge and experience in health care, most of which was gained through her professional career in Canada. She has served the nursing care profession in different capacities: as educator in various schools of nursing, as a nursing home supervisor, and as a care and services manager. Since 2017, she has been a wound, ostomy, and continence consultant for several health and home care facilities in Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

Ms. Mercurio's nursing career began after obtaining her Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing from Silliman University in 1971. For some time, she was part of the academe, holding deanship positions at the Our Lady of Mercy School of Nursing in Bacolod and at Santa Mission Schools, Inc. in Lake Sebu, South Cotabato. These administrative positions led her to obtain her Master of Arts in Educational Management from Xavier University in Cagayan de Oro. However, when she moved to Canada, she went back to hands-on nursing practice, furthering her knowledge and skills with a Certificate in Enterostomal Therapy and a Certificate in Gerontology – Multidiscipline. Her passion to help others is evident in her professional output. She has been involved in many research projects on health care and has shared her experiences and insights in publications. She is generous with her knowledge and is always willing to share what she knows about best practice guidelines in wound and ostomy

# SUCNAAI *update*


Silliman University College of Nursing Alumni Association International, Inc.  
December 2023 Issue




care. She has also diligently served the profession and its professional organizations. She contributed significantly to the development of the Greater Toronto Area Enterostomal Therapy Group's Referral and Assessment Form for Ostomy Clients, which eased health provider agencies' determination of patients' required services. She collaborated with the College of Nurses of Ontario to ensure that the Standards of Care for patients are maintained. She was an original member of the organizing committee for the Community Ethics Network. Moreover, she represented Home Health Care in a Town Hall Meeting and sought the politicians' support for the establishment of standards across Canada that ensure equitable access to services for the elderly for them to continue staying in their homes and to increase the support to Canadians who take care of aging relatives. For all her contributions to the Canadian Health Care System, she got the Award for Excellence, Systems Partnership Category from the Ontario Community Care Access Centre for 2006 and 2007.

TEXAS NURSES DISTRICT 9 FOUNDATION

*Mike Calvert Fogelia*

 **NOBLE NURSE AWARD**

  
**Pamela E. Windle, DNP, RN, NE-BC, CPAN, CAPA, FAAN, FASPAN**

Dr. Pamela Windle is a life-long advocate for community service. Growing up as a child, she worked with her school teacher mom serving the needy in the Philippine community. After arriving in Houston, she began volunteering at U.T.M.D. Anderson Cancer Center with her two children. Pam has been a pivotal figure in the nursing arena within Houston, especially among the perioperative and perianesthesia professional organizations, Philippine Nurses' Association of Metropolitan Houston (PNAMH), and the Chinese-Filipino-American community and has had a long-term dedication to volunteerism over the decades.

Since the 80's, with her involvement with PNAHM, ASPAN/TAPAN, Filipino Cancer Network and America Heart Association, she has volunteered countless weekends helping the community through free CPRs, health fairs (blood pressure, glucose checks, giving patient education teachings at several catholic churches, schools, CVS/Walgreens), feeding the hungry, Project Cure, Star of Hope, yearly backpack distributions with our Houston Mayor Turner.

As a National Past President of ASPAN, she encourages her members to help the needy through volunteerism and recognizes the impact the members make. Dr. Windle played a crucial role in strengthening the bonds within the Philippine Nurses Association and expanding its impact on the Houston community, including teaching students at Alief & HISD areas, and extending through her international medical and surgical missions. Her resilience and compassion for others, as a person, wife and mother/grandmother, have also taught her children to do good for others. Dr. Windle holds three certifications: one from the American Nurses Credentialing Center and two from ABPANC. She has earned degrees from Silliman University College of Nursing in the Philippines (Bachelor's), Texas Woman's University (Master's) and the University of Texas Health Science Cizik School of Nursing (Doctorate). She is a Fellow of the American Academy of Nursing and a Fellow of the American Society of PeriAnesthesia Nurses.

*32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Nursing Celebration*



**SUCNAAI 2024 Lifetime Achievement Award**  
**Beatriz A. Jackson, RN, MSn**



Betsy's involvement with SUCNAAI started in 2011 as a Governing Board member and Chair of the Baliktalent Committee, Chair of the Education and Research Committee, Vice President and currently the president. Her other alumni associations include SUAICONA, past chair 2015-2017, past chair of Tipon Silliman 2007 & 2009, ONSUAA President 2000-2005. She also served as Board Member of the Registered Nurses Association of Ontario (RNAO) and past president of the Durham Northumberland Chapter and the International Nurses Interest Group of the RNAO. She is a volunteer of her church Refugee Committee and has assisted families from war torn countries to settle in Ontario. She has contributed greatly to both Canadian and Philippine health care systems through the many initiatives she has participated in.

# SUCNAAI *update*

Silliman University College of Nursing Alumni Association International, Inc.  
December 2023 Issue



## **Baliktalent 2024: A Collaborative Initiative for Advancing Nursing Excellence**

*Dr. Evalyn Abalos & Prof. Jusie Lydia Siega-Sur, Co-Directors*

***Silliman University College of Nursing Luz Sobong Porter Center of Leadership Excellence in Nursing (CoLEN)*** Baliktalent 2024 was a significant collaborative initiative between the Silliman University College of Nursing's Luz Sobong Porter Center of Leadership Excellence in Nursing (CoLEN) and the Silliman University College of Nursing Alumni Association International (SUCNAAI). Funded by SUCNAAI, this event aimed to showcase the expertise of alumni while enhancing professional knowledge and impact within the nursing community.

The seminar attracted 120 participants, including alumni, nurses from various sectors, faculty members from the

# SUCNAAI *update*

Silliman University College of Nursing Alumni Association International, Inc.  
December 2023 Issue



College of Nursing, and students ranging from freshmen to seniors. The theme of the seminar, “Addressing the Social Determinants of Health (SDH) as Key to Achieving Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) #3 – Good Health and Well-Being,” emphasized the importance of understanding and addressing the broader social factors that influence health outcomes and contribute to the achievement of SDG #3.

The event was honored by the presence of two distinguished Outstanding Sillimanian Awardees (OSA) for 2024, Dr. Glenda Arquiza and Mrs. Estrella Mercurio, who is also a member of the SUCNAAI Governing Board. Additionally, OSA 2020 recipient, Prof. Jusie Lydia Siega-Sur, currently serving as co-director of CoLEN, shared invaluable insights on the social determinants of health, principles of primary health care, emphasizing intersectoral collaboration and community participation as essential components in addressing social determinants of health.

Dr. Evalyn Abalos, former Dean of SUCN and co-director of CoLEN, presented on the integration of social determinants of health into practice to enhance health outcomes. Two faculty members from SUCN, Ms. Zorinna Luague and Ms. Uenavil Anne Junio, presented the findings of their research titled “Capacity Building for Mental Health of Older Persons: A Participatory Action Research.” This study, funded by the Silliman University College of Nursing Alumni Association (SUCNAA), was co-authored by Dean Theresa Guino-o and Evalyn Abalos, and served as a foundational example for discussions related to the seminar's theme.

Looking ahead, SUCN CoLEN is eager to continue its collaboration with SUCNAAI, reflecting a shared commitment to advancing nursing leadership and promoting health and well-being on a global scale.

**THANK YOU TO OUR 2024 BALIKTALENT SPONSORS**  
**SUCN Class 1981 and Dr. Felella K. Millman**

## CoLEN Updates

*Dr. Anabelle Locsin, SUCNAAI Vice President & Chair, SUCNAAI CoLEN*

LET US REVIEW:

CoLEN explores and opens new opportunities for nursing leaders to address emerging challenges and imperatives of nursing and other health professions education in the light of current educational and health systems reforms in the Philippines and across the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). SUCN through CoLEN aims to be a leader in cutting edge nursing, health and health systems research, nursing education and health policy development to improve health outcomes in the Philippines and the ASEAN region. Currently there are two co-directors of CoLEN. Reports from the two co-directors (Dr. Evalyn E. Abalos and Prof. Jusie Lydia Siega-Sur) show that:

# SUCNAAI *update*

Silliman University College of Nursing Alumni Association International, Inc.  
December 2023 Issue



A. CoLEN has run several continuing professional development seminars. These are on the following topics with CPD Units:

1. Seminar Workshop on Universal Health Care – Speakers were from Department of Health Region 7. The activity was held at SUCN on July 16-17, 2024.
2. Seminar on “Addressing the Social Determinants of Health (SDH) as key to achieving Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) #3 – Good Health and Well- Being”- funded by SUCNAAI. This was held on August 24, 2024, 8-12 noon at SUCN.
3. Seminar Workshop on Research and Health Policy Development. The speaker was Dr. Fely Marilyn Lorenzo, retired professor of Department of Health Policy and Administration at the College of Public Health at the University of the Philippines, Manila. Date of activity – Sept. 21, 2024.

B. There are two research proposals for potential funding, these are still being finalized.

C. CoLEN has produced a digital flyer for marketing purposes which describes what CoLEN is all about and discusses partnerships.

D. The CoLEN brochure is about to be completed. They have coordinated with the university as advised and now have a section on the University web designated for CoLEN.

CoLEN's Partners Include:

- Silliman University College of Nursing Alumni Association International (SUCNAAI)
- SUCN Alumni and Friends
- Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center
- California Baptist University
- Sobong Family
- Porter Family
- Charities Aid Foundation of America, the charitable arm of Novartis

CoLEN currently has been working on signature programs which include:

- ☐ Leveraging technology in Nursing Education (Simulation Laboratory and Resource Center for SUCN and other nursing schools in the Philippines)
- ☐ Balik Talent Lecture Series where alumni share their expertise
- ☐ Leadership Workshops for nurses in academe and practice
- ☐ Research Capability Building Workshops

# SUCNAAI *update*

Silliman University College of Nursing Alumni Association International, Inc.  
December 2023 Issue



- Community Leadership in Disaster Response
- Developing the APRN program with the Commission on Higher Education (CHED), Philippines and Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio, (USA)

CoLEN is fortunate to receive the support of **Dr. Brian Porter, MD, PhD, MPH, MBA**, Vice-President, Clinical Development Head & US Site Head Immunology Development Unit of NOVARTIS. The first installment of his donation in the amount of US\$7500 to the CoLEN in 2023 was submitted through UBCHEA, and the second installment amounting to US\$7500 has also been received. This includes the matching funds allocation from Novartis. The funds will support the planned programming and salary for the CoLEN Director(s), in addition to the matching funds commitment by Silliman University. Total commitment is \$50,000.00.

## **SUCNAAI sponsored lunch at the SUACONA Tipon Silliman in Atlanta, Georgia**

SUCNAAI President Betsy Jackson, Secretary Lea Castelli and Governing Board Member Estrella Mercurio, attended Tipon Silliman and met with some members during a sponsored luncheon by SUCNAAI. Invited guests were President Betty McCann and Dr. Dennis McCann, SU BOT Chair, Mr. Ricardo Balbido and wife Jean, SU BOT Dr. Evangeline Manjares and Mr. Carlos Manjares, SAAI BOT Elizabeth Merto Engle, other SUACONA Board of Directors, Dr. Rene Querubin, Dr. Louella Dolar, Faith Duran, Dr. Al Fuertes, and other SUCNAAI members and new members.



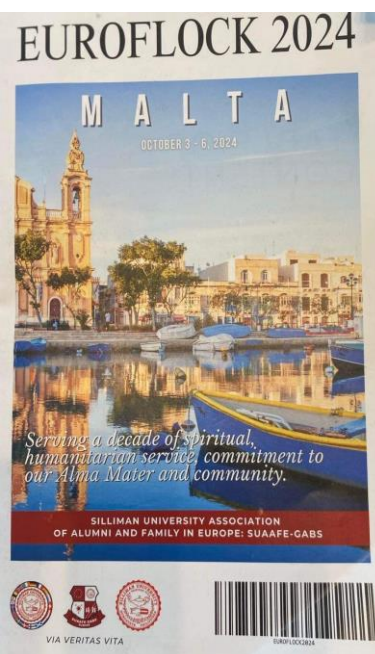
# SUCNAAI *update*

Silliman University College of Nursing Alumni Association International, Inc.  
December 2023 Issue



## SUCNAAI Members join EUROFLOCK in Malta

Eight SUCNAAI members from SUCN Class 1980 had a wonderful time at EUROFLOCK in Malta on October 3-6, 2024. (L-R) SUCN Class 1980 - Esther Kaiban, Adelaida Martinez, Exuperia Mercialdo, Wilhelmina Mendoza, Susan Baylon Tumapon, Clarita Gadingan, Geneva Tubo & Elsa Piamonte Dagudag.



## WELCOME SUCNAAI 2024 NEW MEMBERS LIFETIME MEMBERS

Emma Gornez - Maria Victoria Solon - Esther Kaiban - Jean Ramoga  
Dado - Alvin Ang - Marian Trasmonte Divinagracia

## ANNUAL MEMBERS

Gerla Gallardo and Adele Martinez

# SUCNAAI *update*

Silliman University College of Nursing Alumni Association International, Inc.  
December 2023 Issue



## Summary of SUCNAAI Events January to December 2024

**January :** Approval of Website redesign by Dutech

**March:** Approval of 2024 meeting schedule

Website and maintenace work by Dutech are the following: Update website plugins and Wordpress; Edits and added all meeting minutes, converted to PDF and uploads; transformed all PDF files to fillable forms, createe ppower point presentations, efdit menus, added new PDF to existing page; total work hours is 19. Total fee is \$152.00

Renewal of Zoom PRO \$168.00

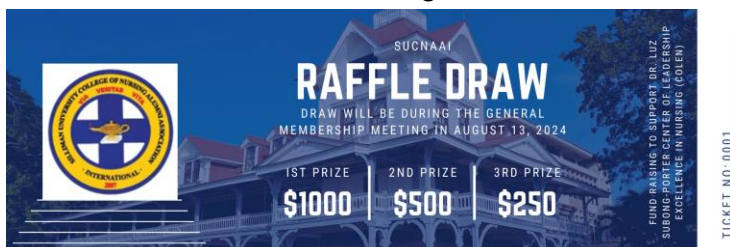
Resignation of Globalization chair and replacement.

**April 16:** General Meeting

Guests: SUCN Dean, Theresa Guino-o and Dr. Luz Sobong Porter CoLEN Co-directors, gave an update on the state SUCN and CoLEN.

Call for SUCNAAI Nominations and Awards for the Mary Marquis Smith Traiblazer Award, Dean Maria Conception Roble Award and the SUCNAAI Lifetime Achievement Award.

Start of the Raffle Draw Fundraising.



**May 16:** Recruited one lifetime member. Supported SUACONA with ½ Tipon AD for \$225.00 **June:** Tipon 2024 Atlanta Georgia. Attendees were Betsy Jackson, Estrella Mercurio & Lea Castelli. SUCNAAI sponsored a luncheon which were atteded by 36 persons, SUCNAAI members, SUACONA members, SU President Dr. Betty McCaan, Dr. Dennis McCaan, BOT Chair, Mr. Rolando Balbido and wife Jean, SU BOT Dr. Evangeline Manjares and Mr. Carlos Manjares, SAAI BOT, Betsy Engle and others. Five lifetime and 2 annual members were recruited.

# SUCNAAI *update*

Silliman University College of Nursing Alumni Association International, Inc.  
December 2023 Issue



**July 18:** Approved budget for Baliktalent in the amount of P29,900.00. Actual expenses P27,000.

Board Resolution to merge two SUCNAAI accounts, the Baliktalent Account and Research Account in SU to one account. It is now called the SUCNAAI Education & Research Fund.

Sponsors of the Baliktalent are Class 1989 c/o Harlan Ragay donated \$1,130.00 and Dr. Felella Millman donated \$375.00.

**August 16:** General meeting

Guests: Dr. Evalyn Abalos & Prof Susie Lydia Siega-Sur

Raffle Draw Winners: \$1000- Susan Tenorio; \$500-Pamela Windle; \$250- Audrey Ablona.

Baliktalent in SUCN Theme: Addressing The Social Determinants of Health: Key to Achieving the Sustainable Development Goal # 3- Good Health & Well Being. Attended by 120 participants - 42 professionals and 78 students

**October:** Supported EUROFLOCK with one page AD for 250 Euro. Several members represented

**December 13:** CoLEN Advisory Meeting and SUCNAAI General meeting on December 17<sup>th</sup>.

## 2025 SUCNAAI CALENDAR

January 16 GB	February Committees	March 13 GB	April 17 General
May 15 GB	June Committees Newsletter	July 17 GB	August 14 General
September 18 GB	October Committees	November 13 GB	December 11 General Newsletter

**MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A BLESSED NEW YEAR TO ALL!!!**