



The Philippine Society of Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery (PSO-HNS) was privileged to host the Southeast Asian leg of the 2018 World Tour of the International Federation of Head and Neck Oncologic Societies (IFHNOS). This was held on October 22-24, 2018 at the historic Manila Hotel, in conjunction with the 62nd PSO-HNS Annual Convention.

The IFHNOS World Tour started in 2008 as a global continuing medical education program, with regional sessions ensuring that the

reach is truly worldwide. The first two days of the annual convention covered Current Concepts in Head and Neck Surgery and Oncology, under the able leadership of Prof. Jatin Shah of Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York City, assisted by other IFHNOS faculty and regional experts from the Philippines, Indonesia, Korea, Malaysia, Singapore, Taiwan and Thailand.

The convention started with Opening Ceremonies, during which  
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## 2018 PSO-HNS Midyear Convention in Palawan!



The Southern Tagalog chapter was the designated host of the 2018 midyear convention just ten months prior to the event. But despite the time constraints, STENTS never wavered in their commitment to deliver a memorable and interesting mix of scientific program and social activities.

The midyear convention was held last May 10-12, 2018 at the Citystate Asturias Hotel in Puerto Princesa City in the picturesque island of Palawan. The theme was Dissecting Dysphagia: Dilemmas, Diagnostics, Directions.

As a way to give time for the delegates to savor the beauty of the island, the organizing committee decided to start sessions each day at noon with a lunch symposium. The scientific sessions were well-attended and applauded with the delegates giving positive feedback on the choices of topics especially regarding newer diagnostic tools

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## PSO-HNS Hosts.... *continued from page 1*



Prof. Shah spoke on the importance of continuing education for head and neck surgeons worldwide. Sessions on the different sites of head and neck cancer followed, with the format of one to three short lectures followed by an hour of case discussions lending itself to a better understanding of the cancer and the different management modalities.

The theme of the third day of the convention was Office Procedures and Management, with informative lectures, as well as interactive Clinical Encounters which allowed delegates to practice what had been demonstrated. These sessions were spearheaded



by the different subspecialty groups of the society, ensuring that timely and relevant topics were covered comprehensively.

Social interaction among the members of the society was also not forgotten. A Fellowship Night on the first day fostered much camaraderie, while the Business Meeting on the second day saw new policies discussed and ratified. The Gala Night on the last day was a fitting end to a wonderful experience.

With \_\_\_ local delegates and \_\_\_ foreign registrants, excellent lectures and relevant for a, let us count the 62nd Annual Convention a resounding success!

## 2018 PSO-HNS Midyear.... *continued from page 1*

and multidisciplinary approach in managing dysphagia. It has been quite sometime since this has been included in such a scientific forum. This piqued interests on not-so-common topics in the program, making attendees stay on and finish the lectures.

Nighttime activities were geared towards fostering greater camaraderie among the members of the society. Opening night was a Gala night held at the Princesa Island Garden Resort with the theme: "All-White Beach Party". It was a night of fun-filled activities with lively music and dancing that gave everyone a chance to catch up with colleagues and friends. It was followed up on the second night by a Fellowship Night held at the convention venue.

Theme was "Bohemian-inspired," with local talents regaling guests with songs and dances. The final night's activity was a Sponsor's night. It was a night given to our industry sponsors to dine out and personally interact with their respective delegates.

The 2018 midyear convention was a huge success. It was a testament to the hard work, cooperation and ingenuity of the Southern Tagalog Chapter. As the over all convention chair, I would like to personally thank the 2017 and 2018 Board of Trustees for their unwavering support and commitment to make this convention a success!





## Message from the President



**AGNES T. REMULLA, MD, FPSO-HNS**

Since the 2017 announcement that the 2018 annual convention will be on October, the impression was that 2018 will be a very short year. Many internal and external concerns needed attention in the short time given. Regular activities needed to proceed on top of additional ones.

With the dedication of many hard-working fellows, much of the tasks planned were completed. The following is a summary of the activities and accomplishments of 2018.

**Amendments to the Constitution and By-laws.** One important goal of 2018 was the full review and revision of the PSO-HNS Constitution and By-Laws. A group of respected senior fellows conducted the review and recommended amendments. These were presented during the Business Meeting and after some discussion, was ratified by the members. Highlights of amendments were inclusion of responsibilities of the officers and trustees; inclusion of the Comelec and revised election rules.

**BIR Tax-Exempt Status.** The PSO-HNS applied for BIR tax-exempt status consistent with non-stock, non-profit professional organizations. The process was started several years ago and was finally realized in 2018. The implication is greater savings for the Society to allot for the many projects envisioned.

**Data Privacy Act Compliance.** Implementation of the Data Privacy Act of 2012 was accelerated in 2018. In compliance, the PSO-HNS Data Privacy Manual was completed; office computer and procedural systems were upgraded.

**OBE Residency Training Manual Turned Over to PBO-HNS.** The PSO-HNS Outcome Based Curriculum for ORL-HNS Residency Training Manual was completed in 2017. Since then, the PSO-HNS and PBO-HNS have worked together to help the institutions put this into practice. A stakeholders meeting was conducted last August 3, 2018. Representatives of the different institutions presented their concerns, difficulties and successes in its implementation. At the conclusion of this meeting, the PSO-HNS officially turned over ownership of the OBE Residency Training Manual to the PBO-HNS.

**OBE Curricula for ORL-HNS Sub-Specialty Training.** All study groups were requested to formulate an OBE subspecialty training curriculum in preparation for the proposed government regulation of professional training and certification.

**PAORLIACI.** The Philippine Academy of ORL Allergy and Clinical Immunology (PAORLIACI) was approved in 2018. This is the latest addition to the roster of subspecialty interest groups of the PSO-HNS and deals primarily with allergic and immunologic conditions

of the head and neck.

**Chapter Visits.** The BOT visited 7 of the 9 chapters to touch base and hear their concerns. The chapters were also informed of the ongoing activities and plans of the PSO-HNS.

**LTO Hearing Assessment for Non-Professional Driver's Licensing.** The Land Transportation Office requested for assistance from the PSO-HNS regarding hearing evaluation requirements and possible limitations of driving privileges for the hearing impaired. The position paper submitted by PANORS was incorporated into the new guidelines for LTO licensing.

**DOH Disability Workshops.** The DOH requested the PSO-HNS to submit ORL-related disabilities and their definitions. Each subspecialty group was asked to submit a list of disabilities. This information will be used to define the benefits to be awarded to persons-with-disabilities.

**PMA Assent Forms.** The PSO-HNS has tirelessly contributed to the efforts to gain recognition as an independent society under the PMA. Previously, the only way the PMA Charter could be changed was to garner 2/3 vote from the PMA membership to amend the provision limiting medical specialties to only 8. Despite best efforts, the PSO-HNS and other societies could not collect enough proxies to make the 2/3 target. In January 2018, the PMA Board of Governors met and recommended the addition of 6 paragraphs pertaining to different topics. Of particular interest is the final item on medical organizations which will allow recognition of all medical specialties as independent professional groups. This only required a member's assent. Forms were distributed and signature booths were installed in almost all PSO-HNS activities to collect signatures. Collection of assent is ongoing.

**Advocacy Programs.** Clear procedures for the application for PSO-HNS advocacy funding was implemented. Monitoring and feedback mechanisms were also created. Several advocacy programs related to social, environmental, and educational activities were conducted by the chapters and sub-specialty groups.

**Scientific Programs.** – Scientific activities included the Basic Course, specialty courses conducted by the academies; 10th International Academic Conference in Otology, Rhinology and Laryngology (ORLIAC); "Dissecting Dysphagia: Dilemmas, Diagnostics, Directions", the midyear convention in Palawan; the 62nd PSO-HNS Annual Convention and IFHNOS World Tour; and the ENT Week. Significant was the return of the interhospital grand rounds hosted by the Manila Doctor's Hospital.

**Research Presentations during the Annual Convention.** For 2018, the descriptive and analytical research contests; and poster sessions on surgical innovation and instrumentation were conducted as part of the annual convention program.



# A Tribute to Armando Tantoco Chiong

(August 29, 1930- May 27, 2018)

By Charlotte Chiong, MD, FPSO-HNS

Dr. Armando Chiong, or Army as he was fondly called, was the eldest of seven children of Dr. Rafael D. Chiong (UST Medicine 1925) and Natividad Tantoco, the pharmacist of Plaza Drugstore in Malolos.

He graduated in medicine at UST in 1954, then took an internship in Wilmington Virginia, USA in 1955. He proceeded to finish a three-year residency in otolaryngology at the University of Virginia under G. S. Fitz Hugh. He became the chief resident in otolaryngology as well as assistant resident in plastic surgery. He had a short stint as an assistant resident in plastic surgery at NYU-Bellevue Hospital but decided to go back to the Philippines in 1959.

He became very active in the Bulacan Medical Society and became its president in 1964. At the same time he read many papers before the Philippine Ophthalmological and Otolaryngology Society and the Philippine Society of Otolaryngology and Bronchoesophagology. He first became a director of the Philippine Society of Otolaryngology and Bronchoesophagology in 1960 during the presidency of Dr. Cesar Villafuerte Sr., but the following year in 1961 he decided to pursue a one year fellowship in otology at the Johns Hopkins University Hospital and successfully became a diplomate of the American Board of Otolaryngology that year.

His interest in otolaryngology was varied given that as a resident he had published numerous research papers international and local journals. Among these were papers on Glomus jugulare (Journal of PMA, 1956) as well as international publications on Temporal Bone Surgery, Intracranial complications of otogenous origin and Benign Laryngeal Lesions. He even co-authored one of the earliest papers on electrocochleography with Dr. Robert Ruben that was published in Acta Otolaryngology (Stockholm).

In 1963. At this time he already decided on building a specialty hospital the Malolos Eye Ear Nose and Throat Hospital which was the first building in the middle of the rice fields traversed by the McArthur Highway in Malolos to the north of Bulacan, Pampanga, Tarlac, Pangasinan and further. He was inspired by Dr. Luis Santos a well-known and respected EENT practitioner who co-founded the Philippine College of Surgeons. At the Manila Doctors Hospital where he was chairman of the Department of ORL from 1979-1991 just before it applied for accreditation. He resigned as Chairman out of delicadeza as he did not want to have the accreditation affected



by his then close ties to the directors of the Philippine Board of Otolaryngology. He served as secretary-treasurer and can be credited for the frequent newspaper announcements on the activities of the PSOB (Figure 2).

He was elected president of the Philippine Society of Otolaryngology and Bronchoesophagology from 1975-1977 with Dr. Jose Caedo as inducting officer from the Philippine Hospital Association. At his inauguration, the invited speaker was Dr. Antonio Oposa who was then president of the Philippine Medical Association. This was held at the Skytop of the Hotel Intercontinental on March 8, 1975. He co-founded later the Philippine Board of Otolaryngology being one of the original 7 diplomates of the American

Board of Otolaryngology who came back to the Philippines to set up a high standard of ENT care by ensuring that trainees pass both oral and written specialty examinations after an accredited training in ORL is concluded.

He was a dedicated mentor to a number of PGH residents with a number of research papers under his guidance and assisted surgeries in plastic and reconstructive surgery and taught most of the rhinology lectures for the medical students at the UP College of Medicine and served as chief of the section of plastic and reconstructive surgery of the department. When he became Chairman of the Department of Otolaryngology at the UP-PGH from 1987-1989, he was able to modernize the ORL Library with new acquisitions to help residents in their training. He spurred research by requiring research from the different sections and organized the first intradepartmental research contest held at the then Estrada Hall. PGH won first prize in almost all the research contests during his time as chair. He supported an internationalization programme that required 1-1-1 (one year fellowship in one subspecialty in one institution). He allowed visiting experts to give lectures while residents were allowed to attend international conferences to present their papers and help publish their papers. He was also able to convince then PGH director to assign the space for a PGH Ear Unit. It was during his chairmanship that the Ear Study Group was formed in 1987 which won as the best study group in UP Manila in 1999, paving the way to become the nidus for the Philippine National Ear Institute in 2004.

His knack for being very organized, being dapper in personal

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**Figure 2:** Scanned Photo of his Newspaper Clippings in his Album

grooming and style were legendary. His distinguished taste of obtaining only the best from pens to clothing and even to cars were reflective of his personal dictum of not settling for anything other than the best. Of all his undertakings however, it was as a devoted father to his children that he cherished most. A strict disciplinarian from the outset, he was so devastated by the loss of one child that henceforth he never failed to convey his unconditional love to his children. He did not fail to talk to each one everyday even when they all stayed in Manila with long distance calls to each and everyone. He gave full support (financial and otherwise) so that his children can obtain the best residency and fellowship training from centers of excellence with the view of sharing this knowledge later to others in the academe.

Two of his children thus followed his footsteps and also became ORL specialists and served in training hospitals. They both eventually became president of PSOHNS. These were Dr. Armando M. Chiong, Jr. (now Chairman of the department of ORL in East Avenue Medical Center and also a director of the PBOHNS) and Dr. Charlotte Chiong (currently Dean of the UP College of Medicine). Another daughter, Dr. Mary Ellen Chiong Perez, a specialist in awake brain surgery anesthesiology, while his other son Rafael, who also finished medicine, relegated himself to looking after the family property business. Among his grandchildren, the eldest Alessandra is now a first year ORL resident at UP-PGH, while Armando III a third year UP Medical student,

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## A Tribute to Armando ...

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In July 21, 2018 the Bulacan Medical Society, whom he served as President in the year 1964, gave him a posthumous award for his unsurpassed dedication and commitment to that society. His leadership, wisdom, and friendship he left a significant impression in the organization. He in fact maintained his practice in Malolos,

Bulacan while being active in the PSOHNS and PBOHNS as well as Manila Doctors Hospital and UP-PGH where he served with distinction and honor. He was cited as one of the pillars of excellence at the Manila Doctors Hospital during its 60th anniversary. Because of him the Chiong Family was awarded by the PSOHNS as most outstanding family of the year in 2006 during its 50th anniversary.

## 1st PSOHNS-RBGM Medical Golf Tournament

After several years of inactivity, the PSO-HNS golfers finally had another golf tournament held last November 29, 2018 at Villamor golf club. The golf tournament materialized in cooperation with RBGM Medical.

It was a fun-filled activity participated by almost 30 golfers. Our Fellowship was attended by no less than the PSO-HNS President Dr. Agnes T. Remulla and the managing director of RBGM Atty. Don Carino. RBGM Medical, our new partner, will be sponsoring the succeeding golf tournaments of PSO-HNS.

The following are the winners:

Overall Champion: Dr. Roberto Pangan  
Class A Champion: Dr. Alfredo Navarette

Class A Runner up:

Class B Champion:

Class B Runner up:

Class C Champion:

Class C Runner up:

Dr. William Lim

Dr. Brendan Ferrolino

Dr. Nelson Magno

Dr. Francisco Victoria

Dr. Edwin Jamir

Special Awards:

Nearest to the pin:

Most Accurate drive:

Longest drive:

Longest putt:

Dr. Roberto Pangan

Dr. Andrew Opulencia

Dr. Peter Miguel

Dr. JR Suan







## Message from the Publicity Committee Chair

By **JOHN RODOLFO D. SUAR, JR., MD, MHA, FPSOHNS, FPCS**

Our PSOHNS newsletter is now following the trend of many print magazines. To shift exclusively to online publication. This issue of ORLNews will be the very first one

which will no longer be printed on paper but is rather made available to all Fellows in electronic form only via the PSO-HNS Website.

With the PSOHNS website ([www.pso-hns.org](http://www.pso-hns.org)) now in full operation, this and the succeeding issues of the newsletter will already be made available on this site. For this, I would like to thank Dr. Robert Dy, our website administrator, and Dr. Fred Hawson, our perpetual newsletter editor-in-chief.

Our website is a repository of our society's activities, events,

news, clinical practice guidelines, our very own PJOHNS, information about the different accredited training institutions and and updates on upcoming annual or midyear conventions. We are currently working to make online payments for the annual/ midyear conventions and even annual membership dues to be made available on our website.

Our society's officers are working to continuously improve our website and the information contained therein. In the past months, there was misinformation about medications that could allegedly treat or reverse hearing loss. This misinformation was circulated all over social media. We countered this by issuing an official statement in our website.

With the Universal Health Care Law about to be implemented, we are in the process of mapping the area of practice of our Fellows so that such information can be readily accessible in our website. This way, General Practitioners and the general public would know who is the nearest certified ENT-HNS specialist they can refer to in their respective areas.

Let us make it a habit to visit our website and know what is going on in our society.

## PSO-HNS Sportsfest Revived!

It was probably a decade ago since we had our last sports fest. Last year, the 2018 PSO-HNS Board of Trustees decided to revive it in time to coincide with our annual ENT week celebration and business meeting. We also invited the residents through PROHNS to join us in this activity. It was held at the UNILAB sports complex in Mandaluyong last November 30, 2018.

The activity started with a prayer led by Dr. Bel Magallanes. The opening remarks and oath of sportsmanship was led by no less than our PSO-HNS President, Dr. Agnes T. Remulla. The participants were divided into 4 groups. A member of the board of trustees captained each team: Dr. Eris Llanes for the red team; Dr. Archie Cabungcal for the blue team; Dr. Tong Untalan for the green team and Dr. Edmund Ong for the yellow team. Each team was composed of consultants and residents, who were randomly selected before the event.

The cheering competition was the first event of the day. The other sports events were: 3 x 3 basketball, badminton doubles, volleyball, tug of war, basketball skills relay and finally, the team relay. After the smoke of competition cleared, the Yellow Team

came out the Champion with 61 points. The Red, Blue and Green teams were first, second and third runners up respectively.

It was a fun filled day. The officers and members of PROHNS really made a significant contribution to this endeavor, from the preparations to the actual event. This is a good way to foster camaraderie among the members of the society and rekindle our ties with our training residents.





## SUBSPECIALTIES

### AHNOP



Celebrating eleven years of service to the Filipino under the umbrella of our society, the Academy for Head and Neck Oncology of the Philippines (AHNOP) continues to build strategic plans to encourage people to embrace our vision of decreasing if not eradicating head and neck cancer in the Philippines through better public awareness, education, and service.

The various national and international annual celebrations the academy have spearheaded such as the Goiter Awareness Week (GAW) on the 4th week of January, the Head and Neck Cancer Detection Consciousness Week (HANDACOW) on the 4th week of April, and the World Head and Neck Cancer Day (WHNCD) on the 27th of July paved way to numerous meaningful activities supported and well-participated by different training institutions and regional chapters all over the country.

These programs included:

1. **Free Thyroid Clinics** in celebration of GAW from January 22 to 28, 2018
2. **Lay Forums** on Head and Neck Cancer Awareness and
3. **"Pasilip Ka!"** Free Endoscopy Screening in celebration of the HANDACOW from April 30 to May 6, 2018
4. **PSO-HNS Inter-Hospital Grand Rounds** in head and neck cancer hosted by The Department of ORL-HNS of The Medical City on May 2, 2018
5. **Symposium on Nasopharyngeal Cancer Screening and Multi-disciplinary Management** held at the Luxent Hotel in QC in May 3, 2018
6. **Medical and Surgical Mission** held at the Sts. Peter & Paul Parish Church, in Poblacion, Makati on May 3, 2018 through the efforts of Dr. Gil Vicente
7. A number of **television and radio promotion** against head & neck cancer in various national and local stations on April 30 to May 3, 2018
8. Free Zumba session with the theme **"Isang Sayaw Laban sa Kanser"** held at the QC Memorial Circle on May 6, 2018 to culminate the 10th year of the HANDACOW celebration
9. **Community information campaign**, lay forum and symposiums in celebration of the **World Head and Neck Cancer Day** on the 27th of July in partnership with IFHNOS and other organizations world-wide

Moreover, the academy has worked all year round together with the PSO-HNS in organizing the successful and innovative **2018 IFHNOS World Tour in Manila** that coincided with the 62nd PSO-HNS Annual Convention on October 22 to 24 held at The Manila Hotel.

Looking forward, AHNOP plans to create a bigger impact on its advocacies by hosting more symposiums, courses and inter-hospital grand rounds in different institutions outside Metro Manila. It plans to increase its membership by involving new fellows and residents in its academic activities and create a national head and neck screening questionnaire for community-based practice in the country as well. Indeed, under the leadership of Dr. Jacob Matubis and its officers Dr. J. Matsuo, C. Arquiza, along with its dedicated members, the year 2018 has truly been fruitful for everyone.

### PAAud



The Philippine Academy of Audiology welcomed 2018 with a change. With its new set of officers, the group was enthusiastic in carrying out activities for the year. Together with the Philippine Society of Audiology, two conventions were held for the year.

The first one held last June 23, 2018 and in collaboration with Ospital ng Makati, was entitled "Vertigo Made Simple". The second convention held December 12, 2018 focused on hearing aids and was entitled "Special Issues and Best Practices of Hearing Aid Providers". Both events were well attended and participated in by ORL-HNS residents, consultants and other parties with interest on the topics.

Aside from conventions, the group advocates the development of the Audiology Bill and was also part of the PRC consultative meeting on the Audiology Bill done last Nov at PICC.

PAAud plans to continue its collaboration with other groups and institutions in holding meetings, post-graduate courses and other activities that will continue to develop and strengthen their advocacies, on hearing and hearing health.

The current officers are led by Jona Minette E. Ligon, MD (president), Howard Enriquez, MD (vice president), Diosdado Uy, MD (secretary) and Ronald Javier, MD (treasurer).

### PACMFS

The Philippine Academy of CranioMaxilloFacial Surgery (PACMFS) has been active in implementing its main advocacy – to uplift the standards of CMF care in the country thru promotion of education on the proper management of CMF surgery.

The study group targets not only provincial chapters of the PSO-HNS but all health care providers and avid motorists group, as





well. With the help of our industry partner, we have had privilege to enforce our advocacies with the help of other provincial chapters (Bicol, La Union), we conduct a whole day Maxillofacial Surgery Course with Hands on workshop, we have a full faculty of PACMFS members that impart knowledge and skill. And we will continue to do this activity until we comprehensively carry out our mission across the archipelago.

### PAFPRS



The Philippine Academy of Facial Plastic Aesthetic and Reconstructive Surgery (PAFPRS) continues to uphold its vision of becoming the Philippines' forefront organization in facial plastic and reconstructive surgery committed to advancing the specialty in the field of education, training and research. The PAFPRS ensures the excellence and relevance of the specialty through continuing medical education, public awareness and service, and intensive fellowship training program in Facial Plastic Surgery (Head and Neck Reconstructive, Craniomaxillofacial and Facial Aesthetic Plastic Surgery).

The year 2018 has been a productive year for PAFPRS under the leadership of then chairperson, Dr. Lei Joan Vital. Several scientific meetings, workshops and cadaver dissection courses were held throughout the year in partnership with different study groups and training institutions. The first scientific meeting was on the topic of Local Flaps discussed by Dr. Jaime Anthony Arzadon, which was held last March 24, 2018 at the W building in Bonifacio Global City (BGC). Last April 27-28, 2018, the University of Sto. Tomas (UST) Department of ORL-HNS held its Basic Facial Plastic and Maxillofacial Surgery Course with Intermaxillary Fixation workshop. The 2-day intensive course was organized in partnership with PAFPRS and PACMF and was held at the CME Auditorium St. Martin de Porres Building at UST. For the second scientific meeting, Dr. Danielle Quiambao lectured on Dermal Fillers and neuromodulators at the W building, BGC.

The 6th Annual Septorhinoplasty Course and Cadaver Dissection was held at UP-Philippine General Hospital (PGH) and UP College of Medicine Dualan Laboratory last September 8, 2018. While the 1st Craniomaxillofacial Workshop with Lecture on Cleft Lip and Palate Management Course was held last September 20-21, 2018 in partnership with Makati Medical Center, with live demo surgery on cleft

rhinoplasty by Dr. Eduardo Yap. These lectures and workshops were well attended by colleagues in ORL-HNS, as well as residents and fellows of different training institutions.

Throughout the year, the PAFPRS has also served the community through several cleft surgery missions in Metro Manila and nearby regions, in partnership with the Philippine Band of Mercy.

Lastly, PAFPRS has continually produced highly competent, service-oriented and ethical specialists in Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery through its two-year fellowship program under the direction of Dr. Cesar Villafuerte Jr. This fellowship program is in partnership with UP-PGH and Manila Doctors Hospital, with outside rotations to accredited institutions both local and abroad. This fellowship program is offered to graduates of accredited ENT training institutions who have passed the diplomate exam of the Philippine Board of Otolaryngology Head and Neck Surgery.

The PAFPRS is anticipating another fruitful year with the current roster of PAFPRS officers led Chairperson, Dr. Konrad Aguila and Vice Chairperson, Dr. Henry John Claravall.

### PALP



In 2018, the Philippine Academy of Laryngobronchoesophagology and Phoniatrics (PALP) continues its advocacy to promote vocal health education for professional voice users and to the general public. Last year, we celebrated by the very first National Laryngology Quiz Bee held April 15, 2018 at the Unilab Bayanihan Center and was participated by 29 Institutions nationwide. UST won the first place, followed by PGH in second and EAMC in third. Various institutions also celebrated World Voice Day in their hospitals with musical concerts, holding lectures and laryngeal endoscopies for patients.

PALP participated actively in the Midyear Convention last May in Puerto Princesa, as well as in the Annual Convention – IFHNOS meeting at Manila Hotel in October. The FEU Thyroplasty Course was held last June 16, 2018. An In-House Laryngology Course at EAMC was held last August 19, 2018. The present PALP Chair Dr. Fred Hawson gave a talk about the updates on the CPG in progress that PALP is collating for Hoarseness last Dec. 2018 at EDSA, Shangri-la.

The group also meets quarterly for updates and for lectures given by laryngologists for residents and consultants with interest in Laryngology and Voice and Swallowing Disorders. This has been the activity of PALP since the time it started in 2002 (initially called Laryngology Study Group).

PALP has a new set of officers for the year 2019 with Drs. Frederick Hawson as the new chair, with Dr. Rodel Velasquez, as vice chair. Aside from the second edition of the Laryngology Quizbee, it is our goal this year is to continue with the National Public School Teachers Voice Health Caravan and Screening (in Southern Tagalog), along with finalizing the Hoarseness CPG. A contingent of PALP members are set to participate in the upcoming Asia Pacific Laryngology Association Inaugural Congress in Singapore this coming Nov. 2019 for continuing medical education and fostering camaraderie with laryngologists from other regions.



## PAORLACI



The tenth and newest interest group in the PSO-HNS was given official recognition in 2018 through a series of reviews, approvals and comments given by the nine existing study groups and eight chapters. The Philippine Academy of ORL Allergy and Clinical Immunology

(PAORLACI) was finally ratified after a journey of four years. A small group of interested fellows had, for many years, informal gatherings characterized by learnings on issues of immunological concern in the head and neck. Membership increased and Dr. Fita Guzman became the first Chair in 2018 (presently Ex-Officio).

The newly elected officers for 2019 are Dr. Anne Marie Espiritu (Chair), Dr. Samantha Cainghug-Baillo (Vice-Chair), Dr. MaryGrace Mercado-Gito (Secretary), Dr. Victoria Sarmiento (Treasurer), Dr. January Gelera (Board Member for Academic Concerns), Dr. Kenard Felix (Board Member for Scientific Concerns), Dr. Manuel Villegas (Board Member for Advocacy Concerns). The very first official meeting was held on January 6, 2019. Plans for this year include regular Basic and Clinical Encounters for members and interested fellows, in-house charity services in identified institutions, a 1-day postgraduate course, and annual convention participation.

## PAPO



The Philippine Academy of Pediatric Otolaryngology (PAPO) supports the following upcoming events in 2019:

1. Pediatric Audiology Pre-congress Course: "Can you hear me?: Screening and Evaluation of Children for Hearing Loss: Issues

and Recommendations." December 4, 2019, Augusto Barcelon Auditorium, 6/F Podium Bldg., The Medical City, Pasig

2. "63rd PSOHNS Annual Convention: X, Y, Z of Pediatric ORL-HNS Practice." December 5 to 8, 2019, EDSA Shangri-La Hotel, Mandaluyong

The group also continues to promote its advocacy on reducing the number of infant and children morbidities and mortalities resulting from foreign body aspiration in the succeeding years and is looking forward to collaborative efforts with relevant agencies and organizations dedicated to the welfare of the Filipino child.

## PAR



In 2018, the Philippine Academy of Rhinology (PAR), under the leadership of its new Chair Dr. Peter Simon Jarin, sought to strengthen its foundation while also branching out to new endeavors. PAR started the year with its "5th Endoscopic Sinus Surgery Course: Mastering the Basics" held on February 27-28, 2018 at the Medical City.

The lectures on the first day were well attended. On the second day, twelve fresh frozen cadaver heads were provided for 24 dissectors which provided a more realistic experience compared with cadavers preserved with formalin. Microdebridors and high-definition camera systems and monitors were also provided. PAR members were present to serve as teaching faculty which allowed for 1-2 instructors per dissection table.

PAR continued its monthly meetings which included a 1-hour academic lecture by one of its members and wherein residents are invited to attend.

PAR then focused on strengthening the organization. Its Article of Organization and By-laws were reviewed and amended. Measures were done to improve involvement by Rhinology Section Heads of the different training institutions, particularly those outside Metro Manila. A General Assembly was held on October 23, 2018 in the Manila Hotel during the PSO-HNS Annual Convention.

Staying true to its vision of being a leader in the care of rhinologic conditions thru the advancement of the subspecialty in clinical practice, service, education, training, and research, PAR was involved in two new endeavors. PAR reviewed and critiqued possible new drug inclusions to the Philippine National Formulary. PAR also organized the postgraduate course "Practical Rhinology: Diagnosis and Management of Common Nasal and Sinus Disorders" held on November 28, 2018 at the Veterans Memorial Medical Center. Attendees were not limited to otorhinolaryngologists, but also included general practitioners, internists, pediatricians and nurses.

In 2019, PAR continues its tradition of holding an ESS dissection course in accordance to its mission to engage in the relentless pursuit of excellence in training. This year, both a Basic and Advanced ESS Dissection Course will be held on February 19-21, 2019 at The Medical City.



## PASS



The Philippine Academy of Sleep Surgery (PASS) is a subspecialty group of the PSOHNS. The core members are composed of fellows of PSOHNS who are also fellows of the Philippine Society of Sleep Medicine (PSSM). Dr. Duane Salud (from Davao) is the current Chairman, with Dr. Jimmy Chang (from Quezon City and Laguna) as Vice-Chairman, Dr. Beverly Carbonell (from Baguio) as secretary, Dr. Patricia Puno-Progalidad (from Makati) as treasurer, and Dr. Colina Colina (from Cebu) as PRO. Members are ORL-HNS fellows, diplomates and residents who have interest in the said subspecialty. Quarterly meetings are held regularly in Metro Manila and are attended by the members.

Sleep Medicine is relatively new in the country and it is the aim of PASS to broaden the awareness of the people regarding Sleep and Sleep Disorders. Activities that promote the group's advocacy include postgraduate courses; free sleep clinics and a Facebook page for information dissemination. The group has regular lectures and clinical encounters during PSOHNS midyear and annual conventions. A post-graduate conference entitled "Sleep Matters: Keeping in Tune with your Internal Clock" was held last March 14, 2019 in St Luke's Medical Center, Quezon City. This was done in cooperation with PSOHNS, PSSM and the Dept of ORL-HNS of SLMC QC. Attendees included doctors from different specialties; sleep technologists and nurses who attend to patients with different sleep disorders in the hospital setting.

The World Sleep Day is celebrated annually. Last 2018, it was done in a simultaneous nationwide setting. Lay fora and free OSA screening was done last March 16, 2018 in all corners of the country. The activities were spearheaded by the core members and were held in different venues including Asian Hospital and Medical Center, Baguio General Hospital and Medical Center, East Avenue Medical Center, St. Lukes Medical Center Quezon City and Global City, University Of Cebu Medical Center and Southwestern Philippines Medical Center.

A lot of activities are in line for the year 2019. The first of which is a post-graduate course in Baguio City entitled "Sleepless in Baguio II". The core members will speak about Sleep Medicine in the light of ORL-HNS to PSOHNS fellows of North Luzon. This shall be held on March 20, 2019 at the Holiday Inn Baguio City Center. The annual convention of the Philippine Society of Sleep Medicine shall follow the day after. Another postgraduate course is planned to follow in Cebu on July of 2019 that will tackle topics on Obstructive Sleep Apnea. Targeted audience includes health workers and shift workers in the vicinity.

## CHAPTERS

## Central Luzon



Dr. Godofredo Jose P. Hizon, the 2018 to 2020 CELENT President, continues to lead the growing membership of CELENT aiming for more socially relevant activities. The advocacy programs of CELENT focused on tree planting, medical mission and continuing medical education.

The year 2018 was started with the induction of officers last February 24, 2018 at Clark Angeles City, with Dr. Melfred Hernandez as the inducing officer.

Dr. Agnes Remulla visited the Chapter with the PSOHNS Board of Trustees last February 25, 2018 Clark Angeles City. CELENT actively took part in the PSOHNS activities like Goiter Awareness Week and World Hearing Day.

A new project of CELENT was the BOOKlat sa KinaBOOKasan which provided books to the less fortunate children of Diteki, Dilasag and Baler Aurora. This project started last April 2018 and continued until October 2018 headed by Dr. Hypte Raymund Aujero and Dr. Carlissa Aujero.

The incorporation of scientific lectures in every quarterly meeting of CELENT facilitates relevant and up to date medical, surgical and academic updates for the fellows of CELENT as part of the Continuing Medical Education advocacy.

In the coming years, as CELENT continues to mature, new fellows of PSOHNS practicing in Central Luzon are welcome to join us to continue our advocacies and to strengthen our CELENT family.

## Southern Tagalog



2018 was a magnificent year for the Southern Tagalog Chapter more fondly called the STENTS. The whole year was spent with the usual activities of the chapter- quarterly meetings and team building. But during that year the PSO-HNS Midyear was organized by the STENTS and was held at the Citystate Asturias Hotel in Puerto Princesa City, Palawan. The request of hosting the Midyear Convention was announced few months prior to the convention



date. It was unhesitatingly accepted by the chapter.

On day one, the brilliant minds started to roll, ideas kept on pouring, then the main theme of Dissecting Dysphagia- Dilemmas, Diagnostics, Directions was born. The hardworking members had their hands full of chores. The unwavering guidance of the senior members never faltered to ignite the passion of each and everyone to contribute to the society's endeavors. Everyone never failed to contribute their time, talent and even treasure. It was a collaboration of the young ones and the young once.

The actual event came and was attended by a great number of participants. The scientific program was enticing and in fact even recognized by one of the foreign speakers as only one of the few conventions he had attended with well organized symposia. The scientific sessions were full packed until the last day. The STENTS Hearing Survey was also presented during the event. It was an arduous undertaking that the chapter has shared. The Gala night and the Fellowship night gave some unwinding after each day's sessions.

On the sideline, who wouldn't enjoy the mega-diversity that Puerto Princesa offered? It is indeed one of the Best Islands in the World. The year 2018 was another milestone and moving forward for the society to be one of the best specialty societies in the world.

## Bicol



The PSO-HNS Bicol Chapter (BEST) continues to grow and achieve new milestones. The group welcomed Dr. Jose Z. Fernando (Diplomate), a graduate of Quirino Memorial Medical Center, practicing in Legazpi City, Albay. His addition brings us to a total of 21 members, 14 of which are Fellows, 1 Diplomate, 2 board eligible and 4 non-Diplomates. Six members have already have Master's degrees. Dr. Verna Sanio, who is practicing in Camarines Norte, is taking up Master in Clinical Audiology.

The newly established training program at the Bicol Medical Center Department of Otolaryngology Head and Neck Surgery in Naga City was given a 4-year accreditation by the PBO-HNS in April 2018. The department has two second year residents and two first year residents.

In January 10, 2018 the eruption of Mayon Volcano displaced hundreds of families from Albay and Camarines Sur. Through the generous donation of the PSO-HNS, we were able to distribute relief goods and packed snacks for evacuees (120 families and 400 individuals) at Villahermosa Elementary School, Daraga, Albay.

This outreach activity was followed by the chapter's team building on April 4-9, 2018. The succeeding months of June and July were hectic as the Bicol ENT Specialists were speakers for a Newborn Hearing Screening Certifying Course in Nabua, Camarines Sur. One BEST member and two residents were certified during the course.

On July 14, the 5th installment of ENT Made Easy (BEST Reaching

Out) Postgraduate Course was held in Sorsogon City. It was a well-attended affair with 316 participants coming from the different municipalities of Sorsogon. On the same month, Dr. Benjamin Campomanes generously shared his expertise during a FESS Workshop held at Bicol Medical Center.

In November, another chapter learning activity dubbed as PMMF Workshop, was held to hone our skills in reconstructive surgery. Dr. Daniel Mendoza and Dr. Jefferson Alamani flew in from Manila and conducted a lecture on the first day followed by live demonstration cases on the second and third days.

In addition to these activities, a total of 9 advocacy drives throughout Bicol Region were conducted for Newborn Hearing Screening. These half-day lectures were attended by local physicians, nurses, midwives and barangay health workers. Lay forums in the community, schools and hospitals were also conducted during Head and Neck Cancer Awareness Week, Allergy Day and Deafness Awareness Week.

The new year brings a fresh breed of officers into the chapter. Dr. Archimedes Bagnes, the incoming President takes the helm from Dr. Marifee Reyes and pledges to lead the chapter to broader horizons in the next couple of years. This early, we are already preparing for a Facial Plastic Surgery Workshop and the 6th Biannual ENT Made Easy Postgraduate Course.

## Southern Mindanao



Our journey has gone a thousand steps now. The PSO-HNS Southern Mindanao Chapter has widened its reach. It increased the number of its fellow members and enriched our advocacy in the community through our program PROJECT VINTA. The Southern Mindanao Chapter has sailed its advocacy "SPECIALTY AWARENESS IN THE COMMUNITY" with relevance.

The Southern Mindanao Chapter has grown to over 50 ENTs, practicing all over Region 9, 11, 12, 13 and ARMM. The past officers under the leadership of **Dr. Mohammad Ariff Baguindali**, focused on strengthening members and chapter advocacies on hearing conservation and specialty awareness.

The Chapter activities started with the **Chapter's General Assembly** on February 24, 2018 at the Apo View Hotel. This is an annual meeting of members highlighting fellowship, induction of new members, presentation of chapter plans and business meeting.

The Chapter also highlighted the celebration of World's Hearing Day on March 9, 2018 with activities such as radio lecture and interview at ABS-CBN DXAB Teleradyo. There was also a seminar on hearing loss rehabilitation entitled "**PAMINAW, SULTI UG BASA.**"

To support to the academe and strengthen the inter-hospital training institution network, the Chapter launched the **NORTH MEETS SOUTH: 1st All Mindanao ORLHNS Inter-hospital Interesting Case Contest** on March 23, 2018. This was participated





in by the three ORL-HNS training institutions in Mindanao, namely the Southern Philippines Medical Center (Davao City), Northern Mindanao Medical Center (Cagayan De Oro City), and Zamboanga City Medical Center (Zamboanga City). The Northern Mindanao Medical Center bagged the 1<sup>st</sup> place.

To strengthen camaraderie among fellows, the chapter organized **TEAM BUILDING** last August 5, 2018 at Mati, Davao Oriental.

As the major advocacy of the present leadership, the **PROJECT VINTA** lecture caravan was a success. It aimed to promote awareness of the ENT-HNS specialty in the community, as well as to foster camaraderie and fellowship among fellow Mindanawon physicians. The lectures tackled common ENT-HNS conditions and the new technology driven used in their management. It targeted GPs, family physicians, medical students, internists and pediatricians. Attendance to the different vinta activities was overwhelming, making this PSO-HNS chapter event very successful.

Like the tradition of the vinta, the journey started in Zamboanga City with a successful postgraduate course entitled **PROJECT VINTA 1: OREHAS, NARIS, GARGANTA: ENT for General Practitioners** on October 7, 2017, Zamboanga City. PROJECT VINTA sailed through the island and conquered Cotabato City/Maguindanao and North Cotabato Provinces with the **PROJECT VINTA 2: ENT among Health Workers** on July 8, 2018, Shariff Kabunsuan Cultural Complex, Cotabato City. The voyage continued to the highlands and valleys of Kororanal City, General Santos City and Sultan Kudarat Province as **PROJECT VINTA 3: ENT Among Health Workers** on November 25, 2018, Allah Valley Specialist Hospital Auditorium, Koronadal City.

Despite the vast coverage of the island of Mindanao, the next years of the chapter will prove that we will overcome prejudice and armed struggle. Hope and peace in diversity in the south will prevail especially because we will pave the way for such. The ENTs of the south have pledged to work together towards bettering Otolaryngology practice and reaching communities with RELEVANCE.

The 2018 ended with the election of a new line-up of officers with **Dr. Arthur Samuel Salvado** as the new president. The chapter will continue its voyage to a better PSOHNS Southern Mindanao Chapter.

## Western Visayas

The Western Visayas Chapter of PSO-HNS maintains to fulfill its primary objectives: to engage in the relentless pursuit of excellence and relevance in service, training, research and advocacies, to build, grow and nurture ethical, highly skilled, and professionally satisfied ORL-HN Surgeons and to promote the interest and welfare of the members.

In order to maintain the solidarity of the society and update the members of its current status, meetings are regularly done quarterly. In the past year, members actively participated in the four meet-



ings conducted. The first quarterly meeting was done last February 11, 2018 at Diversion 21 Hotel. On this day, Dr. Rodolfo de la Cruz was awarded for his dedicated service and support in the programs of ORL-HNS. The second meeting and the induction of officers were held in Bacolod City.

The third meeting was done in Roxas City where a tree-planting activity followed. Lastly, in the fourth quarter, the meeting was held last November 25 in Bacolod City where the two accredited training institutions were awarded for bagging First Place in their researches focusing on surgical innovations and the descriptive contest.

The chapter continuously supports and extends help all over Panay Region to spread awareness and extend medical aid to the people. Last March 3, 2018, World Hearing Day was celebrated. Stakeholders all over the chapter were encouraged to observe this activity to increase awareness on how to prevent deafness and hearing loss and promote ear and hearing care. Some activities conducted were lectures at ENT-OPD of Western Visayas Medical Center of Iloilo City and Corazon Locsin Montelibano Memorial Regional Hospital of Bacolod City. Linis Tenga Program were provided to the students of Miag-ao West Elementary School and A. Mirasol Elementary School in Mandurriao, Iloilo.

The chapter had many successful outreach programs in the past year. Free Pasilip Ka and lay forum on head and neck cancer were performed at ENT-OPD WVMC and CLMMRH. In May 12, 2018, barangay-based cancer screening was done in conjunction with the PAG ULIKID program of the Iloilo City Mayor's Office at Barangay San Isidro Lapaz. Together with the Department of ENT-HNS of St. Luke's Medical Center, a medical and surgical mission at Iloilo Provincial Hospital, Pototan, Iloilo, was conducted.

The chapter foresees more plans in the future for service and the people. The members continuously plan to bring ORL-HNS services to areas where there are no ENT services. The chapter targets to give basic lectures on common ENT diseases with proper early management among medical personnel of district hospitals and municipal health officers. The chapter also aims to excel members in the future research contests. The objective of this is to challenge WV ORL residents to make innovations.

As to balance everything, the chapter will initiate team building activities and sportsfests to promote healthy lifestyle, positive social interaction and general well-being. The Western Visayas Chapter of Philippine Society of Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery continuously empowers the vision of advancement in the fields of practice, service, education, training and research. The WV PSOHNS officers 2018 were led by Dr. Bel Magallanes (PSO-HNS Board Trustee– Visayas) as president.



**1st PSOHNS-RBGM Medical  
Golf Tournament**  
Nov. 29, 2018 at Villamor Golf Club



**Basic Course 2018, Feb. 24-25**



**Northern Luzon Chapter Visit, March 10, 2018**



**Annual Convention Organizing Committee Meeting and pictorial, March 14, 2018**



**BOT Meeting**





**Election of New Board of Trustees, Dec. 1, 2018****Fellow's Induction/Fellow's Oathtaking, Nov. 30, 2018****Research Methodology Workshop, March 17-18, 2019****Northern Mindanao Chapter Visit, Feb. 16-18, 2018****Leader Summit, Nov. 29, 2018****Sportsfest, Nov. 30, 2018**



## INSTITUTIONS

### Baguio General Hospital and Medical Center



The Baguio General Hospital and Medical Center Department of ORL-HNS, after being established in 1995, holds the distinction of being the first accredited ENT training institution north of Manila. Over the years, it has evolved as a referral center of ENT disease in Northern Luzon. On the average, it caters to 12,000 patients in the general and specialty outpatient clinics; and performs 1500 major and minor surgeries per year, in line with its growing commitment to make the indigent of primordial concern.

Being recognized as a competent ENT-HNS institute alternative in the country, it has, for the past years, been given the privilege to conduct numerous postgraduate courses and conventions recognized by PSOHNS. Just recently, in February 2018, the department hosted a 3- day AOCMF Course in the Management of Facial Trauma with MMF Ligature Exercise; and Advances in the Management of Cleft Lip and Palate. For this year, the department, in partnership with the Philippine Academy of Sleep Surgery, will be hosting "Sleepless In Baguio II" in March. It also plans to conduct another postgraduate course on Thyroid Disease Management in October.

The department has also expanded its services to the community through various programs. Since 2014, consultants and residents have been conducting an annual feeding program and medical check up for the beneficiaries of Bethesda Children's Home. In 2015, the **Bisita Eskwela Silip Tenga Sinus Tsek Silip Throat (BEST)** Advocacy Program), was started by Dr. Frederick Mars B. Untalan. These

quarterly schools visit involving the medical and nursing staff aim to screen children with ENT disorders; and to provide health education through consultations and mini lectures. As of the present time, this program has already covered 750 grade school students in Camp 7, Baguio City and Taloy Sur, Benguet.

The **Cranio-Maxillofacial and ENT Lectures For Nurses (CELFN)** was also commenced on the same year, with the aim of empowering the nursing service in the management of ENT patients, through quarterly lectures provided by the consultants. Some topics that have already been discussed include Maxillofacial Trauma Nursing Care, Adult and Pediatric Tracheostomy Care, Head & Neck Assessment, Post-op Wound Care, ENT Emergencies for Nurses and Hearing Screening for Newborns.

As a reflection of its commitment to the health of the Filipinos, the department continues to dedicate its time in providing leadership and excellence in teaching the residents the science of the specialty to produce ENT- Head and Neck surgeons with a well- rounded clinical and surgical competence for personal and community advancement. These few accomplishments of this young department endeavors to keep and upgrade the practice of Otolaryngology and takes pride in being of service not only to the people of Northern Luzon but to the whole country as well.

### Bicol Medical Center



The specialty of Otolaryngology in Bicol Medical Center was formerly known as EENT (eyes, ears, nose, throat) as what similar Department in other hospitals started out. The Department was composed of 1 EENT consultant, and 5 Otolaryngologist who are all fellows of the PSO-HNS namely Dr. Diosdado C. Uy, and Dr. Felipe Federico O. Pio Jr. Later joined by Dr. Neil Aldrine I. Penaflor, Dr. Marifee U. Reyes, Dr. Eric T. Vinculado, and Dr. Lorenzo Juan Manuel V. Rosales.

In the year 2009, then Medical Center Chief Dr. Ruben Penaflor ordered the ENT specialists to formally organize as a separate department now known as the Otolaryngology Head and Neck Surgery Department. This was conceived in preparation for future accreditation. It was also the time where the department's requests



for new ENT instruments were granted. The modernization of the department continued until the tenure of the succeeding Medical Center Chief, Dr. Efren SJ Nerva, wherein the department was provided with its own ENT Center and operating room in the new 8-storey building and an ENT treatment room in the new 5-storey ER complex.

In 2014, the Bicol Medical Center as a DOH retained tertiary referral center in Region V was mandated by the Department of Health to be a teaching and training hospital for all specialties after it was ISO accredited by TUV-SUD (2014) and TUV- Rheinland (2016). The BMC Department of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery then responded positively by initially organizing all the necessary personnel and equipments needed for its accreditation.

Starting in 2017 with the addition of 2 active consultants (Dr. Melanie M. De Leon and Dr. Archimedes B. Bagnes), and 2 pioneering residents (Dr. Adrian D. Alvarez and Dr. Samuel S. Landagan), the Department of Otolaryngology Head and Neck Surgery of Bicol Medical Center has been granted a 4-year accreditation with Dr. Diosdado C. Uy as Department Chairman and Dr. Neil Aldrine I. Penaflor as Training Officer.

Department Activities last year include a Postgraduate Course, ENT Made Easy V (Best Reaching Out), along with the PSO-HNS – Bicol Chapter held last July in Sorsogon. Past activities last 2017 - 2018 include Maxillofacial Workshop (October 28, 2017) , Functional Endoscopic Sinus Surgery workshop (July 19, 2018) and a Pectoralis Major Myocutaneous Flap workshop (November 27 – 28, 2018).

### Corazon Locsin Montelibano Memorial Regional Hospital

The Department of ORL-HNS of Corazon Locsin Montelibano Memorial Regional Hospital (CLMMRH) has been the sole residency training program in Negros Island since in 1996. Since then, the Department has already produced 12 graduates, 8 of which are board-certified ORL-HNS specialists. The Department is part of the hospital's ISO-accredited Medical Residency Training Program, a certification granted last 2015.

In line with the hospital's thrust for continuing improvement of services and training, the Department has been granted new equipment and instruments. For 2018, the hospital has acquired a microdebrider system, and minor upgrades of its nasal and bronchoesophageal endoscopes, as well as rhinology and facial plastic instrument sets.

Regular academic activities include weekly didactics, grand rounds, surgical audit, mortality and morbidity conference, and a monthly journal club meeting attended not just by department staff, but also by other ENT specialists of Negros Occidental. Research has been taken to new heights, and places, by the residents of the Department, as seen in their participation in research fora in Singapore and in Spain last year.

The Department has also been very active in its advocacies, in

conjunction with those of the hospital, of the PSO-HNS, and of its Western Visayas chapter. The staff has conducted medical missions and in-house activities for Goiter Awareness, Head & Neck Cancer Awareness, and World Hearing Day, as well as participated in tree planting activities, and its own advocacy of providing ENT services for Welcome Home Foundation in Bacolod, an NGO serving deaf people.

### De La Salle University Medical Center



#### Multidisciplinary Conference on Pediatric Hearing Loss

The topic for the Department's annual presentation last February 28, 2018 in the multidisciplinary conference of the hospital was "Baby, Can You Hear Me?" the Challenges, Diagnosis, and Management of Pediatric Hearing Loss. Dr. Jemelyn Lapitan, the chief resident, presented a case of a pediatric patient with congenital hearing loss and several resource speakers were invited to share their insights from their respective points of view. Dr. Joel Lazaro, a developmental pediatrician, discussed the challenges and pitfalls in the diagnosis of hearing loss. Dr. Madeleine Sosa, a pediatric neurologist, explained brain plasticity and the clinical prognosis after cochlear implantation. Dr. Elmer Dela Cruz, an otorhinolaryngologist, expounded the roles of auditory brain response, otoacoustic emission, and cochlear implantation. Ms. Aileen Atienza, a speech pathologist, relayed to the audience the interventions to habilitate children born with hearing loss.

#### World Hearing Day

To celebrate this annual event, on March 3, 2018, the Department held a lay-forum in the Out-Patient Department regarding statistics of hearing loss all over the world, as reported by the World Health Organization. Interested patients also answered the Self-Assessment of Communication to determine their awareness of their hearing. Also, in cooperation with the American Hearing Center, we offered free hearing screening via pure tone audiometry. Those who were found to have hearing loss were advised to have formal OPD consultation.

#### Head and Neck Cancer Detection and Awareness Week

Celebration of head and neck cancer detection and awareness was held in April 30 through May 4, 2018. The Department opened this event by a ribbon-cutting ceremony at the Medical Arts Center



lobby. The program included opening remarks from our chairman Dr. Ramon Ramos III followed by an inspirational talk by Mr. Emer Rojas (president of the New Vois Association of the Philippines) as well as a testimonial from one of our patients, Mr. Alberto Barrera, a laryngeal carcinoma survivor.

The Department also organized a lay forum on Head and Neck Cancer Prevention on Wednesday, May 2, 2018, at The District Mall, Imus Cavite. A total of 80 attendees registered and participated the event which was spearheaded by the residents and consultants of the department.

Dr. William Net U. Billones, one of the department's consultants, gave a brief yet very informative discussion about Head and Neck Cancer. His lecture was then followed by sharing of life testimonies by three patients, who have previously been managed by the ORL-HNS Department, on how to deal and survive the disease. Finally, Dr. Patrick Joseph A. Pardo, another consultant of the department, opened the floor for questions for the attendees. Active PhilHealth members who have attended the lay forum were offered free consultation and endoscopy by the department during the week from May 2 until May 5, 2018 at the Endoscopy Unit of the De La Salle University Medical Center.

#### **Medical Caravan 2018**

De La Salle University Medical Center's annual event of nurturing health was held on Sunday, May 27, 2018, through the Medical Caravan: Bringing Healthcare Closer To You, providing the Dasmarinas community free medical consultation, free health education, and free medicines in SM City Dasmarinas.

Doctors discussed various topics including General ENT Care (by Dr. William Billones), Pre-conceptional Care (by Dr. Pearl Armas-Contemplacion), Basic First Aid (by Dr. Joe Darwin Dagdagan), Diabetes (by Dr. Ronald Barroga), and Breast Mass, Neck Mass, Hemorrhoids, Fistula-in-ano, and skin lesions (by Dr. Kevin Reyes)

#### **Strategic Planning and Workshop**

The annual event was held in Crusoe Cabins beach resort in Calatagan, Batangas last June 16-17, 2018. The department relayed the status quo in terms of the census of the hospital, the completion of surgical requirements by the residents, as well as the daily routine done by residents and consultants in the hospital. Concerns discussed were the preparations for the upcoming 4-year Reaccreditation of the department with the Philippine Board of Otolaryngology – Head & Neck Surgery, the use of the new Day Surgery facility, and manpower priorities for the residents.

#### **Diplomate Board Examination**

Dr. Maria Eliza Gallardo and Dr. Isaac Cesar De Guzman, graduates of the Department in 2018, passed the oral and written Diplomate Board Examinations by the Philippine Society of Otolaryngology – Head & Neck Surgery held in June 2018.

#### **Establishment of Microvascular Reconstructive Surgery Section**

Dr. Daniel Jose Mendoza has been included in the department this year and is specialized in microvascular reconstructive surgery. In July 27, 2018, the first procedure in DLSUMC using radial forearm flap was done to reconstruct a defect in the buccal area caused by a growth suspected to be malignant. In August, a fibular graft reconstruction of the mandible was also done.

#### **First cochlear implantation in DLSUMC**

The first cochlear implant procedure was done on October 12, 2018 in which Dr. Umali, section head of Otolaryngology spearheaded the said event. Dr. Charlotte Chiong was the surgeon who did the cochlear implantation on a 3-year old male with hearing loss.

#### **4-Year Accreditation of the Residency Training Program**

Last November 23, 2018, the Philippine Board of Otolaryngology – Head & Neck Surgery, represented by Dr. Jacob Matubis and Dr. Fita Guzman, visited the De La Salle University Medical Center for the four-year accreditation of the Department's residency training program. The visit began with the four-year report consisting of highlights and activities from years 2015 to 2018, presentation of patient statistics, both private and service. The rest of the visit included the inspection of logbooks, instruments and facilities.

#### **Dr. Paulino J. Garcia Memorial Research Medical Center**



Losing your voice is a dreadful experience for anyone. Choosing to give up one part of your body to stay alive is never an easy decision. Others choose to die with their diseased body part rather than losing its function.

Dr. Paulino J. Garcia Memorial Research and Medical Center, newly accredited institution for Otorhinolaryngology- Head and Neck Surgery in Cabanatuan City Nueva Ecija, last September 1, 2017 noted several cases of Laryngeal Cancers within our locality. For years these patients would need to travel to Manila for surgery, which for some is not affordable. This time Laryngectomy procedures are being performed in our institution. However, patients are apprehensive of losing their voice and would choose not to undergo surgery. This fear of losing their voice and having a hole in their neck for life is a fear no one could easily brush off.



This sparked the idea of creating a support group for these patients who lost their voice but gained a second chance to life. On March 6, 2018 through the initiative of Dr. Ronaldo Soriano, and support of the Department Head Dr. Miguel Aragon, III together with Drs. Lester Anthony Baga, Israel Munar, Jaclyn Leigh Vidal, Eduardo Dizon, Christian Neil Romero, the first meeting of Laryngeal Cancer patients who underwent Total Laryngectomy was held at the Medical Staff Office of the hospital. The group was named "One Voice of Hope." Officers were elected with Mrs. Eloisa Cortez as president, together with six other pioneer members.

Every first Tuesday of the month, the group meets newly-diagnosed laryngeal cancer patients and welcomes them to the group, sharing their personal experience from smoking, to experiencing symptoms, to being diagnosed, and undertaking treatment. With this, newly diagnosed patients will be enlightened on what to expect, what to do, how to decide and guide their relatives on accepting their condition. This has helped other patient's decide on undergoing surgery and continuing it with radiation and chemotherapy. They found voice within themselves as they communicate with each other by looks, actions and lip reading. Aside from supporting each other, one objective of the group is to increase awareness on Laryngeal Cancer, Effects of Smoking.

Last April 16, 2018 World Voice Day, the group led an Anti-Smoking Campaign, giving lecture on Effects of Smoking and Sharing their experiences as victims of smoking. Showing their necks to the audience captivated their listeners, with the use of electrolarynx the group was able to convey their message to eager audiences. The group will continue their campaign on Anti-Smoking and increasing awareness on Laryngeal Cancer, more so to be of support to more patients and their relatives battling the same battle with the goal of winning.

### East Avenue Medical Center



The East Avenue Medical Center Department of ORL-HNS was established in 1986 and was accredited by the PBO-HNS in 1988. Since its formation, it has had 3 chairmen who guided and developed the department to become one of the largest training institutions in the country. It has proudly produced 123 graduates, all of whom were already successful in their respective practices here and abroad.

True to the Department's Vision and Mission, it continuously provides quality healthcare to the Filipino people most especially to

those from North and Central Luzon and Metro Manila. It offers multispecialty services through the different centers that the department has established. Currently, these centers include the Dizziness and Hearing Center – providing diagnostic tests and hearing implants as well; the Snoring Center – a diagnostic site for patient with sleep disorders; and the Sinus Voice and Swallowing Center which uses a complete diagnostic endoscopy tower. It aims to open the Otolaryngologic Maxillofacial and Aesthetic Center (OMAC) within the year where trauma and maxillofacial patients can be treated holistically. In time, the Department will become the end-referral system of the DOH.

Academic Excellence is also one of the missions of the Department as we strive for the relentless pursuit of excellence. It provided varied board-recommended post-graduate courses in 2018 which served as a learning venue for all training residents all over the country. It had the Rhinoplasty Masterclass Manila – a course for aesthetic and reconstructive rhinoplasty; Temporal Bone Dissection and Basic Audiology Course – catered to second years prior to their mastoidectomy procedures; and CMFAS Masterclass Manila IV – composed of maxillofacial trauma and aesthetic lectures and workshop.

This 2019, we will be adding two postgraduate courses to our roster, the Thyroid Postgraduate Course – A multidisciplinary discussion on the thyroid on the 1st day and a hands-on ultrasound workshop on the 2nd day; and the AOCMF Seminar – Advances in Orbital Surgery – a 3 day course for the advancement of skills of our maxillofacial and trauma surgeons.

Aside from interinstitutional courses, the Department never failed to advance the learning of its own trainees through its in-house projects – basic arch bar application and dental impression workshop, audiology and dizziness workshop, and laryngology workshop.

With these efforts, the Department has a 100% board passing rate and placed one of its graduates, Dr. Alfred Peter Justine Dizon, as the Top 8 diplomate examinee in 2018. At the 1st Laryngology Quiz Bee held last April 2018, the department placed third overall. Dr. Laurice Ann Canta's paper entitled "Cleft Beyond the Lip and Palate: A Bilateral Tessier Cleft" was the featured grand rounds in PJOHNS Vol 33 No 2 issue.

The Department is not all serious, we had our annual getaway at the Camayan Beach Resort in Subic Bay. We also participated in the non-academic events of the society. The EAMC contingent of 16 fellows and residents joined the Sportsfest 2018. Dr. Justine Ruth Tsai, as "Daenerys Tsai-garyen,;" won as Ms. PROHNS 2018 and Dr. Ryan Francis Henry Urgel was voted as PROHNS Treasurer.

### Far Eastern University-NRMF Medical Center

The FEU-NRMF Department of Otorhinolaryngology – Head and Surgery is a training and research center providing comprehensive medical and surgical services in the field of Otorhinolaryngology – Head





and Neck Surgery in the whole country. With the aim of providing quality health care services with dignity and compassion, the department has been continuously seeking for innovation, instrumentation and keeping par with cutting edge in the world stage for medical advancement.

Dr. Robert R. Dy, FPSOHNS has been appointed as the new Chairman of the department last September 12, 2018. He had also been elected as the Auditor of the Board of Trustees of the Philippine Society of Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery.

Dr. Cecile C. Capinpin, FPSOHNS has been appointed as the new Training Officer of the department last September 12, 2018.

Two new active consultants have been added to the roster of the department. Dr. Joman Q. Laxamana had his clinical and research fellowship in Endoscopic Sinus Surgery, Rhinoplasty and Skull Base Surgery at Seoul National University Bundang Hospital. Dr. Melanie Grace Y. Cruz had her fellowship training in Otolaryngology, Neuro-otology and Audiology at East Avenue Medical Center.

Dr. Cesar Vincent Villafuerte III, DPBO-HNS, DPBR-RO has been added to the list of clinical consultants of the department. He underwent residency training for both Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery and Radiation Oncology at UP – Philippine General Hospital.

The department in partnership with the Administration and SleepA2Z Corporation opened its Sleep Laboratory Center at the 5th floor hospital building last December 2018 catering to both private and service patients.

### Ilocos Training and Regional Medical Center

In nearly two decades of pursuit to provide the best care in ORL-HNS medical service to the Ilocos Region and its neighboring provinces, the Department of ORL-HNS of Ilocos Training and Regional Medical Center (ITRMC) continuously delivers quality health care service to patients, while establishing an ideal training ground of the specialty to produce otorhinolaryngologists who are highly qualified to practice the profession.

Our Department is actively conducting health programs to further improve delivery of its health services. For the past years, we have extended our services beyond the hospital and more into the community. Our program “Operation Sibul” (Silip Ilong Bunganga and Lalamunan) aims to initiate early detection of malignancies in the nose, oral cavity, larynx and neck. This program has been cater-



ing to several municipalities in La Union to screen for patients and to disseminate to the public information regarding the head and neck cancer. Targeting the younger population is our “Operation LinisTenga”, which renders assessment and intervention to common ear pathologies seen in school aged-children, particularly impacted cerumen and its effect on hearing. Last 2018, we have served 5,164 public elementary pupils in the City of San Fernando.

The Department is also committed into training young physicians wanting to specialize in the ORL-HNS field. With this in mind, we organize post-graduate courses for such endeavor. Last April 13, 2018, we conducted a post-graduate course on “Introduction to ENT Emergencies” which provided basic knowledge and skills towards managing common ENT emergency cases to around 150 participants, among which are first-line municipality doctors, nurses and other health care professionals. Another post-graduate course entitled “Maxillofacial Seminar and Workshop on Maxillomandibular Fixation and Mandibular Fractures” was held last November 16, 2018. The course was co-managed with distinguished specialists from the Philippine Academy of Craniomaxillofacial Surgery, and aimed to teach our ENT and dental specialists on how to properly manage maxillofacial fractures.

For the forthcoming years, ITRMC- Department of ORL-HNS will be cultivating each of these programs to extend its reach and cater to more people. In our quest to attain our vision and mission, we continuously strive towards excellence in the field of ORL-HNS.

### Jose R. Reyes Memorial Medical Center



The Jose R. Reyes Memorial Medical Center Department of Otolaryngology-Head & Neck Surgery held its Biannual Silicone Implant Rhinoplasty Workshop for residents and consultants last



March 9, 2019. The event was spearheaded by the JRRMMC ORL-HNS departments Vice Chair and the current president of the Philippine Academy of Facial Plastics & Reconstructive Surgery (PAFPRS), Dr. Konrad P. Aguila.

The one-day event featured lectures starting with the Surgical Anatomy of Rhinoplasty and Incisions as well as Overview on Silicone Rhinoplasty and its complications. The hands-on workshop included techniques on Silicone Carving and Trimming. A pre-recorded demonstration video was also done for the benefit of the attendees. The event was a success with a vast number of participants from all over the country, mostly ORL-HNS residents.

### Jose B. Lingad Memorial Regional Hospital



The ORL-HNS Department of Jose B. Lingad Memorial Regional Hospital is one of the youngest such departments in the country. Being accredited in the year 2017, the department focused on introducing the department to the people of JBLMRH and also to the patients of Pampanga and nearby provinces.

Year 2018 started with a Head and Neck Awareness Campaign entitled "Pa-silip Ka: Libreng Eksaminasyon sa ENT" with lay forum entitled "Kanser sa Ulo at Leeg," in line with the Head and Neck World Cancer Day. Topics discussed include awareness, risk factors, smoking cessation, prevention, public education, screening, early diagnosis, physician education, outcomes and survivorship. The discussion was done at the Out Patient Department of the hospital, targeting OPD patients and their care givers. Dr. Monica Tan enlightened the audience on the topics.

Preparing its new residents with the residency program is crucial. The Department conducted a Suturing Workshop, wherein all the Medical Specialists and Medical Officers worked hand in hand to lecture and show their skills. Residents were taught on the basic suturing skills, basic instruments and suture types. A comprehensive lecture on the different instruments used by an otolaryngologist was also conducted separately, because familiarity with the instruments is an important part of the residency program.

The department also upholds academic excellence, and this was shown during their first ever Mock Board Examination. The residents were tested on history taking, physical examination, diagnostics, differentials, and management of actual patients. All the consult-

ants actively participated, with the help of other colleagues from Pampanga Medical Society. This will be a yearly activity to gauge the knowledge of each residents and identify areas for improvement.

Growing as a family, residents together with the consultants attended various activities. These include the 62nd Annual Convention, Induction of new fellows and the Residents Night. The year was completed with a Christmas Party. There were intermission numbers, cool and challenging games and exchange of gifts which was enjoyed by everyone. The department also held a gift-giving activity to the in-patients.

It was a great year, and ORL-HNS of JBLMRH is looking forward to more exciting years ahead.

### Manila Doctors Hospital



The Manila Doctors Hospital Department of Otorhinolaryngology began a new chapter this year with our new chairman Dr. Virgilio de Gracia. We celebrated the feast of St. Blaise, the patron saint of diseases of the throat, on February 3, 2018. We were privileged to have been able to hold another in-house temporal bone dissection course headed by Dr. Franco Louie Abes and Dr. Manuel de Jesus held on February 10, 2018.

We had two programs on the awareness starting with the celebration of World Voice Day on April 16, 2018 by spreading awareness with short lectures on vocal hygiene. This was followed by a series of lay forums on head and neck cancers in coordination with the Academy of Head and Neck Oncology of the Philippines (AH-NOP) last May 2-4, 2018.

One of our major events is the yearly postgraduate course where we hosted the 11th Annual Microbiology and Pharmacology in ENT held at the Manila Doctors MBFI Hall last May 25-26, 2018 headed by Dr. Virgilio de Gracia and ORL residents.

With the help of the Manila Doctors Hospital Department of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR), we have been able to participate in a medical mission held in Catanduanes last July and another medical-surgical mission in Valenzuela last August. They gave us an in-house mission for laryngectomy cases with a total of 8 patients



free of charge. They continued to support our yearly "Bridging the Gap" mission for cleft lip and palate patients serving 9 patients for the year.

The Manila Doctors Hospital was again given the privilege to be a testing site for the PBO-HNS annual diplomate oral exams held last June 10, 2018.

We are also proud to have hosted the Annual Interhospital Grand-rounds by the PSO-HNS held last November 15, 2018. A total of five training institutions were able to present their cases with a thorough discussion with our esteemed consultants from the society.

The department continues our annual gift-giving program for the less privileged and this year helped "Bahay Aruga" orphanage for cancer patients. The program, which provided them with basic needs for daily living, was held last December 13, 2018.

We would like to recognize our consultants who were given awards by the PSO-HNS for the year. Dr. Virgilio de Gracia was awarded as the most outstanding ENT for teaching and Dr. Manuel Villegas was awarded as the most outstanding ENT in community service given last December 1, 2018.

Every year the Manila Doctors Hospital Department of Otorhinolaryngology family aims for the best when it comes to patient care and the training of the residents who will help shape the future of our specialty. We are proud to have our esteemed consultant staff as well as our excellent CSR department and our Medical Directors Office who helps us achieve our goals and look forward to the years to come.

### Makati Medical Center

2018 started with the department's second fund raising art exhibit entitled "FACES II: Fight Against Cancer in ENT-HNS Patients II" held on February 13-15, 2018 to help support head and neck cancer patients needing surgery. Ribbon cutting was graced by the presence of the MMC president, Ms. Rose Montenegro; Medical Director, Dr. Johnny Sinon, and celebrity couple Mr. Ronnie Ricketts and Mrs. Mariz Ricketts. A portion of the proceeds was used to support Hospital Service Patients and the purchase of a new surgical drill.

The ENT Week was celebrated last April 2018. There was an exhibit in the main lobby with a demo of the different subspecialties and some of the services offered by the department like, video otoscopy, flexible nasopharyngolaryngoscopy, hearing tests, Videonystagmography system, and the newly acquired Auditory Steady State Response.

The MMC Board of Directors underwent a major re-organization. Dr. Joseph Ray Richard Cedeño was appointed as the new Clinical Department Chairman of ENT-HNS. Dr. Clydine Maria Antonette Barrientos and Dr. Maria Margarita Taningco were appointed as the new Residents Training Officer and Assistant Training Officer, respectively.

The Residents also joined the 1st National Laryngology Quiz Bee



on April 2018 held in UNILAB Bayanihan Center, Pionner St., Pasig City.

The department held its annual 13th Post Graduate Course and Workshop on Surgical Histopathology and Cytology and Imaging Studies of ENT-Head and Neck Diseases on May 2018 at the 8th floor auditorium of Makati Medical Center. The event was attended by residents and consultants of various specialties like ENT, pathology and radiology. The number of registered participants reached 182. The first day focused more on the histopathology and cytology, whereas the second day concentrated on imaging studies related to ENT diseases. The event was accredited for CPD units by the PMA and PRC.

Medical-surgical missions held in Isabela, Leyte, Pampanga, and Bacolod were attended by residents and consultants. Diverse cases were catered and performed during the said missions, like cleft lip and palate, thyroidectomy, parotidectomy, sistrunk procedure, and FESS with polypectomy.

On September 20-21, 2018, the ENT-HNS department in cooperation with the Philippine Academy of Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery conducted its 1st Craniomaxillofacial Workshop with Lecture on Cleft Lip and Palate Management held at the 8th floor auditorium of Makati Medical Center. It tackled a multidisciplinary approach on a management on Craniomaxillofacial and Cleft Lip and Palate. A live surgery or reconstructive rhinoplasty with rib graft was done on the 2nd day performed by Dr. Eduardo Yap, founder of the *Facial Aesthetic Core of ENT Specialist*.

On October 22-24, Dr. Diana Tolentino, Dr. Robertson Ramirez, and Dr. Jacquelyn Chan-Zamora presented case reports during the 62nd PSO-HNS Annual convention and IFHNOS World Tour Manila. A surgical instrumentation achieved 2nd place entitled, "A Modified Knife Electrocautery Tip and its Utility in Common Head and Neck Procedures" presented by Dr. Robertson Ramirez during the said convention.

### Mariano Marcos Memorial Hospital & Medical Center

The Mariano Marcos Memorial Hospital and Medical Center is the first hospital in the Ilocos Provinces offering an accredited residency training program in Otorhinolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery. The department was founded by our now Chief of Medi-





cal Professional Staff II, Dr. Jose B. Orosa III and is currently headed by Dr. Tennessee R. Huyaban, our chairman and Dr. Ernelli Legaspi, our newly designated residency training officer. The department has additional new consultants, Dr. Romen Almazar and Dr. Maria Conception Vitamog. Other consultants are Dr. Sme Estrella and Dr. Chester Puno. At present, the department has 6 residents, Dr. Joy C. Alvarez, the chief resident, Dr. Ronald Sadian, 4th year resident, Dr. Harold Jay Baytec and Dr. Xyrose Andres 3rd year residents and Dr. Marc Darryl Agulay and Dr. Syndy Guieb 2nd year residents.

Last November 8-9, 2018, the department organized the very first aesthetic surgical mission in the hospital "*Eyelocanose*" spearheaded by Dr. Orosa, Dr. Huyaban and Dr. Danilo A. Sanchez, Jr. together with the Philippine Academy of Aesthetic Surgery, Inc. Free rhinoplasty, blepharoplasty and lip reduction procedures were performed for patients.

MMMHMC also joined the National Observance of the Goiter Awareness Week last January 28, 2019. Dr. Orosa, a head and neck surgeon, together with Dr. Agulay, conducted layman lectures at the OPD waiting area and during the hospital's monthly general assembly. The speakers highlighted the importance of using iodized salt as a practical way of obtaining iodine from the daily diet to prevent goiter. After which, free goiter screening were given to indigent patients.

Also, the department acquired a new hearing center room designated for newborn hearing screening, hearing aid fitting and calibration and other otologic procedures. We also acquired new equipment such as Pure Tone Audiometer, ABR and Sleep laboratory machines, diagnostic and therapeutic pediatric and adult esophagoscopes and an additional treatment unit.

Furthermore, our institution is very fervent in supporting career paths of our residents to undergo subspecialty training to provide the subspecialists who will stay in the province to answer the service gap in the region. Presently, Dr. Danilo A. Sanchez is undergoing his subspecialty training at the Philippine Academy of Aesthetic Surgery and Dr. James Leslie A. Rondal will be applying for his fellowship as a Pediatric otolaryngologist.

### Northwest Mindanao Consortium

2018 had been an eventful year for the NorthWest Mindanao Chapter of the PSO-HNS. From dominating inter-hospital competi-

tions and attending a slew of national and international conferences, the primary activity has been the preparations for the upcoming Mid-Year Convention to be held in May 2-4, 2019.

Academically, this has been a year of quiz competitions where senior and junior residents represented the ENT-HNS Cagayan de Oro Consortium for the (1) Laryngology Quiz Bowl held in the UNILAB Bayanihan Center in April 15, 2018, (2) MEDIQUIZ, held during the PSO-HNS ENT Celebration Week, December 1, 2018.

Interesting case reports have also been presented in a variety of places. The 1st All-Mindanao ORL-HNS Inter-hospital Interesting Case Contest was held in the Southern Philippines Medical Center last March 22, 2018 where Dr. Sherri Tidoy and Dr. Jayremae Revilla-Lacandula won First Place ("Tessier 3 Facial Cleft & Its Repair: A Case Report") & Second Place ("Langerhans Cell Histiocytosis of the Thyroid") respectively. Dr. Tidoy also garnered the Best Presenter award. This same case report by Dr. Revilla-Lacandula was also accepted and shown as Poster Presentation in the recently held 3rd Congress of Asia-Pacific Thyroid Surgery in Kaohsiung, Taiwan last December 7-9, 2018. Another case reported by Dr. Glades Navia earned Third Place ("Papillary Carcinoma of the Thyroglossal Duct Cyst") during the Interdepartmental Interesting Case Contest held in Northern Mindanao Medical Center in July 24, 2018.

In February 17-18, 2018, the first ever Surgical Mission was conducted by the NorthWest Mindanao Chapter in Siargao District Hospital. This was preceded by the Induction of New Officers held in Surigao City last February 16, 2019, attended by the Board of Trustees and consultants from Ozamis City, Butuan City, Bukidnon and Cagayan de Oro City.

Research courses attended by the residents of the ENT-HNS CDO Consortium include the following: Basic ENT Course held in the Rizal Medical Center, Research Methodology Workshop, Facial Plastics & Maxillofacial Surgery Course in the University of Sto. Tomas, 9th International Temporal Bone Dissection Workshop & Basic Audiology Course and the Endoscopic Sinus Surgery Workshop (July & August 2018) both conducted in the Philippine General Hospital.

The NorthWest Mindanao Chapter is also proud to welcome new diplomates into the fold: Dr. Bingjahir Barapantao (graduate of CDO Consortium), Dr. Monique Lucia Jardin-Quing (graduate of Ospital ng Makati), Dr. Nathalie Mundo (graduate of Corazon Locsin Montelibano Memorial Regional Hospital in Bacolod City), and Dr. Gemarie Racmat (graduate of the CDO Consortium).

Additionally, the PSO-HNS Midyear Convention in Puerto Princesa Palawan, and Annual Convention at the Manila Hotel, were well-attended and represented by consultants and residents of the training consortium.

Lastly, the annual inspection of the accreditation committee from the Philippine Board of Otorhinolaryngology-Head & Neck Surgery was conducted last November 24, 2018. Training & research updates and the annual census were presented, while instrumentation inspection and basic physical examination were performed. The CDO Consortium's 2-residents-per-year status has been maintained.



## Ospital ng Makati



The Department of ORL-HNS of the Ospital ng Makati was established 27 years ago initially headed by Dr. Eduardo C. Yap and Dr. Alberto F. Calderon. Despite its humble beginnings, through the years the department has built a reputation of excellence in health care delivery and training. To date, the department has 15 active consultants, 8 residents in training, and 33 graduates.

Major department activities last year included the postgraduate course "Vertigo Made Simple" and the 1st in house Microvascular workshop. One of the major activities planned for 2019 is the Annual Audiology Postgraduate Course. This aims to provide ENT physicians and other health care professionals continuing education in the field of audiology.

This year, Dr. Elaine Lagura-Trinidad joined the roster of Ospital ng Makati's distinguished consultant staff. Equipped with world class facilities and competent ORL-HNS professionals, the horizon seems limitless for the department.

## Ospital ng Maynila Medical Center

Established on January 31, 1969, the Ospital ng Maynila Medical Center celebrated its 50th Anniversary by highlighting its newly renovated infrastructure. With its newly furbished ward and upgraded facilities, the Department of ORL-HNS continues to work toward serving the marginalized while staying competitive in training, education and research.

The 4-year PBO-HNS accredited residency training program adheres to the principles of Outcome-Based Education, with the goal of providing knowledge, skills and attitude for its trainees to become globally competitive Otorhinolaryngologists.

The year 2018 was a fruitful one, wherein the department successfully held a number of courses, including the Organized Research Protocol Writing Seminar, Endoscopic Sinus Surgery Course, Maxillofacial and Sleep Surgery Course, and Ear Course.



In keeping with its vision, the department will continue to hold various postgraduate courses aimed at furthering knowledge of skills in its different subspecialty sections. The department leads the medical center in research skills and development for its residents and consultant staff through in-house workshops on Good Clinical Practice for Research.

Surgical concepts and techniques are honed in Rhinologic and Otologic procedures in dissection workshops and lectures using fresh frozen cadavers. The Four Flaps and More postgraduate cadaver dissection course focuses on the reconstructive techniques for Head and Neck Oncologic surgeries. The department also plans on holding a postgraduate course focusing on the diagnosis and treatment of sleep disorders.

The continuing development of the department as a hub for courses promoting education, learning and skills goes hand-in-hand with the ongoing upgrading of facilities and infrastructure of the newly renovated medical center. The Department of ORL-HNS looks forward to the coming year as it continues to combine passion for service with the love for learning.

## Quezon City General Hospital

Year 2018 was a hectic year for the department staff. Topping the list was Drs. Galen Clark Perez and Stephanie Go who successfully passed the PBO-HNS diplomate board exam last June 2018. They subsequently took their oath as diplomates in December 2018.

Dr. Mary Kathleen Bartolome-Juangco won 3rd Place with her paper entitled "Reconstruction of the Upper Esophagus via Tubed Deltopectoral Flap" during the QCGH Interdepartment Interesting Case Report Contest on Aug. 29, 2019 held at SB Hall. Dr. Clint Trinchera, won 2nd place with his paper entitled "Association of Ultrasonographic Findings and Thyroid Malignancy in a Tertiary Hospital in Quezon City" during the PSO-HNS Analytical Research Contest on Oct 23, 2019, PSO-HNS Annual Convention, Manila Hotel.

On September 24, 2019, the PBO-HNS accreditors headed by Drs. Nati Almazan, Cesar Villafuerte Jr., and William Lim visited the department and eventually granted our department a 4-year accreditation of the ORL-HNS residency training program from January 1, 2019 to December 31, 2022.

In celebration of the World Hearing Day, the department hosted the Gawad ENTeng Painting Competition last May 19-23, 2018 which





focuses on the ear, to increase awareness regarding the importance of hearing to individuals. QCGH ENT Ward then served as a venue to the PBO-HNS Diplomate Oral Examination on June 20, 2018.

The Quezon City General Hospital, celebrated its Golden Anniversary last August 2018. Although QCGH turned 50, the ORL-HNS Department became an independent department and was formally established in 1991 under the stewardship of Dr. Alberto De Leon. In celebration of the 50th year, the department hosted a postgraduate course on July 13, 2018 entitled "Outpatient ENT Diagnostic Examination in General Practice" attended by more than a hundred participants with the consultant staff serving as lecturers.

This year, the QCGH-ENT Department hosted the ENT Basic Course 2019 which was held on March 1-2, 2019 at SB Hall.

The QCGH OPD Complex is currently undergoing major renovations with the upcoming acquisition of a new video stroboscopy unit, flexible endoscopes, and treatment units for the ENT-OPD section which may be due for inauguration in the 1st quarter of 2019. Meanwhile, the Hearing Center recently acquired a brand new otoacoustic emission device for newborn hearing screening in addition to the AABR, audiometer and tympanometer.

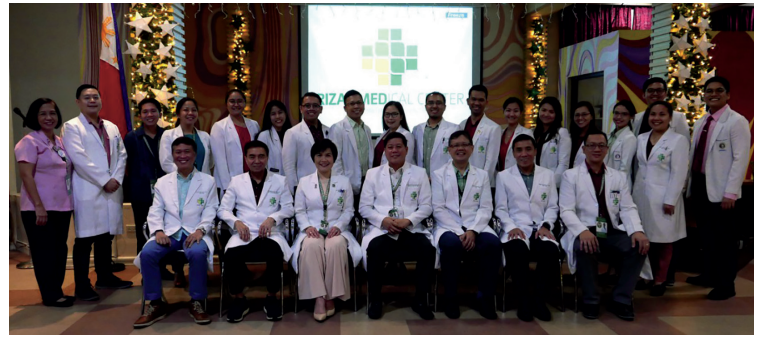
The ENT consultant staff is led by Dr. Antonio Talapian (Chairman) and Dr. Emmanuel Tadeus Cruz (Training Officer).

### Rizal Medical Center

The year 2018 was challenging yet fulfilling for the Department of ORL-HNS of Rizal Medical Center. Attending to patients with ear, nose, throat, and neck complaints from regions as far away as Palawan and Mindanao, with cases ranging from the simplest viral infections to the largest neck masses, the department has found its experiences to be rewarding and enriching. Aside from the day-to-day victories, there were also notable events for the group this year.

On February 24-25, 2018, we hosted the 2018 Otolaryngology Basic Course at the RMC Auditorium. This post-graduate course, intended to give residents, board exam reviwes, and other interested physicians an overview of concepts in the world of otorhinolaryngology, was attended by 141 participants and was well-received, most especially in terms of content and organization.

RMC ORL-HNS also celebrated academic milestones in 2018. October 21 marked the conferment of two new diplomates of the PBO-HNS: Dr. Mark Jansen Austria and Dr. Christine Cornejo-



Maningding – graduates of RMC's residency program. In addition, Dr. Maningding also had her research published in PJO-HNS entitled "Reliability and Validity of the Filipino Sino-nasal Outcome Test (SNOT) 22." Another achievement which the department is proud of is the 100% passing rate of residents in the annual in-service examination.

The department has also begun the acquisition and installation of equipment for its audiology and sleep medicine laboratories. These two specialized diagnostic centers will be housed within the ORL-HNS outpatient department. Operations will be overseen by the department's own medical specialists, with the assistance of its residents, in-house staff, and an assembly of newly-hired registered technicians.

For 24 years, the department has expanded its census and services – giving smiles and hope to thousands of patients each year. Under the guidance of the leading specialists in every field of ORL-HNS, the department has provided optimal training to residents – ultimately producing competent, compassionate, and moral professionals. To date, housed in a new office and clinic in RMC, the Department of Otorhinolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery remains abreast with the latest medical and technological innovations, updated and geared in relevant research and practice towards a more productive, happier, healthier Philippines.

### St. Luke's Medical Center

Aligned with the department's mission to provide quality care to all patients, the consultants and residents also participated in several missions. In February, chief resident Dr. Cristine Pefianco and fellow 4th year resident Dr. Hycel More, with Dr. Bernabe Singson, Jr., travelled to Biri Island, Northern Samar and banded with the International Surgical Missions. Here, the residents were able to perform varied surgeries under local anesthesia, such as cheiloplasty and excision of benign head and neck tumors. In June, several consultants and senior residents trooped to Pototan, Iloilo. The otolaryngologists catered to more than 200 patients in a wholly ENT medical-surgical mission in Iloilo Provincial Hospital. In November, the residents provided patients an opportunity to enhance their facial features with Botox injections and augmentation rhinoplasties at a bargain basement rate, aptly named "Oplan Ganda".

Inspired by its thrust as a leading educational center, the Department of ENT-HNS of St. Luke's Medical Center became actively





involved in the international awareness campaigns of 2018. A lay forum was held in the outpatient department in St. Luke's Medical Center, Quezon City (SLMC QC) to promote Goiter Awareness Week in January. World Hearing Day was celebrated in March – in SLMC QC, a lay forum on noise-induced hearing loss was conducted in the outpatient department by the Neuro-Otology fellows, with free otology consult and screening audiometry. A post-graduate course focusing on hearing aids then followed, entitled, "Hearing the Future: Hearing Aids". In SLMC Global City (SLMC GC), "World Hearing Day 2018...Hear the Future...and Prepare for It" was held. This activity-filled lay forum also included free otology consult, ear cleaning, and screening audiometry.

World Sleep Day was also celebrated in March as SLMC QC hosted a post-graduate course entitled, "Sleep Matters: Keeping in Tune with your Internal Clock". In the following month of April, making the choice to cherish your voice resounded for this year's World Voice Day. Lay forums, followed by free voice consults and rigid laryngoscopy were held in both hospitals. A lobby concert in SLMC GC culminated the celebration, which featured the vocal prowess of local celebrities and St. Luke's homegrown talents. In May, Head and Neck Cancer Awareness Week was marked by "Pasilip Kal!", a lay forum, which included free consults and rigid endoscopy, held in SLMC QC. Lastly, SLMC GC was the venue for a postgraduate course on Surgical Nutrition, which was held in support of Head and Neck Cancer Day. This course highlighted the multi-disciplinary approach catered to the nutrition of patients with head and neck cancers.

Stirred by its mission of training skilled future otolaryngologists, the department made its residency training program another focal point this year. The residency training program was granted accreditation status for one year by the PBO-HNS during the department's re-accreditation visit. Recalibration of the emphasis of the residents' education was also done with the formal integration of the Outcome-Based Education (OBE) framework, laid by the PSO-HNS and the PBO-HNS, into the current system.

In 2018, the Department of ENT-HNS of St. Luke's Medical Center remains headstrong in its aim to be a premiere center for patient care, education, innovation, and research in Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery.

### Southern Philippines Medical Center

The two Mindanaoan societies of ORL-HNS met for the first time in an inter-hospital interesting case contest held in the Southern



Philippines Medical Center, Davao City last March 23, 2019. Resident physicians from the Northern Mindanao Medical Center and Zamboanga City Medical Center competed with exciting cases featuring facial clefts, macrostomia, and juvenile nasopharyngeal angiofibroma, to the rare histopathologic diagnosis, invasive infections, and perplexing genetic syndromes.

Dr. Sherri Lou Tidoy from the Northern Mindanao Medical Center won in the event with the paper entitled, "Tessier 3 Facial Cleft and its Repair: A Case Report". Case histories, diagnostic work-up, and management done were discussed followed by a question and answer portion. The papers were reviewed and prejudged by Dr. Rojim R. Sorrosa and Dr. Annabelle Lao-Reyes, both of which are consultants in research, and Dr. Erasmo Gonzalo D. Llanes, a neuro-otologist. A fellowship night also followed the event.

The Southern Mindanao Chapter organized the competition, headed by its chapter president Dr. Mohammad Ariff Baguindali. This year, the second inter-hospital interesting case presentation contest will be organized by the department of ENT-HNS of the Zamboanga City Medical Center to be participated by the three existing ENT training hospitals in Mindanao. Meanwhile, the Southern Philippines Medical Center Department of ENT-HNS will hold its annual intradepartmental research protocol contest on August 16, 2019 to encourage residents to jumpstart their research.

The event was a primer of an even greater undertaking wherein major research papers by the residents from the three training hospitals in Mindanao will be presented and thoroughly discussed. As part of the requirements for completion of training by the PBO-HNS, the residents need to finish and publish their research.

Alongside the academic purpose of these summits is to strengthen camaraderie among ENT-HNS consultants and resident physicians all over Mindanao.

### The Medical City

In the past year, The Medical City Department of ENT – HNS transitioned to become the Ear, Nose, Throat, Head and Neck Surgery Institute, led by its director, Dr. Ma. Clarissa S. Fortuna. This





transformation into an institute allowed it to adopt a more seamless integration between providing patient-centered, world-class health services to its patients and fostering an attitude of continuous learning and excellence in its residents and consultant staff.

Last year, the Institute had a 100% passing rate with four of its graduates passing the PBO-HNS diplomate board exam. The Institute also held various in-house courses to further develop its residents' surgical skills. This included a temporal bone dissection and an endoscopic sinus surgery (FESS) course at the hospital's Center for Advanced Skills, Simulation and Training Innovation (CASSTI). These courses offered both didactics and hands-on dissection for its residents using fresh frozen cadavers, closely simulating surgery on a live patient. A basic plastics course using pig thighs was also held for the residents, teaching them the essentials of wound healing and repair.

During the launch of the Augusto P. Sarmiento Cancer Institute, the Head and Neck Program of the Institute was showcased as one of the flagship programs, exemplifying the multidisciplinary, team-centered care advocated especially for the care of cancer patients. On October last year, the hospital was able to garner its 5th JCI accreditation as well, which included the Institute of Ear, Nose, Throat, Head and Neck Surgery, attesting to its capability to provide globally competitive ENT – HNS services.

This year, the Institute looks forward to holding its annual in-house FESS and temporal bone dissection courses with fresh frozen cadavers, as well as its biennial Laryngo-bronchoesophagology course. Through this course, our residents are able to learn techniques in airway access and foreign body extraction using both rigid and flexible scopes on life-like plastic human models. In preparation for this year's Annual Convention, The Medical City will be hosting the Pediatric Audiology Pre-Congress in December. Aside from the conventional lectures, it will also provide a course for basic audiology certification.

Fueled by a continuous drive towards excellence, the Ear, Nose, Throat, Head and Neck Surgery Institute of The Medical City will continue to provide its patients the best quality healthcare, while shaping its residents to become exceptional and compassionate patient partners.

## University of the East Ramon Magsaysay Memorial Medical Center

Academic Excellence, Quality Service and Social Responsibility – these are the principles our department stood for since its inception in 1988.

The Department of ORL-HNS of UERM has graciously embraced the new curriculum, the Outcome Based Education of the College of Medicine which has been implemented since 2016. We established a new course syllabus for the 2nd, 3rd year and medical clerks following the 10 learning objectives as mandated by CHED. Since then we applied different teaching styles to our students keeping in mind the goal of outcome based learning.

In the last 5 years, our department had sponsored three post-graduate courses and one inter-hospital grand rounds required by the PBO-HNS. First, the Basic Facial Plastic surgery Course and Workshop held last March 28-29, 2015. This workshop aimed to develop the resident's concepts and basic principles of facial plastic surgery from wound healing to the more complex reconstructive and aesthetic surgery for both trauma and tumor resection. Most recently the Research Methodology Workshop held last February 26-27, 2019. These workshops aimed to guide our young researchers in creating award winning researches. Lastly, the Interhospital grand rounds entitled "Dilemmas on the Head and Neck" held last February 28, 2019.

Lately, some members of our department staff were commended for their unwavering passion for their respective craft, Dr. Virgilio R. De Gracia was awarded for being an outstanding PSO-HNS fellow area of teaching during the last annual convention. Meanwhile, Dr. Elmo R. Lago, Jr., Dr. Virgilio R. De Gracia, and Dr. Alfonso H. Famaran were awarded for being outstanding UERM alumni for the year 2019.

In line with our advocacy to serve beyond our community, a team of residents and consultants joined medical and surgical missions to Pangasinan; Odiongan, Romblon; Balayan, Batangas to perform major surgical procedures at local hospitals. The OPD residents were also tasked to give basic ENT lectures to the community on certain months together with the other specialty services. Residents were also allowed to join various medical missions conducted by the institution.

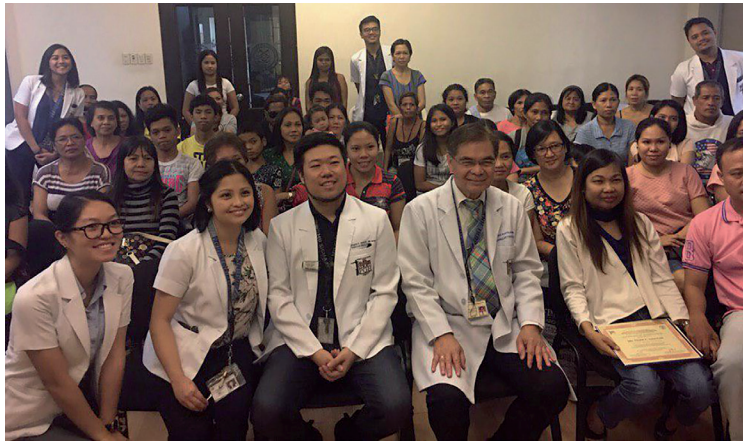
With an organized and creative staff dedicated to lifelong learning, the UERM Department of ORL-HNS is passionate in adapting to change in the years to come.

## University of the Philippines-Phil. General Hospital

The Department of ORL of the UP-PGH prides itself as the largest ORL training institution in the country with 27 active consultants and 26 residents. We continuously strive to provide excellence and leadership in our field through exemplary clinical practice and pursuing relevant researches beneficial to the community.

Last year, the department hosted the 10th International Academic





Conference in Otolaryngology, Rhinology and Laryngology, held in March 2018, led by Dr. Alfredo Quintin Y. Pontejos, Jr., and UP College of Medicine Dean Charlotte M. Chiong, with the theme East Meets West: Emerging Issues, Novel Technologies and Advances in Global ORL care. Professor Emeritus Jan Edze Veldman, founding president of the ORLIAC, along with distinguished experts from several countries abroad came to Manila to share their experiences and expertise in the field of ORL. We invited over 40 foreign and 18 local faculty as resource speakers, and the event was attended by over 300 participants.

In addition, we also held our 9th International Temporal Bone Dissection and Basic Audiology Course with our guest speaker Dr. Barry Tan Yau Boon, 24th Post graduate Course in Rhinology with Cadaver Dissection, and 6th Annual Septorhinoplasty Course and Dissection Workshop. We also participated in the 1st Runway Run Manila, which was held for the benefit of the PGH Cleft Lip Palate Foundation as well as United for Down, which is an annual multidisciplinary clinic (one-stop shop) for Down Syndrome patients. We also hold lay fora on goiter and head and neck cancer, in celebration of Goiter Awareness Week and Head and Neck Cancer Awareness Week.

This year, we plan to continue holding annual dissection workshops for the residents, and participate in various medical and surgical missions. We will also be holding Images in ENT: Clinico-Radiologic Course and Core Otology Lecture Series. This is an exciting time for the department as we are led by our new chair, Dr. Josefino G. Hernandez, and with the acquisition of various equipment such as laser, microvascular instruments, and the endoscopic units for skull base surgery, we are given the opportunity to cater to a wider range of disease entities.

### University of Santo Tomas Hospital

The University of Santo Tomas Hospital Department of ORL-HNS has been continuing its service since 1984 by being competent physicians who are committed to their profession and compassionate to their patients. Last May 23, 2018 the Accreditation committee of the PBO-HNS granted a 4-year Accreditation for Residency Training effective January 1, 2019 - December 31, 2022 without any visits to this institution.



The year 2018 was loaded with different medical missions, in-house workshops, post-graduate courses and several accomplishments for the department. Among these missions are the department's participation in the 18th Medical Missions of Mercy, where our Department Chairman and three Residents went to the province of Sorsogon to do major and minor surgeries. Seminar and missions in collaboration with the Department of Social Welfare and Development were also held to help patients who fall under the persons with disability (PWD) group. Weekly, the department also participates in the hospital's outreach programs to give free check-ups and lay forums for the indigent patients.

An annual workshop and lecture on Botulinum toxin injection was also held to instill more learnings and hone the skills of residents in the pathologic and aesthetic use of it. The residents also perform regular in-house temporal bone dissection to hone their surgical skills before performing mastoid surgeries. Annual workshops on research are also held to help the trainees produce ethical and relevant research papers.

The department was also successful for hosting the very first Interdisciplinary Skull Base Symposium where foreign speakers were invited and a demonstration of different surgical approaches in skull base surgery was shown in the Histopathology Amphitheatre of the hospital. The Basic Maxillofacial and Plastics course for the year 2018 was also held in the University where delegates from different institutions across the country participated and had workshops on Intermaxillary fixation and skin suturing.

The residents are also inclined in participating in quiz contests and different paper presentation forums in the local and foreign setting. The department takes pride for its residents who won First Place in the First National Laryngology Quiz Bee. To achieve academic competence, residents present different cases during the grand rounds every week and are given quizzes in preparation for the in service examinations. The residents training program continues to prove its excellence by achieving 100% passing rate in the PBO-HNS Diplomate Examinations.

The year 2019 will be great since the department will be celebrating its 35th year anniversary. It will commemorate the 35 years of invaluable service to the Filipino people. There will be upcoming post-graduate courses and events to look forward to.



The department will continue to seek for opportunities and thrive for achievements to produce competent, committed and compassionate otorhinolaryngologists.

### Vicente Sotto Memorial Medical Center

As a DOH-Accredited tertiary referral hospital and the only training institution in Central Visayas, the ORL-HNS Department of VSMC is vexed with a great number of patients turning up in our OPD every day. This problem was compounded by our small examination room and the paucity of equipment further limiting the service we can deliver.

After years of planning and proposals, the renovation of our OPD finally concluded in the first quarter of 2018. We now have a fully air-conditioned room with six cubicles, each having its own examination light. Treatment units, ENT chairs, an autoclave machine, an audiology room and various instruments were also added. This fully functioning ORL-HNS OPD Room has been providing quality health care services to more than fifty patients daily five days a week since its inauguration.

The Audiology Room became the highlight of our OPD with an audiometer and a tympanometer to perform objective tests for those with suspected hearing problems. This cut down the time to diagnosis and providing timely interventions for our patients. The new OPD also became an ideal venue for health teachings and special programs.

In celebration of the Goiter Awareness Week last January 24-25, 2019, the ORL-HNS Department of VSMC held lectures at the OPD lobby regarding Goiter and Iodine Deficiency Disorders. Goiter and other manifestations of IDD are a matter of national concern. A coordinated approach among government agencies, health workers, and other stakeholders through widespread public information and education programs are requisite in dealing with these health issues.

### Zamboanga City Medical Center

On July of 2018, the accrediting team headed by Dr. Francisco Victoria paid the Department of ORL-HNS of Zamboanga City Medical Center (ZCMC) a visit. They toured hospital and got a glimpse of the facilities and the population served by the department. After presentation of the previous year's achievements and statistics, a deliberation filled with constructive criticism and excellent recommendations, the youngest training program for ORL-HNS was given its second year of provisional accreditation. Since then, the department has been implementing the much-needed recommendations and is looking forward to the board's



next visit, determined to be awarded a full accreditation.

The department also joined the entire ORL-HNS community in the observance of the World Head and Neck Cancer Day. An all-out campaign was set into motion covering both local public education campaigns and social media. The ORL-HNS department offered free consultations that included video nasal endoscopy and video laryngoscopy.

As Zamboanga City Medical Center celebrated its 100th year, the department of ORL-HNS joined the festivities by increasing the public awareness on the availability of the department's services. More and more Zamboangenos have sought consult at the outpatient department. From an average of 15 patients a day, the outpatient clinic has since then been serving more than 40 patients a day.

The department's 2nd and 3rd year residents Dr. Wee and Dr. Ong presented their interesting cases at the interesting case competition at Southern Philippines Medical Center (SPMC). Dr. Ong also presented a case at the Annual Convention for the IFHNOS panel discussion. Through their presentations, they were able to showcase the variety of interesting cases among the population of the Zamboanga Peninsula.

The year 2019 spells a challenge for the ZCMC department of ORL-HNS. Improving upon the existing policies and protocols and implementation of the previous recommendations will prove to be a tough hurdle to overcome. Despite the challenge, we are backed by the never-ending support of the current medical center chief, Dr. Nida Casco Tan, the principled leadership of the department chairman Dr. Justin Elfred Lan Paber, the constant mentorship of the consultants and the grit and perseverance of the residents, the department of ORL-HNS will reach new heights.