

## The Philippine Society of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery Celebrates its 58th Annual Convention with the Federation of Asian Rhinologic Societies



The Philippine Society of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery (PSO-HNS), with incumbent president Dr. Howard Enriquez, welcomes local and international guests and delegates as it celebrates the 58th annual convention at the Sofitel Philippine Plaza Hotel in Pasay City from November 30 to December 2, 2014. This marks a historical event as PSO-HNS also hosts the first meeting of the Federation of Asian Rhinologic Societies (FARS) with Dr. Bemjamin Campomanes at its helm.

Being advocates for clean air and healthy nose, the PSO-HNS espoused the theme: "Environmental Issues Affecting the Nose and Sinuses" for this year's convention. The opening ceremonies will be graced by honorable Senator Pia Cayetano, a staunch supporter of environmental concerns and will be highlighted by the signing of member countries of the "Manila Manifesto". This document will be a life-long commitment and advocacy to protect the Asian environment and the upper airway. The convention promises to be a scientific and social gathering but also an advocacy in itself.

The organizing committee, headed by Dr. Joel Romualdez, has prepared a convention of international caliber. The scientific program will be an ideal opportunity for exchange of views, continued learning, and creating new ideas based on current, scientific and evidence-based knowledge. The scientific committee has invited leading local and foreign otolaryngologists, rhinologists, allergologists, and other related specialists. The PSO-HNS subspecialty groups have also organized scientific plenary symposia and instructional courses that will augment the cognitive and motor skills of the delegates for subspecialty topics. The physical arrangements committee will introduce a new technology for visual presentation that will enhance the learning experience of the delegates.

The social events will be an excellent chance to renew friendships, meet new acquaintances and confirm our continued support to our specialty and professional advocacies. The line up of banquet and social evening programs will surely stimulate your five senses

and imagination. During the gala night, the new official interactive website of the PSO-HNS will be launched together with a night of music with renowned Filipino artists. There will also be a video-making contest that will highlight the role of the otolaryngologist in the preservation of a clean environment to curb health problems among the Filipino people. Film expert judges will announce the winners during the fellowship night, and be ready to dance the whole night to the various music genres. The sports events will challenge the physical prowess of the delegates, as there will be the annual "Runny Nose" fun run and biking at the La Mesa watershed bike trail - healthy fun activities that promote mobility but totally eliminates fuel use.

The finance committee block has put up three areas for commercial exhibition featuring booths that will offer the otolaryngologist a wide array of health and pharmaceutical products, medical gadgets, surgical instruments, including other services needed by our patients and the profession.

The Organizing Committee of the 58th Annual Convention through its invitation and registration committee wish the pleasure of your company during the three-day celebration of the mind, body, and spirit and be living witnesses as history unfolds. Registration will be at the Davao ballroom, Plaza level of the Sofitel Hotel (back of Spiral's restaurant).

### Midyear 2015: Discovering Naga

Next year's Midyear Convention will be hosted by the PSO-HNS Bicol Chapter (**Bicol Ent Specialists**) in Naga City, Camarines Sur. The Halo-halo theme promises a mixture of scientific discussions, exciting adventures and gastronomic delights!

*continued on page 2*



Message from the President



By Howard M. Enriquez, MD, FPSO-HNS

After numerous major natural calamities last 2013, it is fortunate that Mother Nature has been kind to our country this year. The natural resilience of Filipinos will hopefully make us stronger and wiser. These calamities have brought out the best among the members of the PSOHNS. Many PSO-HNS fellows volunteered their services to the typhoon and earthquake stricken areas. The PSO-HNS has not been remiss in its social responsibility. The Society has donated a substantial amount of money to the AGAPP Foundation and the Ahon Program of the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR). The present Board of Trustees believes that aside from our responsibility to help the fellows of the PSO-HNS, we also have a responsibility to help our countrymen especially those in need.

The Midyear Convention entitled “Larynx and Beyond” at Clark, Pampanga last April 10-12, 2014 was very successful and well-attended. The scientific, fellowship and outdoor activities were all superb and organized. My congratulations to Dr. Ruben Emil Henson III and the rest of CELENT!

Please mark your calendars for the next Midyear Convention in Naga City. It will be held from April 23-25, 2015. Dr. Neil Penaflor and the members of the Bicol ENT Specialists (BEST) are busy preparing an unforgettable convention experience.

This year saw the revival of the many advocacies of the PSO-HNS. Through the years, the society has supported the “Paslip Ka” program during the Head & Neck Cancer Consciousness Week, the Deafness Awareness Week, the Voice Care Advocacy celebrated during the World Voice Day, the International Ear Care Day and the Nasal Care Advocacy. By Presidential Decree, the 1st week of December is celebrated as ENT Week. Through the efforts of Dr. Joel Romualdez, Chair of the Committee on Advocacy, an effort was made to coordinate all advocacy activities by the provincial chapters and subspecialty groups. This coordinated effort proved to be a more effective means of showcasing to the public the scope of work our specialty does.

The Board of Trustees will present for approval to the general body

Midyear 2015: Discovering Naga

continued from page 1

How to go to Naga

Region V (Bicol) is a peninsula in the southern tip of Luzon next to Quezon Province. It is composed of 6 provinces namely, Camarines Norte, Camarines Sur, Albay, Sorsogon, and the island-provinces of Masbate and Catanduanes.

In the heart of the province of Camarines Sur lies Naga City, the Pilgrim City, famous for its Peñafrancia Festival and hometown of the late DILG Secretary Jesse Robredo. Naga can be reached via land or air travel.

Several bus companies have multiple daily trips to Naga and other parts of Bicol. For those who enjoy road trips, be ready for an 8-hour drive from South Luzon Expressway through Maharlika and Andaya Highway passing the provinces of Laguna, Batangas and Quezon.



its plan to create a Committee on Subspecialty Accreditation. The specialty of Otolaryngology is changing and a lot of our members do further subspecialty training either here or abroad. It is about time that the PSO-HNS recognize these subspecialists. This action is also in line with the planned ASEAN Integration wherein specialists and subspecialists accredited in the Philippines would be recognized by their ASEAN counterparts as well.

For the first time in its corporate life, the PSO-HNS received a letter from the BIR demanding us to pay a certain amount as income tax. The Board of Trustees believes that as a legitimate non-stock, non-profit organization, we should be exempt from taxation. We have hired the services of the law office of Castillo, Laman, Tan, Pantaleon & San Jose to remedy this problem hopefully in our favor.

Finally, everyone is encouraged to participate actively in our annual convention this year which also happens to be the 1st Meeting of the Federation of Asian Rhinologic Societies. The organizing committee headed by Drs. Joel Romualdez and Benjamin Campomanes has prepared an excellent program which will definitely improve our knowledge regarding problems of the nose and paranasal sinuses. Topnotch foreign and local faculties have been invited to lecture and teach. Likewise, a few instructional courses were prepared. Do register early if you are interested to participate in these instructional courses.

If a long drive is not your cup of tea, PAL Express flies Manila to Naga twice daily while Cebu Pacific has one morning flight daily. An alternative is to take a flight to Legazpi and travel 2 hours by land to Naga. PAL Express has two flights from Manila to Legazpi. Cebu Pacific on the other hand flies from Manila to Legazpi thrice daily and Cebu to Legazpi every Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday.

What to Do

Naga offers a wide range of activities from historical and religious attractions to heart pumping adventures. The city has several heritage churches such as Basilica Minore de Peñafrancia, Naga Metropolitan Cathedral, Peñafrancia Shrine and San Francisco Church.

Nature lovers will surely enjoy the eco-adventure sites like the Panicuason Hot Springs Resort, Malabsay Falls, Nabontolan Falls, Naga City Ecology Park, and Mt. Isarog Natural Park.

For those who crave the adrenaline rush, try wakeboarding, wakeskating or waterskiing at Camsur Watersports Complex (CWC). Caramoan Islands, famous for its white sand, turquoise water and lush vegetation of “Survivor” fame, is located 110 km east from Naga City.

What to Eat

Bicolano food is known for its spicy flavors and coconut cream in almost all the dishes. When in Naga, be sure to try Bicol Express, Pinangat/Laing, Tilmok, Kinalas, Pancit Bato, Sili Ice Cream, and the mouth-watering array of Pili Nut delicacies.

Maghirilingan kita sa Naga! (See you in Naga!)



A Word from the Publicity Committee Chair

By JOEL ROMUALDEZ, MD, FPSO-HNS

Taking a Breath of Air

Driving in our picturesque countryside is a refreshing experience for both the mind and body. On one hand, driving in the metropolis can be awful, as traffic congestion is a normal occurrence. During peak hours, EDSA becomes a test of patience. With heavy downpour or presence of vehicular accidents however, driving becomes a test of survival and sanity.

This phenomenon is easily understandable if we look at the population of Metro Manila, which is estimated by the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA) to be around 12 million during night, but swells to around 15 million during daytime due to massive influx of workforce from nearby provinces.

A population of this magnitude will mean more demand for vehicles roaming the streets. This will also require a need for more efficient means of public transport system that still remains to be wishful thinking. The car business industry has posted profitable and escalating annual sales, including those that are powered by diesel fuel. Main roads and bridges have been aging and the snail-paced construction of new thoroughfares lags behind the rapidly increasing vehicle volume.

Traffic jams do not only affect the health of our national economy as it paralyzes the delivery of goods and services, but also importantly, the health of its people. Air pollution caused by fumes and other toxic chemicals emitted by an increasing number of vehicles are considered a major threat to health of the Filipinos. In the URBAIR report of the

Asian Development Bank, it has been estimated that air pollution in Manila has claimed 1,300 lives and has caused “45,000 emergency room visits, 11 million restricted activity days, 35 million respiratory symptom days, and a cost of over 5 billion pesos”. The World Bank preliminary study emphasizes that the problem in the Philippines cannot be isolated in Metro Manila alone but is also observed in major cities like Baguio, Cebu, Davao, and Iloilo. After 15 years that policy-makers passed the Clean Air Act of 1999, much has yet to be done as existing air indices are still above levels permitted by law, although there is a decreasing trend for particulate matters.

As private citizens and otolaryngologists, we should also do our share and be in the forefront in the fight against air pollution for a healthy population. We should be responsible for taking care of the upper airway that serves as the primary gateway that guards our body from the unwanted effects of polluted air and environment.

In November 3, 2014, the PSO-HNS, through its Advocacy Committee, signed a memorandum of agreement with the MMDA for the promotion of clean air and nasal health advocacy. The agreement provides for screening of MMDA personnel for nasal problems and a series of lay fora to make the public aware of the impact of air pollution on their health. The PSO-HNS has been working through the years to curb air pollution through tree-planting activities, the annual “Runny Nose” fun run, and other activities to advocate for a cleaner air and healthier nose. The theme of this year’s annual convention is a living testimony to this effort. The social committee even organized a video-making contest among ORL-HNS fellows regarding concrete steps on how to promote this advocacy. I congratulate the contingents for their passion and creativity in tackling a very serious topic, the high-level of insight regarding a multifaceted issue, and their commitment to practice in real life, their simple yet logical solutions to a complicated problem.

As this will be the last newsletter edition for the year, I would like to thank and commend the fellows who made contributions for this year’s issue. Special thanks goes to Ms. Melissa Martinez and our editor in chief, Dr. Fred Hawson.



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## SUBSPECIALTIES

### PAAud

The Philippine Academy of Audiology (PAAud) sponsored a well-attended instructional course during the last Annual Convention entitled "ABCs of Hearing Aid Fitting." Mr. Wesley Hsu, an audiologist based in Singapore, was able to give a comprehensive lecture on hearing aid prescription methods, correct hearing aid model fitting as well as the latest noise dampening technology used in digital hearing aids.

Members of PAAud were also part of the faculty during the Basic Audiology Postgraduate Course held at UERM last July 5, 2014. Together with the Philippine Society of Audiology, PAAud will hold its joint annual convention on November 29, 2014 (Saturday) at the Hyatt Hotel and Casino, Manila. This year's theme is "Hearing and Hearing Aids". Everyone is invited to attend.

### PAFPRS



Dr. Daniel Alam, world-renowned face transplant surgeon (front-center, between Drs. Roberto Pangan and Cesar Villafuerte, Jr.), with ORL residents, training fellows, and consultants during the "PAFPRS Symposium on Face Transplant" held last February 22, 2014 in Manila.

It was a busy year for PSOHNS-PAFPRS (Philippine Academy of Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery).

In January, Dr. Michael Navalta started his 18-month fellowship training under the ASEAN AFPRS-PSOHNS-PAFPRS Fellowship Program. At about the same time, outgoing training fellow, Dr. Eduard Alfanta, was already preparing for his Seoul, South Korea rotation. He did his training in Seoul under Prof. Yong Ju Jang of Asan Medical Center, and Prof. Hong Ryul Jin of Seoul National University – Boramae Medical Center. Dr. Alfanta was able to co-author a paper with Prof. Yong Ju Jang, which was published in the Facial Plastic Surgery Clinics of North America.

Our PSOHNS-PAFPRS training fellows rotated separately at the ORL Department of UP-PGH, at the same time assisted Drs. Eduardo Yap, Joseph Galvez, Jaime Arzadon, Eutrapio Guevara, Jr., Konrad Aguila and other ORL-Facial Plastic Surgeons. Both Drs. Alfanta and Navalta are fellows of the Philippine Band of Mercy (PBM), which extended financial support to our trainees. Dr. Aileen delos Santos-Garcia is the incoming training fellow of the ASEAN AFPRS-PSOHNS-PAFPRS Fellowship Program, who will start this January 2015.

World-renowned face transplant surgeon (ORL-Facial Plastic Surgeon), Dr. Daniel Alam, from the Cleveland Clinic, USA was the keynote speaker in the "PAFPRS Symposium on Face Transplant" held in Manila last February.

To cap off the year, PAFPRS participated in the Annual PSOHNS Convention last December 2, by holding a Symposium and an Instructional Course. In addition, PAFPRS, in collaboration with the ORL Department of St. Luke's Medical Center (Global City), organized

a Post-Congress Advanced Fresh Cadaver Dissection Course (December 3 and 4).

Next year, PAFPRS is planning to hold the "2nd Oculofacial Plastic Surgery Symposium", to be organized with the Philippine Society of Ophthalmologic Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery.

In 2017, PAFPRS will host the Pan-Asia Academy of Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery Congress. Please watch out for the details of this Congress, which are coming out soon.

### PALP



The Philippine Academy of Laryngology and Phoniatrics (PALP) is one of the subspecialty groups of the Philippine Society of ORL-HNS. It is now called the Philippine Academy of Laryngobronchoesophagology and Phoniatrics. The advocacies of PALP include the following: 1. Promote vocal health for all, 2. Promote and practice latest trends in the treatment of diseases of the Larynx, 3. Promote research on Laryngology and Bronchoesophagology, and 4. Support the Laryngectomee Club.

This year, PALP is headed by Chair Dr. Mary Arlene A. Bongosia. The rest of the officers are: Dr. Frederick Hawson as Vice-Chair, Dr. Fortuna Corazon Roldan as Secretary, Dr. Melfred Hernandez as Treasurer and Ex-Chair, and Dr. Jose Ryner Carrillo, PRO.

This year's activity includes two lay fora on Vocal Health, monthly lectures and participation during World Voice Day.

The 1st lay fora for Vocal Health Management was attended by professional voice users mostly teachers from Metro Manila during the World Voice Day Celebration at St. Luke's Medical Center QC. Topics and lecturers were: Anatomy of the Larynx (Dr. Ray Casile), Care for the Professional Voice (Dr. Bongosia), Diseases of the Larynx (Dr. Maita Feliciano), Voice Therapy (Ms. Carla Cuadro), Dysphagia (Dr. Hawson). A free laryngeal endoscopy was given to the first 100 registrants. Brochures on Voice Care were distributed to teachers in different schools in Metro Manila, Bicol and Iloilo.

PALP was also endorsed as support group to the New Vois Foundation (the Laryngectomee Club of the Philippines) headed by Engr. Emer Rojas. Last April 2014, the New Vois Foundation, in cooperation with the PSO-HNS and PALP, hosted the Asian Federation for Laryngectomee Associations Summit in the Philippines.

The 2nd lay forum was held at the Quezon City Science High School, which was attended by high school students from 1st to 4th year. The topic was "Cigarette Smoking and Laryngeal Cancer". The speaker was Dr. Fortuna Corazon Roldan. The forum aimed to educate young students on the ill effects of smoking and prevention of diseases of the larynx and lungs.

Monthly lectures were assigned to PALP members and ENT residents from Metro Manila were rotated to attend the lectures every

month. Topics this year were: Muscle Tension Dysphonia (Dr. Roldan), Lasers in Laryngology (Dr. Feliciano), Anatomic Variations of Recurrent Laryngeal Nerve in Filipino Cadavers (Dr. Jhun Dumlao), Fat Injection for Medialization (Dr. Nato Pascual), Dysphagia Update (Dr. Hawson), Arytenoid Adduction Surgery (Dr. Carillo), Medialization Techniques (Dr. Hernandez), Office-based Laryngeal procedures (Dr. Fortuna) and Thyroplasties (Dr. Tina Vicerat).

PALP is open to all ENT consultants with interest in Laryngology in the Philippines. It is also open to Speech-Language Pathologists. PALP aims to give more focus on research in its future activities and will hold more avenues for updates in the areas of its specialty.

### PANORS

#### Philippine Academy for Neurotology, Otology, & Related Sciences (PANORS) IN 2014

The Philippine Academy for Neurotology, Otology, & Related Sciences (PANORS) had various activities this year. The subspecialty group has been working for the National Universal Newborn Hearing Screening Program (UNHSP). It supported the DOH-NHSRC four Category A personnel certifying courses held in Manila and Cebu from April to August. Six PSO-HNS fellows were certified as Category A newborn hearing screening personnel lecturers/examiners and will also serve as coordinators of the UNHSP in the Visayas and Mindanao. Dr. Norberto Martinez, the PANORS current chair, represented the subspecialty group in the National Technical Working Group for RA 9709. Discussion regarding the finalization and publication of the administrative order to strengthen the processes of RA 9709, licensing of free standing hearing screening centers, increase of Philhealth benefit for newborn hearing screening and inclusion of confirmatory tests such as ABR and ASSR to Philhealth benefits.

PANORS also spearheaded and joined the talks with the Philippine Health Insurance Corporation regarding the reimbursement of hearing aids. The group also presented a pathway for this purpose. This is to reduce the incidence and consequence of hearing loss by providing access to hearing evaluation services and devices among Philhealth beneficiaries.

The subspecialty group also funded a study by the Philippine National Ear Institute and Newborn Hearing Screening Reference Center on the Implementation of the Universal Newborn Hearing Screening and Intervention Act of 2009 (RA 9709). The group will also be subsidizing the hearing survey in Batangas and Cavite, which is a study done by the Southern Tagalog Chapter (STENTS).

PANORS together with the Advocacy Committee chair of the PSO-HNS, Dr. Joel Romualdez, spearheaded Deafness Awareness Week 2014 celebrations which was held from November 9 to 16, 2014 with this year's theme: Healthy Ear: Advocacy & Responsibility. The activities included free otoscopy, ear examination, hearing testing, Neuro-Oto-Audiology grand rounds, and media forum. The subspecialty group also set up a skills training on UNHSP, Ear and Hearing Care for Barangay Health Workers in cooperation with PSO-HNS chapters and accredited institutions nationwide. As part of the month-long celebration, an Inter-hospital Resident's Ear Quiz Contest was hosted by PANORS on November 24, 2014 at St. Luke's Medical Center in Quezon City through a grant from ADP Pharma.

PANORS made a standardization of ABR testing and interpretation protocol based on current scientific evidence available. This has already been presented during the annual convention in December 2013 but will again be presented to all stakeholders in the near future for better awareness of the standard protocol.

PANORS supports the 58th annual PSO-HNS convention by holding two courses. There will be an instructional workshop on Vestibular Rehabilitation with Dr. Perpetuo Gutierrez, MD, PhD as invited speaker and a round table discussion on Management Options for Sudden Sensorineural Hearing Loss with panelists consisting of Dr. Elmer Dela Cruz, Dr. Nathaniel Yang and Dr. Charlotte Chiong. The moderator will be Dr. Norberto Martinez.

Officers and members of the PANORS also attended international conferences this year that include the 6th Asia Pacific Otolaryngology & Skull Base Conference, 5th Asean Academy of Neuro-Otology & Audiology (AANO) Congress, the 17th International Congress in Audiological Medicine; IAPA 2014 and the Hearing International Annual Meeting 2014.

### PAPO

The recently published two-volume textbook "Fundamentals of Pediatrics" features contributions from members of the PAPO under chapter Disorders of the Ears, Nose and Throat. The two-volume publication is designed to be the principal reference on the fundamentals of pediatric practice for pediatricians-in-training nationwide.

Collaborative work with fields of specialized pediatric care is further reinforced with the development of a pediatric airway program involving pediatric critical care, pediatric pulmonology, and the PAPO. This program will include a biennial postgraduate course on the pediatric airway. Also lined up for the study group is the creation of a handbook on upper airway obstruction in infants. The project offers some tips in recognizing common causes of stridor in infants, investigating its source, and carrying out strategies for treatment.

The group is offering a two-year fellowship program under the Section of Pediatric Otolaryngology of the Philippine Children's Medical Center. The fellowship program will offer the position to: 1) graduates of accredited ENT-HNS training programs, who are 2) board qualified or board certified. There will only be one fellow at a time for the two-year training program. If board eligible, the applicant must pass the PBO-HNS board examination within the first year of fellowship otherwise appointment shall not be renewed for the second year.

### PAR

The Philippine Academy of Rhinology takes center stage this year as the subspecialty group in charge of the 58th Annual PSO-HNS Convention with the theme, "Environment and the Nose and Sinuses." Aside from this national event, PAR takes pride in hosting the first meeting of the Federation of Asian Rhinologic Societies (FARS), a gathering of rhinologists not only from the ASEAN region, but also with representatives from South Korea, Japan, and China.

In keeping with its goal of standardizing rhinology training in the country, a par Tri-Center Basic FESS and Cadaver Dissection Course was organized with TMC, RMC, and UP-PGH holding workshops for 3 consecutive weeks. And, to cater to those who desires more learning, PAR has organized the first ever Advanced ESS Course and Frozen Cadaver Dissection, with the support of Karl Storz and Medtronic.

And last, but not least, PAR will conclude the year with the culmination of the 2-year Young Sinus Surgeons Forum, a venue for ASEAN rhinologists - in - the - making to network and standardize rhinology care and training for the ASEAN region.



## CHAPTERS

### Northern Luzon



Last March 3, the mother chapter disseminated the celebration of the international ear care day, North Luzon, in partnership with Bombo Radyo announced simple ear care tips repeatedly on air the whole day. Moreover, ear care lay forum, free otoscopy and ear consultation were offered to the public.

Nasal care fora for the laity entitled “Panangtagiben ti Agong” (Taking Care of the Nose) were also done at the Ilocos Norte Provincial Hospital and Baguio General Hospital on August 13 and October 15, respectively.

The Head and Neck Cancer Consciousness Week slated April 28 to May 4 was observed by the chapter 2 days earlier with a mortality & morbidity conference. Incidentally, that day was also the second quarterly meeting. All three training institutions (Mariano Marcos Memorial Hospital, Baguio General Hospital and Ilocos Training and Regional Medical Center) presented one head and neck case each. On May 4 Dr. Jose Orosa III, the vice president of the chapter guested at Bombo Radyo Laoag and talked about head and neck cancer for the listening public.

This November 9, the start of the Deafness Awareness Week, Dr. Tennessee Ragadio-Huyaban, our chapter auditor and chair of the Department of ENT at MMMH is scheduled for a one-hour radio guesting to talk on the topic. BGH will hold lay fora at the OPD and deafness screening in selected public schools. ITRMC is currently finishing a pamphlet on ear care in cooperation with SPED, La Union.

The mother chapter has always been an advocate of environmental protection in more ways than one. North Luzon has mirrored this advocacy in the years past. Last October 19 though was a different experience. At the Bosul Watershed in Baguio City, the custodian Mr.

Ramon Dacawi gave a very moving overview of their Eco-Walk Program that touched the heart and enthused the spirit. We were not just planting trees. We were making a difference not just for mother earth, but for our children, and our lives. We made a pledge, literally recited the promise in chorus, to take care of the earth and teach our children the same. Having done that, the group plans to go back every year to our “muyong” (Ifugao for woodlot), bring our children along and plant more trees.

Our quarterly meetings were religiously observed. Not only were they avenues for the fostering of solidarity and discussions of relevant issues, but also opportune times for inter-institution grand rounds, mortality and morbidity conference and research presentation. As one consultant jested: “Our assembly is not only alcoholic

but also academic”.

We started the year without concrete plans. North Luzon, however is gifted with good ear and has developed a good sense of playing by it. We can proudly claim we have played it good by ear because we are on the same frequency as the mother chapter in its projects and advocacies. Let the next year come and by all means North Luzon shall play on.

### Central Luzon



The Central Luzon ENT Chapter (CELENT) of the PSOHNS took the challenge of hosting the

2014 PSOHNS Midyear Convention last April 10-12, 2014. The event tested the organizing skills, creativity, patience and unity of the ENT fellows of Central Luzon.

The Scientific Committee named the theme of the convention as “The Voice”. The Socials Committee made the Gala Night and Fellowship Nights memorable and enjoyable by holding it at the newly renovated Fontana Convention Center and at the historical Nayong Pilipino Clark. The Sports Committee prepared activities to explore and enjoy Clark not just by the delegates but their families as well. Overall, the CELENT family has done their best to come up with a very fruitful and auspicious event.

The **PSOHNS 2014 MID-YEAR CONVENTION** hosted by **CELENT** at Holiday Inn Clark was a phenomenal success. Attendance of registered fellows was a record breaker for a Mid-Year Convention. The Overall Organizing Chairman (**Dr. Ruben Emil Henson III**), the Organizing Committee Chairs and Members, and the CELENT Family appreciate your gift of time and support.

We, the new set of officers, headed by our President, **Dr. Nelson Magno**, look forward to new activities scheduled on the first quarter of 2015. The team building activities, lectures and medical mission are all aimed to realize our Chapter’s advocacy in professional advancement and service to the less fortunate.

### Southern Tagalog

Another fruitful year passes yet again for the Southern Tagalog Chapter of the PSO - HNS. Traditionally its officers were assigned by a process of ascension. Just this year though, STENTS took its first steps under the leadership of members selected through its first-ever chapter elections. The shift did prove effective for the group, as it enabled new, fresh blood to take the reins of a chapter known for its dynamism and vitality. Aside from the usual activities, such as its quarterly meetings, President Dr. Arvin De Jesus spared no effort in addressing the evolving needs of the chapter. He initiated a series of monthly meetings attended by his fellow officers and advisers in order to carefully map out the goals for the coming year and beyond.

Last year, STENTS completed the initial leg of its WHO – accredited



Hearing Survey of Region IV, having finished the Province of Cavite. The experience allowed the chapter to streamline its methods and forged ahead to survey the Province of Batangas. Led by project leader, Dr. Maloy Calaquian and regional coordinator Dr. Regy Siasoco, the survey is now nearing completion despite numerous difficulties and budgetary constraints. It is expected to conclude before the end of the present year. A new province is slated for surveying in 2015, most probably the Province of Laguna.

The chapter is also doing its share in helping the mother society prepare itself for the coming of the ASEAN Mutual Reciprocity Act in the year 2015. To do so, the chapter reorganized its membership committee, appointing Dr. Elaine Villanueva as its able chairperson. As a first step, a policy handbook cum membership primer was drafted for the purpose of not only informing its present members, but also to entice fellows practicing in the region to join the chapter. The chapter’s information database was also updated, as it prepares to open its doors to ALL eligible fellows practicing in Southern Tagalog. The key outcome that the committee hopes to achieve is to consolidate its roster of members, one that will hopefully include all fellows of the PSO – HNS practicing in the region. Doing so will provide an accurate map of how our fellows are distributed within the region. Finally, in support of its efforts to unite the fellows of Region IV, the chapter will be hosting a year – end meeting where all fellows in good standing in the region will be invited to attend. This caucus will coincide with the PSO-HNS annual convention.

### Bicol



2014 was a chaotic yet very fruitful year for the Bicol ENT Specialists. Our steady growth in membership continued as we welcomed Dr. Rosebe Nacion, who is now practicing in Legazpi. Dr. Nacion and Dr. Noel Reyes (from Catanduanes) were recently

inducted as new Diplomate and new Fellow respectively.

It has also been a frenzy of meetings and collaborations as we enter the final stretch of our preparations for the 2015 Midyear Convention in Naga City with the theme “Halo-Halo sa Bicol (ENT and Other Specialties)”. Under the helm of Overall Chair Dr. Neil Peñaflor and incoming President Dr. Melvin Berin, next year’s Midyear Convention promises a unique, memorable and oh so hot experience for all delegates. See you in Naga!

### Central Eastern Visayas



The Head and Neck Cancer Consciousness Week, spearheaded by the PSOHNS CEV and the Dept. of ORL-HNS, was held in the Vicente Sotto Memorial Medical Center (VSMC) last April 29-May 2, 2014. The ORL-HNS resident physicians of the institution brainstormed for the best ways to promote education and awareness such that was acceptable for the patients catered to at the hospital’s Out-Patient Department (OPD). As ORL-HNS physicians, great emphasis is given on early detection of a possible malignancy. The “Libreng Silip” was possibly the most rewarding of the week-long activities.

On July 13, 2014, the PSOHNS Central Eastern Visayas Chapter conducted their annual program for Eco Awareness for our Mother Earth. This year, the group decided to plant mangrove shoots on the shores of Inoburan, Naga City, Cebu, with the theme “Puno-an mo, kaugmaon ko”. This activity was headed by Dr. Camille Sidonie A. Espina, MD, FPSO-HNS, the Chapter President. She was joined by the members of the Chapter and their respective families who come from different provinces of Central Eastern Visayas and the ORL-HNS Residents of Vicente Sotto Memorial Medical Center.

### Southern Mindanao



The chapter has 34 members and will soon be joined by Dr. Robert Macatol, who will be inducted this December. He will be practicing in Koronadal City, South Cotabato. Last October 3, we elected our new set of officers for 2015 namely: President - Dr. J Gabriel De Borja, Vice President - Dr. Veronica Magnaye, Secretary - Dr. Moh. Ar-iff Baguindali, Treasurer - Dr. Raul Jerry Isaguirre and Auditor - Dr.



Joseph Cachuela.

The chapter is in active collaboration with the first ENT-HNS residency program outside Metro Manila in Southern Philippines Medical Center, Davao City. They have been recently awarded another 4-year accredited program by the Philippine Board of ORL-HNS, headed by Dr. Edilberto Jose, Dr. Alfredo Quintin Pontejos and Dr. Cesar Villafuerte.

Aside from the yearly collaborative postgraduate course, participation in International Ear Care Day (March 3), Head and Neck Cancer Consciousness Week (April 4th week), and Deafness Awareness Week (November 3rd week), the chapter also participates in the activities of Philippine Medical Association such as National Medicine Week, Regional Conventions, round table discussions and even fund raising events. In line with this, our chapter is one of the recipients of the President's Award from Davao Medical Society of PMA last July 21, to recognize its untiring support to the various projects of the society.

The upcoming year, will be another highlight for the chapter, it will be filled with more activities on top of the annual events. The new set of officers is seeing to launch a quarterly event entitled "Doctors ENTices", which will invite lecturers from other specialties that is related in the practice of ENT and also "When ENTTrapped", a forum among fellows concerning problematic ENT cases which warrants opinions of colleagues. More programs are also expected in conjunction with Philippine Society of Otorhinolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery and Department of Health calendar of activities. These activities aim to foster camaraderie and continuing medical education (CME) to the members of the chapter.

### Northern Mindanao



The Northwest Mindanao Chapter (NWMC) was very proud to welcome a new diplomate to its list of members in the person of Dr. Mary Kathy Lynn B. Luceño. Dr. Luceño made history as the first graduate of the training program of the Cagayan de Oro Consortium of the Department of ORL-HNS to take and pass the Diplomate Exam conducted last June of this year. Even though she had set up her clinics in Don Carlos and Maramag, Bukidnon, she's also now a visiting consultant of Northern Mindanao Medical Center and Capiol University Medical City in Cagayan de Oro City.

Also, the NWMC had successfully conducted a mangrove tree planting activity at Sohoton Island, Surigao del Norte last May 17, 2014. The members, along with their families and some ORL-HNS Residents had actively participated and had fun in the said activity. It was conducted as one of the chapter's own little way of giving back to Mother Earth.

The chapter untiringly continues to provide a year-round surgical mission for cleft patients in partnership with the Smile Train Organization. In its desire to provide better service to these patients,

consultants and senior residents had taken part in the Smile Train Surgical Training for Cleft Lip and Palate conducted by Smile Train Philippines – Davao held at Maharlika Charity Foundation, in Davao City last August 14-16, 2014, with Dr. D Mukunda Reddy from India.

### Western Visayas



We cannot speak of the Department of ORL-HNS Consortium of Hospitals in the Visayas without mentioning our mentors. This is the FIRST EVER accredited PBO-HNS Consortium (accredited in January 1997) inspired by Dr. Mariano Caparas and Dr. Remigio Jarin.

From the time of its inception, the year 2014 is one of the busiest years the Department has experienced in its 18 years of existence since 1996 as a consortium with Corazon Locsin Montelibano Memorial Medical Center in Bacolod City, St. Paul's Hospital and the base hospital- Western Visayas Medical Center in Iloilo City. The department gave birth to two (2) independent training programs- one in Bacolod City and one in Iloilo City in 2006.

The Department of ENT-HNS of Western Visayas Medical Center and St. Paul's Hospital Consortium had done many activities and programs during this year, 2014.

It held several activities like the year-round "linis tenga" and medical missions held in different areas in Panay Island and not just in the province of Iloilo. In particular, the ENT residents travelled as far as Antique, Dumangas, Leganes for the "linis tenga" missions. Also the department joined the annual medical mission sponsored by Bombo Radio Philippines, the Bombo Medico last August 2014.

The ENT-HNS Department of Western Visayas Medical Center also had its Journal Club reporting last July 2014 held at Markims, where-in a journal article was presented by one of the ENT residents.

The department also held its 15th post-graduate course on Voice Diseases, Rehabilitation and Care last August 2014. The Post Graduate Course was entitled "Ang Boses" a postgraduate course on voice diseases, rehabilitation and care. The audiences who attended the course were physicians and nurses at Local District and City Hospitals in Region 6, Rural Health Physicians, Family Med Physicians, teachers, singers, call-center agents, and professionals who use their voice as profession.

The Dul-II-an Foundation, Inc. (Dulonnggan-Ilong Tutunlan) – for the benefit of the patients, research and training of our department also continues to raise funds for this purpose. This is the FIRST Foundation of its kind in Iloilo City.

We look forward as the Department will soon celebrate its 20th year anniversary and with the coming year 2014 with enthusiasm for more accomplishments that will benefit more people in these islands.

## INSTITUTIONS

### De La Salle University Medical Center



It is gratifying to see the growth of your institution in a year that just passed.

At the De la Salle University Medical Center Dept. of ENT-HNS, more achievements and we may say milestones were again reached.

The department of DLSUMC ENT-HNS has just received the full four year accreditation of its four year ent- hns residency training program. Our institution was visited last september 2, 2014 by no less than Dr. Edilberto Jose, Dr. Cesar Villafuerte and Dra. Fita Guzman. It is always a challenge to meet the standards of our PBO-HNS Though difficult, the valiant efforts of our consultant staff, dedicated residents and of course our tireless secretary has definitely paid off. In this light, we are taking this opportunity to tell prospective ENT – HNS specialist aspirants that our training program is still open for applicants. You may contact our secretariat at tel. (02)9883100 & (046)4818000 local 1340 c/o Wyla for details.

On the heels of our accreditation, we again are proud to announce the new members of our consultant staff. Particularly our very own graduates of the De La Salle Health and Science Institute College Of Medicine (DLSHSI) Dra. Julie Ann Uy-Regalado and Dr. Patrick Joseph Pardo. Dra. Uy is part time faculty and part of our facial plastic subspecialty group. Dr. Pardo, also part time faculty, is now part of our head and neck cancer, reconstructive and prosthetics subspecialty team.

Our other new staff members include our sleep disordered breathing specialist and head of the DLSUMC Sleep Laboratory, Dr. Jimmy Chang. Dr. Chang, together with the efforts of the hospital administration, put up our very own sleep laboratory last October 14, 2014, allied with the respiratory care unit of the DLSUMC Hospital. Dr. Arvin de Jesus, the present president of the Southern Tagalog ENT-HNS chapter, is now also part of our facial plastic subspecialty group.

We are also happy to report that thru the efforts of Dr. Alex Cabungcal, also present ENT-HNS chair of the Batangas Medical Center (BATMC), the DLSUMC ENT-HNS has engaged in a memorandum of agreement with the BATMC for our residents to rotate and perform surgery in Batangas to gain additional cases and exposure in training.

Indeed, another year and again more achievements. With these blessings, we continue in the service of others and may St John Baptist De La Salle pray for us all and may you leave Jesus in your hearts forever. Carry on!!!

### Corazon Locsin Montelibano Memorial Regional Hospital



The Department of ORL-HNS of the Corazon Locsin Montelibano Memorial Regional Hospital has been serving the Negros Island for 18 years. We have a new chairman, Dr. Rachel Zita Ramos and a new training officer, Dr. Michael Joseph David. The department also welcomed two new diplomates: Dr. Manuel Uy and Dr. Melvin Chico.

Activities include monthly journal clubs, weekly audits and case presentations, quarterly Western Visayas PSO-HNS Chapter meetings and post-graduate courses. In addition to this, the department recently held its tradition of the annual check-up of the students of the Welcome Home Foundation last June 2014. Dr. Ana Marie Manganti and Dr. Nathalie Mundo (level II resident) recently attended the Department of Health's Category A Newborn Hearing Screening Personnel Certifying Course in Cebu City last August 2014. Dr. Erie Imperial, the chief resident, will be presenting her case report in the Annual Residents' Research Contest of CLMMRH this mid-November. Plans are also underway to celebrate the Deaf Awareness Week this mid-November.

The department is also being groomed by the institution for its upcoming ISO accreditation of all its residency training programs. CLMMRH has been ISO certified (9001:2008) since March 2014 in line with the mission of the Department of Health to provide affordable, accessible and quality health care services.

### East Avenue Medical Center

The Department of Otorhinolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery of East Avenue Medical Center saw its beginnings in 1986 when it finally became an independent and distinct entity from the Department of Ophthalmology under the able chairmanship of Dr. Remigio I. Jarin.

Under Dr. Jarin and the brilliant and highly-competent consultant staff, the Department obtained its accreditation 2 years after its conception, being the first ENT-HNS Department under the Department of Health (DOH) to be fully accredited by the Philippine Board of Otorhinolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery. The Department has maintained its status ever since.

Within the year, inspired by the department's mission – to provide comprehensive quality service, training and research in the field of ORL – HNS, the department again hosted numerous post-graduate courses. *continued on page 12*



**PHOTO-SPREAD:****4-29-14 Scintific Research Com Meeting****5-15-14 BOT Meeting at Sofitel****5-30-14 Orahex MOA Signing @ Heat, EDSA Shangrila Hotel****6-19-14 BOT Meeting @ Diamond Hotel****5-4-14 Fun Run @ QC Memorial Circle****5-22-14 Interesting Case Contest @ Menarini's Office****7-19-14 BFAR MOA Signing @ General Santos City****7-19-14 BOT Chapter Visit @ General Santos City****9-3-14 Interhospital Grandrounds @ PLM-OM****#11 9-11-14 BOT Meeting @ Choi Garden Greenhills****7-21-14 Interhospital Grandrounds @ MDH****9-18-14 Descriptive Research Contest @ Natrapharm****9-25-14 Membership Com Meeting @ Uncle Cheffy**



## East Avenue...

*continued from page 9*



graduate courses:

February 2013 – 5th Live Rhinoplasty Workshop in coordination with FACES; February 2013 – 2nd EAMC Head and Neck Postgraduate Course: Head and Neck Reconstruction and Microvascular Anesthesia; June 2013 – 23rd Annual Temporal Bone Course and Dissection; October 2014 – Craniomaxillofacial Surgery: Basics-Trends-Concepts Masterclass Manila 2014.

Furthermore, the department also held our 3rd Intradepartmental Research paper contest judged by distinguished ORL – HNS consultants in the country. As a note, the department was praised for our undying effort to continue research as a key to seek for further knowledge in the clinical practice.

The department also successfully initiated the plan for fellowship programs in the field of Maxillofacial & Aesthetics Surgery and Otolaryngology. Through these efforts, we envision that EAMC Department of ORL-HNS will be the premiere referral center of different subspecialties in the country.

Most importantly, we are currently starting the plan to build our Craniomaxillofacial Center and Snoring Center. Hopefully, in the year 2015, we will be able to cater patients with problems in these areas with updated instruments and diagnostic facilities.

The EAMC Department of ORL – HNS indeed has gone a long way and will continue to strive for excellence in the field of Otorhinolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery.

## Ilocos Training and Regional Medical Center

The Department of ORL-HNS of Ilocos Training and Regional Medical Center joins its mother institution in its thrust for medical excellence. Having been inspired by its accreditation, the department pursued its programs with renewed vigor. Aside from the basic academic and clinical programs, services and activities required of an PBO-HNS accredited training institution, the department has pursued programs that will give its graduates a broader view of their specialty and a greater appreciation of Otolaryngology in a provincial setting.

As part of an EAR CARE and DEAFNESS PREVENTION PROGRAM, we initiated a Basic Sign Language Training for the hospital staff making it probably the first Deaf-Friendly Hospital in the country. We have an OPERATION LINIS TENGA, an in-house and outreach ear screening program, especially for the school children and remote

areas of the region. The Department also adopted a community in Rosario, La Union as a pilot area of collaborating with community groups where regular ear screening, workshop seminars on primary ear care, deafness rehabilitation and sign language training are done not only to deaf members of the community but also for their family members, barangay health workers and other interested participants in the community. This is in line with our vision of becoming the EAR CARE and DEAFNESS PREVENTION COLLABORATING CENTER for the region.

Few years ago, the department launched its “OPERATION SIBUL” (Operation Silip Bunganga at Lalamunan), a cancer-screening program for the head and neck as the department prepares to spearhead the Head and Neck Cancer Collaborating Center of North – a program of the Department of Health. In addition, the department has been doing for the past several years now “OPERATION GUSING” a regular monthly in-house mission surgery for cleft lip and palate.

Indeed, the ITRMC is a welcome addition to the growing roster of accredited institutions in the country. Its academic pursuits include conferences and scientific sessions with other institution in the area. Together with the staff of Baguio General Hospital and Medical Center and the Mariano Marcos Medical Center (in Batac, Ilocos Norte), quarterly Northern Luzon Interhospital ENT Grandrounds are held, making northern Luzon residents enjoy tutelage not only from their regular staff members but also from other diplomates in Northern Luzon under the auspices the Northern Luzon Chapter of the Philippine Society of Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery.

## Far Eastern University-NRMF Medical Center



Another rewarding and fruitful year was witnessed by our department this 2014. Numerous ventures were prepared and accomplished, which were, as always, in line with our incessant goal to deliver quality and compassionate patient care to our fellowmen.

To encourage the appeal for early detection and treatment of laryngeal disorders, free laryngeal endoscopic services were offered during the feast day of Saint Blaise last February. Laymen lectures were likewise presented to patients and companions at the Outpatient Department to foster a mindset of early consultation with an ENT-HNS specialist once they sense an irregularity in their throat.

The yearly participation of the department in the annual Head and Neck Cancer Consciousness Week, led by the Philippine Society of Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery and the Department of Health, again proved to be very productive with the offering of outpatient free clinics for head and neck cases and a multitude of lectures.

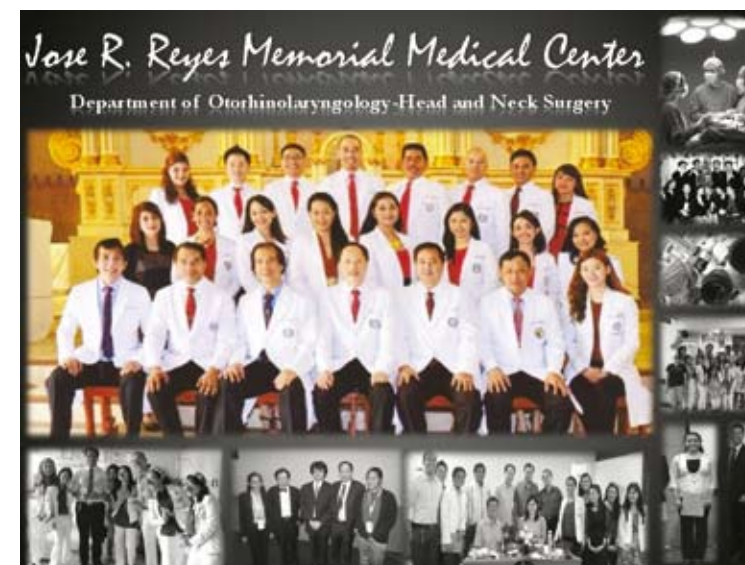
With the goal of organizing yearly post-graduate courses, our department held the 1st Hands-On Workshop on Microlaryngeal Surgery using Cadaver and Goat Larynx last June 2014, which was am-

ply attended by ENT-HNS practitioners from different institutions. This post-graduate course was directed by our training officer Dr. Rebecca R. Feliciano.

As per tradition, our annual Bowling Tournament was organized in the month of August. All proceeds from this yearly activity were used for the benefit of our indigent patients.

The department is proud to add the services of Dr. Napoleon A. Cecilio and Dr. Laurenceburg L. Rodriguez to its stable of PBO-HNS certified diplomates, and Dr. Dominador Enrique Gomez to its constantly increasing registry of fellows. Likewise, the enlistment of Dr. Mary Rose Adeline Meneses-Guinto as a new active consultant and Dr. Arnel Y. Quiambao as a new clinical professor strengthens the mission of the department to be at the forefront in the relentless pursuit of excellence in training, service, and research.

## Jose R. Reyes Memorial Medical Center



The Department of ORL-HNS of Jose R. Reyes Memorial Medical Center is embedded to its roots of providing quality medical services to Filipinos and attaining excellence through service, training, and research.

Quality health care in the field of ORL-HNS is continuously given to Filipinos within the metro and from the remote provinces of the country being one of the flagship hospitals of the Department of Health. The Newborn Hearing Screening Center of the hospital is undergoing construction and acquisition of equipment. Lectures and lay fora on ORL-HNS topics were done at the outpatient department like the ORL-HNS Week, Head and Neck Cancer Awareness Week, Pasilip Ka! Campaign, and Deafness Awareness Week. Two in-house surgical missions were held which provided free surgery to 20 indigent patients. This year, the Department also organized a monthly Medical Happy Hour spearheaded by Dr. Gil M. Vicente, which become an avenue to provide compassion, laughter, and life lessons for the doctors and patients.

Remaining as a fertile ground in producing highly competent ORL-head and neck surgeons, the department has grown and currently comprised of 13-resident strong group under the tutelage of 10 distinguished consultants spearheaded by Dr. Antonio H. Chua. Also, Dr. Cristina S. Nieves recently began her training under the consortium for the Fellowship Training Program in Head and Neck Reconstructive Surgery. In its commitment to training, it hosted a very successful post-graduate course last February 2014 entitled

Basic Research Methodology Workshop together with PSO-HNS. This year, the department was also granted with 4-year full accreditation for its residency training program by the Philippine Board of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery, Inc.

The department has steadfastly achieved new heights in the field of research by placing 1st in 2014 PSO-HNS Analytical Research Contest with the study Otorhinolaryngologic Manifestations in Patients with Human Immunodeficiency Virus Infection, 3rd place in the 2014 PSO-HNS Descriptive Research Contest entitled Spontaneous Passage of Ingested Coin in Children and finalist in 2014 PSO-HNS Case Report Presentation entitled Mucoepidermoid Carcinoma of the Temporal Bone. Several studies were also included in the recently published Philippine Journal of Otolaryngology Head and Neck Surgery like Drain versus No Drain After Thyroidectomy: A Preliminary Prospective Randomized Controlled Trial; Intraoperative Distance Between the Main Trunk of the Facial Nerve and Surgical Landmarks Used in Parotidectomy: A Prospective Study; and Reconstruction of a Large Through and Through Defect of the Oral Cavity Using Double Anterolateral Thigh Free Flap.

Excellence through service, training, and research -- this is the mark of the Department of ORL-HNS of JRRMMC.

## Manila Central University-FDTMF

It has been another banner year for our department. During the 33rd MCU-FDTMF RPT Case Report Contest held last March 26, 2014 at the Tanchoco Auditorium, Dr. Ryan Cabance presented his paper entitled “Adenoid Cystic Carcinoma originating from the Nasal Septum” and Dr. Michael B. Medina presented his paper entitled “Nasopharyngeal Cancer and Subsequent Tongue Carcinoma: Case Torn between Malignancies”, winning second and third place respectively.

During the MCU-FDTMF Hospital 37th Resident Physicians’ Research Paper Contest held last July 17, 2014 Manila, “Ma. Rowena Montemayor-Muñoz copped First Place with her paper “Validation of iPad Hearing Application (EAR Trumpet) and Audiometry as Gold Standard in Screening Patients with Hearing Loss in a Hearing Center in a Tertiary Hospital in Metro Manila.”

During the PSO HNS Descriptive Research Contest held last September 18, 2014, Dr. Ryan E. Cabance presented and won second place with his paper “The Value of the 6-hour Post Operative Ionized Calcium Slope in Predicting the Occurrence of Hypocalcemia in Patients after Thyroidectomy”

Our recent graduate, Dr. Dominador A. Garduño passed the Specialty Board Exam given by the Philippine Board of Otorhinolaryngology – Head & Neck Surgery last July 2014.

Emphasizing the importance of continuing growth through education, our chairman, Dr. Rosalie Remedios B. Ramirez, is in the process of obtaining her PhD, Major in Development Administration at Philippine Christian University. Drs. Ma. Karen A. Capuz and Arthur T. Magboo are currently taking up Masters in Health Professions Education at the National Teacher Training Center for the Health Professions (NTTC-HP) University of the Philippines, Manila.

The department staff is composed of Drs. R. Ramirez (Chair), E. Cruz (immediate past chair) E. Samson (Training Officer), N. Almazan, A. Reyes, E. Lazaro, AM. Barrientos, K. Capuz, E. Donato, C.H. Mejia, KB Perez, A. Magboo, A. Quijano and J. Angeles, J. San Diego, J. Leonardo, D. Concepcion, and D. Garduño. The residents include R. Cabance RPT IV and M. B. Medina RPT II, R.A. Aquino RPT I, J. E. Ong, RPT I, C. Tolentino RPT I.



### Manila Doctors Hospital



They say that the second half of the year is always less fun as there are no more activities left for the department to deal with. This cannot be true for the Manila Doctors Hospital Department of ORL. Early this year in May, the 13th Bridging the Gap cleft lip and palate surgical mission was able to give 12 young patients more reason to smile with confidence. Volunteerism was very much alive as the different training departments participated to make the program successful. The third installment of the surgical mission scheduled in November will complete our world-class service to patients still needing assistance.

In July, the department hosted the First Inter-hospital Grand Rounds with the theme, "Facial Plastic". Five other training institutions aside from MDH presented interesting cases, as well as problematic cases in the subspecialty of facial plastic and reconstructive surgery needing expert opinion. Dr. Eutrapio Guevara Jr., Dr. Cesar Villafuerte Jr. and Dr. Eduard Alfanta completed the panel.

Towards the end of the year, the department pioneered an in-house workshop titled "Laryngotracheobronchial Endoscopy and Esophagology" in cooperation with Saviour Medevices, which provided the Karl Storz instruments and dummies used in the activity. The course was organized by Dr. Virgilio De Gracia, chief of the Section of Laryngobronchoesophagology. Participating residents and consultant staff were taught the basic principles and indications of direct laryngoscopy, bronchoscopy and esophagoscopy. This project will be offered by the department as a hands-on workshop in 2015, envisioned as invaluable in the training of residents to become full-fledged otorhinolaryngologists.

As the department prepares for 2015, the first part of the Strategic Planning was held in October in Calatagan, Batangas where a situational analysis of the department's external and internal environment was done. To continue with the formulation of strategies in addressing the threats, opportunities, weaknesses and strengths, the second part will be held in November at the W Building, Bonifacio Global City.

MDH will once again host the 2nd BWORLD Annual Research Forum on November 19, 2014. A total of seven papers from UP-PGH, Ospital ng Maynila and MDH will be presented. Aside from strengthening the academic and research atmosphere and camaraderie among the three institutions, the research forum serves to strengthen the skills of the residents in presenting their

researches, and enable them to receive external constructive inputs to the researches that they made. The panel of reactors is made up of Dr. Samantha Castañeda and Dr. Cecilia Gretchen Locsin.

### Mariano Marcos Memorial Hospital & Medical Center



The pursuance towards highest quality health care, training and research for the Ilocandia region has been the vision, not only by the hospital, but also of the department. Constant actions were done to improve the art of giving quality service to everyone in need.

The hospital was accredited by the Organization for International Standard (ISO) for its Quality Management System last year through the leadership of our ORL-HNS consultants. Dr. Jose B. Orosa III, the Quality Management Representative, and Dr. Tennessee Ragadio-Huyaban, as the head of the Documents Control Committee, led in their respective teams, ensuring that the hospital maintains its highest quality.

Dr. Orosa has also become the Chairman for the Region 1 Health Research Development Council for Technical Panel, a position to screen research proposals coming from Region I in terms of technical aspects. He is now the Chief of Medical Professional Staff of the hospital.

The newly-built three-storey Out-Patient Building was officially opened, providing a more comfortable place for patients and doctors as well. The OPD of ORL-HNS was transferred to the second floor. This is an air-conditioned and spacious room with the following services: basic ENT consults, audiometry, newborn hearing screening, minor operative procedure and videolaryngoscopy.

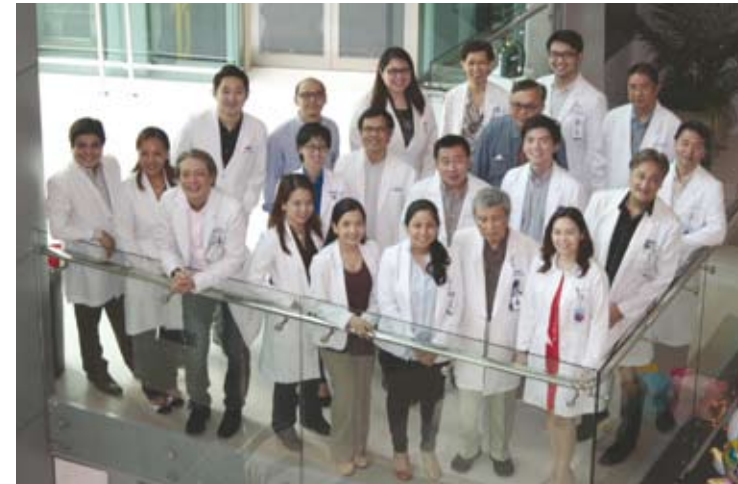
The department aims for public awareness on advocacy. Dr. Orosa is being invited as a regular radio guest speaker regarding head and neck cancers. The residents also had a lecture and forum regarding ear care and newborn hearing screening which were done during OPD consults in OPD reception area. It is said that a pinch of prevention is worth of a pound of treatment.

A research entitled "The Role of the Human Papilloma Virus in Head and Neck Squamous Cell Carcinoma among Filipinos", a collaborative research with University of Santo Tomas Graduate School which was published in Asian Pacific Journal Cancer Prevention, was presented last Mid-year convention of PSOHNS last April 2014 at Clark, Pampanga. A research proposal entitled "Efficacy of Mandibular Advancement Device in the Treatment of Obstructive Sleep Apnea Syndrome among Filipinos Seen in a DOH Tertiary Hospital: A Pilot Study" authored by Dr. Ja P. Malvar and Dr. Jose B. Orosa III has been approved and being funded by Region I Health Research De-

velopment Council. Another collaborative research on Human Papilloma Virus role on head and neck squamous cell carcinoma is being submitted for publication in an international journal next year.

The department has acquired a new audiometry machine. The acquisition of a new Auditory Brainstem Reflex machine and an OAE machine are underway in order to complete its audiological service.

### Makati Medical Center



Year 2014 is a very busy yet fulfilling one for the Department of ORL-HNS of Makati Medical Center.

We hosted our yearly Postgraduate Course and Workshop on Surgical Histopathology and Cytology of ENT-Head and Neck Diseases and Imaging Studies which was participated by residents and consultants from both ENT and Pathology Departments of Makati Medical Center as well as from other training institutions. This yearly free postgraduate course aims to familiarize and review ENT practitioners, pathology residents, and board eligible ENT-HNS graduates on histopathology and imaging studies related to ENT-Head and Neck Structures and diseases.

This year Makati Medical Center was reaccredited by 4th JCI edition. The new Tower 3 has been opened, where the new outpatient clinics are located.

The Department has been participating in various medical missions like the Toyota Medical Mission held in Laguna, and the Pampanga medical mission organized by the Health Service Program of Makati Medical Center. We also participated in various inter-hospital activities of the society, including the 2nd Interhospital Grand Rounds in Facial Plastics. Dr. Paulo Angelo Catindig presented a case report held in Manila Doctors Hospital in June 2014. Residents also attended the 1st Direct Laryngoscopy Lecture and Workshop held in Far Eastern University Hospital in July 2014. The department also had its yearly team building held at Batangas.

This year was also a hard time for the whole department as well as the ENT society as our first Department chairman and pillar of the society, Dr. Ariston Bautista passed away last August 2014.

As of the moment, we are preparing for the coming ENT week this November and for the annual board visitation.

### Ospital ng Makati

2014 started with the Department of Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery of Ospital ng Makati accepting Dr. Monique Lucia Jardin and Dr. Bryan Justin Sandejas as its new first year residents.



Dr. Michelle Angelica Daylo came on board as a new consultant. In August, our candidates successfully hurdled the yearly PBO\_HNS Diplomate examinations. This year's successful examinees were Dr. Waynn-Nielsen Destriza and Dr. Elaine Marie Lagura.

October saw the research of Dr. Michael Luke Salinas bear fruit as his study "The effect of Arnica montana on Blood Loss during Endoscopic Sinus Surgery in a Tertiary Government Hospital – A Randomized Controlled Clinical Trial" won 3rd place in the Annual Analytical Paper Contest held at the Bayanihan Hall of UNILAB.

As 2014 winds down, our Training Officer, Dr. Howard Enriquez, is nearing the end of his term as the 34th president of the Philippine Society of Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery. One of his administration's landmark achievements is having the first reading of the Senate Bill on the Audiology Act of the Philippines.

With the preparations completed for ISO accreditation, our ORL-HNS clinic in the Ambulatory Care Medicine Department underwent a lot of improvements, in particular, the implementation of the Hospital Integrated Medical Computer System for the outpatient chart, retrieval and viewing of laboratory and radiology results, and appointment for consultations and blood extractions. Efforts are likewise underway to include in-patient records as well. With these developments, the hospital is nearing its goal of having virtually "PAPERLESS".

Many more changes are to be expected, we hope to continue the tradition of quality care to our patients by embracing the new and innovative policies.

### Quezon City General Hospital & Medical Center

Year 2014 was a busy year for the Department of ORL-HNS of QCGH.

In the research circle, Dr. Stephanie Go won 2nd place with her paper "Descending Necrotizing Mediastinitis, a dreaded complication of acute tonsillitis" during the Annual PSO-HNS Interesting Case Contest last May 22, 2014, held at the W. Building, Bonifacio Global City, Taguig. Dr. Walfrido Adan Jr. presented his paper "Association of Chronic Otitis Media and Laterality of Sinonasal Disease based on temporal bone ct-scan results in a tertiary hospital in Metro Manila" which was one of the 6 finalists during the PSO-HNS Descriptive Research Contest held on September 18, 2014, held at the Natrapharm Building, Paranaque City. While Dr. Vergil Leo Esquivel presented his paper "Tuberculosis of the thyroid gland" during the QCGH Residents Case Report Contest held on August 27, 2014, SB Hall.





The staff held a Team Building activity last May 1-3, 2014 at Puerto Galera. The Department served as one of the testing centers for the PBO-HNS Oral examination last June 15, 2014. On July 14, 2014, the PBO-HNS accreditation team headed by Drs. F. Nolasco, W. Lim, and J. Matubis visited the department and grant a 4-year full accreditation of the residency training program.

The residents and consultant staff joined the Surgical Mission on cleft lip and palate held in QCGH last July 23, 2014 until August 8, 2014, 2014 led by the Quezon City Hall and Philippine Band of Mercy. Dr. Lhea Descartin and Walfrido Adan Jr. had their practical exam last September 8, 2014 under Drs. Cesar Villafuerte Jr. and Francis Roasa respectively. Drs. Descartin and Adiel Rances attended the First Asia Pacific Airway Course and Tracheostomy Workshop 2014 held in Malaysia on August 20-22, 2014.

The department staff conducted a Postgraduate course on Septoplasty on October 18, 2014 at the SB Hall. Course director was Dr. Jomar Tinaza and speakers include Drs. Peter Jarin, Dante Roldan, Mark Fernandez, Henry Claravall, Reynerio Vencio, and Emmanuel Cruz.

As a commitment to help senior citizens in Quezon City, the department holds a hearing screening program for the elderly twice a year.

The staff is composed of Drs. Antonio G. Talapian (Chair), Emmanuel S. Cruz MD (Training officer), Arsenio L. Pascual III, Francisco A. Victoria, Emmanuel S. Samson, Jomar S. Tinaza, Reynerio M. Vencio, Ronald V. Arzaga, Mark Arjan R. Fernandez, Benedict P. Lagman, Ma. Cristina B. Vical. The staff welcomes first year resident Elaine Rose Ferrandiz, a pharmacist and a graduate from UERM Medical school.

Quirino Memorial Medical Center

The Department of Otorhinolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery of QMMC continually offers quality tertiary health care, excellent education, comprehensive training and astute research in the field of Otorhinolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery.

Dr. Deborah Ann Sales is the new chairman of the Department of ORL-HNS of QMMC whereas Dr. Hector Angel Kintanar is the new training officer. Three consultants, Dr. Rosalie Remedios Ramirez, Dr. Mark Anthony Maya-en and Dr. Rowald Rey Malahito were added to the roster of consultants.

Our department has also been blessed this year when our graduate, Dr. Adrian Adraneda passed the PBO Board examination. Three of our consultants successfully completed specialty training in Craniomaxillofacial Surgery under the AO foundation namely Dr. Mark Anthrony Mayaen in Hong Kong, Dr. John Felmore Juridico in Germany and Dr. Jennifer Leonardo in Switzerland.



At present, the department has six (6) residents and twenty-one (21) consultants enhancing its subspecialty capabilities in Rhinology, Otology, Neurotology and Skull Base Surgery, Voice and Swallowing Disorders, Head and Neck Oncology, Plastic and Maxillofacial Trauma. Through the unwavering support of the management staff of QMMC through the years, the Department has various equipments that are at par with other government and private institutions. It offers rhinopharyngolaryngologic diagnostic and therapeutic services using modern endoscopic and video-recording equipment.

Ear and skull base surgery is made possible through the acquisition of the Otology Microsurgical Instruments with Unidrive motor system. In accordance with the Universal Newborn Hearing Intervention Act of 2009, we purchased its first Otoacoustic Emissions hearing screening machine (Titan with DPOAE 440 , TEOAE module ) for all newborns. All medical and paramedical staff of QMMC were also enlightened when one of our consultant, Dr. Rosario Ricalde, gave a concise lecture regarding simplified allocation on Universal Newborn Hearing Intervention Act of 2009 last July 2014.

Rizal Medical Center



The Department of ORL-HNS of the RMC has been on an upward trajectory this 2014. The department is led by Chairman Dr. Raul Castillo, with Training Officer Dr. Michael Alexius Sarte. The consultant staff has remained steadfast in guiding and mentoring the residents who have continued to grow in number as two residents will now be accepted per year level starting 2015.

The department continues its tradition of community outreach and providing relevant continuing medical education. We had our 19th "ENT sa Barangay" held last March 20, 2014 at the Ynares Sports Center for non-ENTs. We also organized our 2nd Basic FESS Course and Cadaver Dissection last July 18-19, 2014, which was held both

at the Rizal Medical Center and at the Ateneo School of Medicine and Public Health. Both successful events were very well attended by participants.

The consultant and resident staff of the department are committed towards working together to make sure that learning and service are well balanced and that excellence is maintained in all things.

Southern Philippines Medical Center



The year 2014 is almost over but the Department of ENT-HNS of Southern Philippines Medical Center (SPMC) doesn't rest in its pursuit for excellence both for the residents in training and for the service of the patients.

The Department's Chair, Dr. Pilar Mynthia Vicente, together with four residents attended the PSO-HNS Midyear Convention at Clark, Pampanga last April 10-12, 2014. The convention was both an academic and an adventure. Aside from attending lectures about voice and larynx, they also survived the challenges in the Amazing Race, which included eating a Kapampangan delicacy.

The month of July came as the busiest month of the year for our department. We were visited by the PBO-HNS, headed by Dr. Edilberto Jose, Dr. Alfredo Pontejos and Dr. Cesar Villafuerte, for our reaccreditation. Our graduating seniors also took their In-service Practical Exam on the same day. After a month of waiting, we were very grateful for being given another 4-year accredited residency training program.

The department held its first In-House Endoscopic Sinus Surgery Lecture and Workshop last August 9-10. It included live endoscopic sinus surgery done by Dr. Jose Raindrop Embate and Dr. Moh Ariff Baguindali. The post-graduate course aims to provide additional knowledge to the residents as well as to promote our specialty to the medical students.

To benefit our indigent patients specifically those with Head and Neck cancer, the Department organized a movie premier for "Transformers 4: Age of Extinction" as a fund raising event. The proceeds will be of great help to the diagnostics and management of our patients. We also sponsored a blood donation program in cooperation with the Residents Association of SPMC, to provide blood pool for our patients in emergency purposes. It was participated by all other specialty departments and nursing staff and we had gathered 45 donors.

For the remainder of the year, the department will continue to participate in other activities that will be of service to our patients and also continue our medical education. We will uphold our aim to provide competent and patient-oriented residents and consultants.

St. Luke's Medical Center



The year 2014 has been very productive for the Department of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery of St. Luke's Medical Center, headed by its Chairmen Dr. Ray U. Casile (QC) and Dr. William L. Lim (BGC), and the Resident's Training Officer Dr. Joel Romuladez.

The year started with in-house courses for residents on Temporal Bone Dissection Tracheostomy and Laryngectomy, as had been done annually. These courses were organized to make the residents more knowledgeable and skillful in the surgical management of diseases that necessitates these procedures. The consultant staff of the various subspecialties personally supervised the residents during these courses.

In April 2014, St. Luke's Medical Center Quezon City and Global City hosted the World Voice Day. It featured a lay forum and free flexible laryngoscopy (Oplan Paos) for public school teachers and other participants. This aimed to enhance awareness of the role of the voice and how to care for it especially for those who are voice professionals. The week-long celebration culminated in a grand free concert entitled "Voice Night Out" held at the St. Luke's Global City Main Lobby featuring known performing Filipino singers from various genres and singing doctors of SLMC.

Last June 2014, the Department also held a Post Graduate Course on the New Trends in the Multidisciplinary Approach to the Management of Thyroid Lesions. Speakers from different specialties shared their expertise in the management of thyroid pathologies.

The Residents held a Lay Forum entitled "A Beautiful Sunday" wherein invited guests talked about Rhinoplasty, Botox injection and Plastic Surgery. Another Lay forum for Hearing Screening was held in November for Barangay Health Workers as part of the Deaf-Awareness Week held in coordination with the local government of Quezon City. The Residents provided lectures, workshops, and return demos for the very enthusiastic participants.

After months of preparation, the Department successfully applied for Board Re-accreditation last June 18, 2014. It is one of the highlights of the year and a testament to the department's aim of providing excellent and competent training for its residents. Also in this year, the Department was able to send chosen Residents to undergo training and workshops in other countries namely Malaysia for Pediatric Airway and Broncho-esophagology (August) and Korea for FESS and Rhinology (October). The Department also held a Medical Mission and Lecture Series in Bacolod City last November as part of the Department's campaign to reach out to the community



beyond Metro Manila. Truly, the year has been a very productive one for the Department of Otolaryngology of St. Luke's Medical Center. Our department will be actively participating in the upcoming 5th International Cancer Symposium entitled "Present and Future Directions in Head & Neck Cancer", organized by the SLMC Cancer Institute. This will be held on February 19 - 20, 2015 at the Henry Sy, Sr. Auditorium, 5th Flr. St. Luke's Medical Center - Global City, Manila Philippines. International speakers are Dr. Snjezana Dogan, Dr. Ian Ganly, Dr. David Pfister, Dr. Nadeem Riaz, and Dr. Jatin Shah.

The Medical City



The Department of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery of The Medical City was conceived with the goals of offering advanced diagnostic and surgical capabilities in ORL-HNS, as well as a comprehensive and balanced private hospital-based training program. The Department and the adjacent Ear, Nose, and Throat-Head and Neck Surgery Center are located at the 2nd floor of the hospital complex, Podium Building. Its Ear, Nose, Throat – Head and Neck Surgery (ENT- HNS) Center integrates the Outpatient Clinic, Hearing and Dizziness Unit, Voice and Swallowing Laboratory, and Speech Therapy. With its world- class facility, TMC and The Department of ENT- HNS is well-positioned to pursue its goal of leadership in the national and international health landscape. Under the present leadership composed of its adviser Dr. Remigio Jarin, its Chair Dr. Clarissa S. Fortuna, and its residency-training Officer Dr. Patrick Henry S. Enriquez, the staff and residents have collectively worked towards the goal of achieving excellence in our field. Altogether, the TMC Department of ORL-HNS has been a nationally recognized service-oriented center with a relentless aim to be globally recognized as a center providing world standard service.

University of the East Ramon Magsaysay Memorial Medical Center

The University of the East Ramon Magsaysay Memorial Medical Center Inc. Department of ORL-HNS continues its tradition built in the foundation of excellence in healthcare, academics, research and surgical innovation. UERM hosted the Post Graduate Course titled "Hearing Aid Audiology - ABC's of Hearing Aids" held last July 5, 2014. The successful event was attended by ENT residents, audiologists, and recent graduates of the various accredited training institutions.



Lectures about basic history taking and hearing assessment, pediatric audiology, advances in Audiology, ear mould preparation, psychosocial factors of the hearing impaired, and rehabilitation aspects in Audiology were well received. The department remains faithful in community-oriented activities as it actively participates and organizes charitable and service-oriented activities. The department's chairman Dr. Lily L. Sia-Vargas herself hosted and organized the recent Medical and Surgical Mission in Quezon province held last October 4-5, 2014. The said event was not limited to the discipline of ORL-HNS, but also other medical and surgical specialties. The department will also participate in UERM's "People's Day," where old and new patients can consult in the UERM out-patient department free of charge. With this, we hope to provide excellent health service especially to those who are indigent. In continuing pursuit of academic excellence, the department believes that ENT skills and knowledge should be honed as early as possible starting with medical students. In between the construction and design of a new skills lab, weekly lectures for 3rd year medical students and preceptorial classes for 2nd year medical students, the department is also working to produce a new up-to-date version of the workbook and CD entitled "Techniques of ENT Physical Examination" for use by the medical undergraduates in their ENT modules. Also, in preparation to the ASEAN integration, the department is focused in the implementation of outcome based education. UERM Department of Otorhinolaryngology plans to host two post graduate courses next year. The Basic Facial Plastic Course is scheduled on March 21-22, 2015, under the course coordinator Dr. Virgilio R. de Gracia. This course has lectures about basic anatomy of face and skin, wound healing, co-morbid factors affecting wound healing, aging face, sutures and wound closure technique, grafts, flaps, cleft lip and palate. It also has workshops to simulate activities aimed to refine skills in mounting mastery over principles of plastic surgery. There is also a planned Post Graduate course in Research Paper Writing. Details for this event are still being finalized by the course coordinator, Dr. Elmo R. Lago.

University of the Philippines-Phil. General Hospital

The Department of Otorhinolaryngology of the Philippine General Hospital has always been at the forefront of training, research and patient care. Founded over 50 years ago, it has continuously provided excellence and leadership in community-oriented medical education, residency and fellowship training, relevant researches, and service-oriented activities.



Today, the Department is the largest tertiary ORL service in the country, with 34 consultants, 28 residents, and 2 fellows, serving more than 20,000 outpatients, close to 2,500 emergency patients, and performing over 2,000 surgeries, 1,500 audiologic procedures and 200 prosthetic devices annually. In line with its vision of becoming an internationally recognized center of excellence, the Department has been constantly awarded and recognized both locally and internationally for its activities, as well as its relevant research output. The Department also continues to spearhead forums and symposiums as a venue for exchange of ideas among our colleagues in the field and beyond. Below are the activities of the Department for the year 2014 just past:

1. Face Transplant Symposium (BWORLD): Feb 22, 2014; Magsaysay Institute of Hospitality and Culinary Arts
2. Basic Facial Plastic Surgery Course: March 13 - 14, 2014; Buenafe Hall, UP College of Medicine
3. Basic Head and Neck Surgery Post-Graduate Course: April 8 - 9, 2014; ORL Department Conference Room, Ward 10, Philippine General Hospital
4. 7th International Temporal Bone Dissection and Basic Audiology Course: May 7 - 10, 2014: Calderon Hall and Paz Mendoza Hall, UP College of Medicine
5. Endoscopic Sinus Surgery: Basic Anatomy and Cadaver Dissection: July 24 - 26, 2014; ORL Department Conference Room, Ward 10, Philippine General Hospital; Dualan Anatomy Lab, Calderon Hall, UPCM
6. Rhinoplasty Dissection Course: August 1 - 2, 2014; ORL Department Conference Room, Ward 10, Philippine General Hospital; Dualan Anatomy Lab, Calderon Hall, UP College of Medicine
7. Cranioplasty and Laboratory Guide for Reconstruction of Major Skull and Mandibular Defects (together with MDH): October 3, 2014; MBFI Hall, Manila Doctors Hospital.

With the health needs of the Filipino people being the Department's prime consideration and main thrust in all its activities, the Department of ORL continues to progress towards excellence, innovation, and service – continuing the legacy on which it was founded.

University of Santo Tomas Hospital

Another year is another opportunity for the Department of ORL-HNS of the UST Hospital to serve the less fortunate Filipinos in the outskirts of the country. Two surgical missions were organized. First was by the Carolina Medical Mission held in Davao City on January 21 – 25, 2014. Patients from different corners of the



province came for their ailments to be treated. This would not have been possible without the coordinated efforts of Emma Dempsey (General Coordinator), Dr. Arturo de Leon (Medical Coordinator), Aurora Sprague (US Coordinator for Davao), Alfredo Ruiz (Philippine Coordinator for Davao), Hon. Rodrigo Duterte (Mayor of Davao City), and all the volunteer doctors, nurses, and staff. Last February 2-7, 2014, the Medical Mission of Mercy USA organized a dental and surgical mission in Sorsogon. Dr. Joseph Arzadon and his family headed the team. The department sent four delegates, including Dr. Ferdinand Pamintuan and the residents, Drs. Hasmin Hannah Lara, Marichu Florence Ciceron and Ryan Chua. The surgeries were held at the Dr. Fernando B. Duran Sr. Memorial Hospital where over 2000 patients underwent surgeries for free. This was truly a work of service from the compassionate doctors. The Department, together with the Arbeitsgemeinschaft fur Osteosynthesefragen (AO) Foundation, hosted the AO-CMF Principles course last February 24-27, 2014 at the Thomas Aquinas Research Center, University of Santo Tomas. This activity was spearheaded by Dr. Francis V. Roasa and Dr. Enrico Donato. International speakers, Dr. Michael Ehrenfeld, Prof. Dr. Kim, and Dr. Derek Gooddison graced this activity. Attendees came from different subspecialties concerned with cranio-maxillofacial trauma and all the allotted slots were filled-up. Furthermore, our beloved Dr. Francis Roasa has been elected as Chairman of the AO Craniomaxillofacial Asia Pacific Board. This will open up another door of opportunity to the residents-in-training of the USTH Department of Otorhinolaryngology - Head and Neck Surgery to venture into Maxillofacial-Plastic Surgery. The Department is proud of its recent graduates with a 100% passing rate at the recent Diplomate Board Examination held last June 2014. Dr. Cristopher Ed Gloria, Dr. Julius Perry Velasco and Dr. Sidney Uy all surpassed the qualifying exams given by the PBO-HNS. The hospital is presently undergoing renovations at the Clinical Division. Included is the renovation of the ENT and Ophthalmology San Damian ward. The new ward was inaugurated on August 15, 2014 with the inclusion of 2 new Philhealth wards. The Department is hopeful following a successful accreditation of the Residency training by the Philippine Board of Otorhinolaryngology Head and Neck Surgery last September 17, 2014. Accreditors were Dr. Edilberto Jose, Dr. Alfredo Pontejos Jr., and Dr. Felix Nolasco. The highlight of our year is the Department's upcoming 30th Anniversary Celebration on November 28, 2014 at the Bayanihan Center sponsored by Unilab our partner in the industry. This is a chance for our alumni to catch up and reminisce their residency training as well as honor the pillars of our department.



## Veterans Memorial Medical Center



The department takes hold of its mission to sustain efforts to become a center for ORL-HNS research—an organization that acquires, develops and shares knowledge and skills throughout the medical community. The department is proud of its achievements by winning top places in three consecutive research paper presentations this year. Dr. Ma. Melizza Villalon presented a paper in the recently conducted PSO-HNS Interesting Case Presentation entitled “A Rare Case of Parathyroid Carcinoma Manifesting as Recurrent Nephrolithiasis” last May 22, 2014. Dr. Ma. Shamylle Quinto presented a research paper entitled “A Long-Term Evaluation of Voice Production and Aspiration of Patients Who Underwent Total Laryngectomy with Ureta Primary Voice Reconstruction” presented at the Dr. Leon R. Lopez Annual Memorial Research Forum of the Philippine Society of by Oncology on September 12, 2014. She also presented and won first prize for a research paper entitled “A Validation Study on Functional Outcome and Quality of Life of Patients Who Underwent Total Laryngectomy with Primary Voice Reconstruction” at the PSO-HNS Descriptive Research Contest last September 18, 2014.

17 years and counting, the department plays an active track for the Head and Neck Cancer Survivor Support Group spearheaded by our very own, Dr. Celso V. Ureta. Its members together with their family attends the meetings and check-ups every last Friday of each month with the aim of improving their health status through education, rehabilitation and by initiating programs that will promote proper understanding of their condition.

Last March 21, 2014, the department conducted its second Geriatric Post-Graduate Course entitled, “Tumatanda Ka Na... An Approach to Aging ENT Patients” at the Basilio Valdes Hall, Veterans Memorial Medical Center. The event was successfully spearheaded by Dr. Natividad Almazan which was attended by delegates coming from within and outside the institution. The topics covered the most common ENT cases encountered by the geriatric population.

On June 20-21, 2015, the Department of ORL-HNS of the VMMC, in cooperation with the PSO-HNS, is proud to invite all ENT-HNS specialists, both local and foreign to our 8th Laryngeal Post-Graduate Course: International Symposium on Phonosurgery and Hands-on Human Larynx Cadaver Workshop on Isshiki Thyroplasties to be held at the Basilio Valdes Hall, Veterans Memorial Medical Center. The department is honored to have Dr. Nobuhiko Isshiki, the pioneer

of Thyroplasty (Isshiki) Techniques, as our special guest speaker. This is his very first time to lecture in our country. His associates, Dr. Masahiro Tanabe (Assistant Professor Emeritus from Kochi University Graduate School of Medicine) and Dr. Shinya Hiroshiba (Chairman of Hiroshiba ENT Clinic, Kyoto Surgicenter) will also be lecturing. Interested parties can coordinate and make reservations with the department residents or call/text to 09052200972, or call through the department secretariat at (02)426-9775.

## Vicente Sotto Memorial Medical Center



The sun was shining all day on May 2014 at Costabella Tropical Beach Resort Cebu, as we celebrated how exceptional it is to be part of the ENT team. The gathering was spearheaded by the Chief Resident and was attended by the consultants, residents, our families and friends. The day was filled with food and games. After filling our stomach with a buffet fit for a king, we headed out to the beach to burn all the extra calories and tone our bodies. We were group into two teams with five members each.

The first game was a relay wherein we had to balance a cup of water on our heads and go around a chair then back to the starting point to pass the cup to our teammates. We were toe to toe at first but on the last leg, we were able to dash through the finish line and our group of residents ended up winning the first game. The next game was more of a puzzle, and I mean it literally. We were all tied up and tangled together. The goal was to untie ourselves without breaking the bond. So surgical tie or not, it was still exciting and fun. The last game was similar to a text twist, as we were asked to guess the word but the bigger twist was we had to run with our corresponding letters. Not only did it stimulate our minds, it also kept our hearts pumping as we tirelessly ran back and forth just to get that big W.

Though only one team won, it felt that everyone came out as a winner, as we all shared laughter and smiles during and until the end of the competition. We then had a friendly game of Beach, Volleyball as we tried to showcase our athleticism and grace but ended up with sore knees and bruised elbows. Nevertheless, it was fun and a great way to release all the tension from work. And what better way to end it up, by dusting all the sand off as we went a dip into the gorgeous sea. This surely was a day worth remembering and will be an event I will always look forward to in the years to come.