



# THE DIURNAL

*Delivering news at your rhythm*

## Adamson University raised ₱1.5M for the less privileged and stood by its catchphrase “School for the Poor”



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## HIMIG Musicians of Adamson University raised Php30,000 for Frontliners through Online Concert

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The digital age of bayanihan took place together to battle with the struggle that the people are currently facing by donating through mobile gadgets, bank accounts, and e-wallets. The age of mobile digital finance has made donations easier and faster for everyone located anywhere and at any time.

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## Adamson Lady Falcons gives help for families affected by ECQ

Keith Candice Cruz



Due to COVID-19 and the enhanced community quarantine (ECQ), the Lady falcons that were left stranded in the dormitories of the school put off efforts to pack goods that will be given to several families around Metro Manila. ➡

sports

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Cancellation of UAAP Season 82

The cancellation of Season 82 of UAAP was enforced due to COVID-19.

For the remaining second-semester, sports events were cancelled for the safety and welfare of student-athletes, coaches, officials, and fans. Further, all the collegiate tournaments including high school events were suspended in accordance with the government's declaration of public health emergency to aid in flattening the curve. ➡



Clownery in a public health emergency

— it's not fun in the Philippines!

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## Adamson ends 2nd semester online amid COVID-19 crisis

By Francesquel Arimatea

Adamson University has decided to end its second semester online amid the crisis that the students face due to the pandemic, following the extension of the Luzon-wide enhanced community quarantine (ECQ). The semester will end on May 16 under the revised schedule and guidelines for the rest of the academic year 2019-2020, according to the recently released memorandum from the administration of ADU.

On-campus and face-to-face meetings after April 30, 2020 are concluded. Instead, students and faculty members are given corresponding dates for uploading lectures, assigning course requirements, compliance, and online submission of requirements.

As for the students' academic credits for the current semester, the school shall only assign the grades of PASS (P) for students who satisfactorily complied within the compliance period and INC: (150) for those who were not able to comply.

"Credits earned during the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester of A.Y 2019-2020 shall be excluded in the GWA computation for scholarships and Latin Honors" stated in the memo.

The thesis defense may be conducted either online or face-to-face depending on the type of thesis. Students are given two weeks before graduation to defend their thesis. The graduation is tentatively set some time in October 2020.

"Especially applied only for this semester, a grade of 150 (INC) in a course which is a prerequisite to one or several courses shall qualify a student to enroll the subsequent course" they added, concerning the prerequisite subjects.

Graduating students whose programs require licensure examinations have to attend enrichment classes prior to graduation. The Graduate School and College of Law will be issued separate advisories by their respective deans.

Regarding the Notification of Grades, students are individually notified of their grades or status of compliance through the Learning Management System. Official encoding of grades will be announced on a later date. The complete details are published on the copy of the memo, uploaded by the administration on ADU's official Facebook page and Twitter account on April 13.

Adamson University assures the whole community that they are continuously adapting and reassessing protocols if the pandemic circumstances call for it. After all, the health and safety of everyone is their utmost concern.



HERO ATIENZA ROXAS

COMM-PETITIVE. The Creative Communicators Society of Adamson University conducts an academic event, 'Game of Comms' for the Communications students of Adamson University

## COMM students, eager to secure the Debato Championship

By Myra Joy Remolacio

With the pressure of defending the title as the 2019 Debato Champions, 17 students of Communication, from freshman to senior, courageously competed in a head to head battle of wits. They represented their particular blocks in the much-awaited "Game of Comms", held at the Adamson University Media Center, last February 08, 2020, to determine their delegates for the Debato competition this year and maintain the winning streak.

The contest began with a series of 25 questions, covering topics from media laws and ethics, basic photography, digital imaging and editing, introduction to communication theories, and the like, crafted for the participants to answer. 12 of them, who advanced to the second round were arranged in a team of threes to deal with another set of queries related to news, the current events, as well as the government.

As the competition tightened, the nine remaining contenders moved forward to the free-speech round wherein they were challenged to openly tackle their views on diverse social issues to choose from but in not more than 60 seconds.

When the final round kicked in, a fusion of buzz and cold-sweat escalated for those who landed on the six top spots, as they were divided into two groups to defend their stand on the critical question posed: should the Commission on Higher Education enforce the study of one foreign language in tertiary level of education?

After well-thought-out arguments were presented and heated rebuttals were expressed on the awaited debate, the side of the opposition, led by Chrizia Paras, with her fellow second year, Ced Ventanilla and Mervin Lopez from the fourth year, dominated the final round of the competition.

They were declared champions, by this year's presiding judges, Mark Fernando, from the Department of Communication faculty, and Justin Marcelo, VP for Internal Affairs of Adamson University Student Government, as they both made the decision with regards to who deserves to win the title.

## Adamson University and stood by



ADAMSON UNIVERSITY FACEBOOK PAGE  
FALCON HEART. Adamson Lady Falcons joins forces to arrange relief goods to be donated to COVID-19 victims

## AdU-SHS Graduation Ball 2020 has been Cancelled

By Jon-Rheen Dela Cruz

Concerning the recent measures caused by the COVID-19, the Adamson University-Senior High School admin has pronounced to revoke the traditional ball for the graduating senior high school students on April 2, Thursday, and was publicly declared last April 10, Friday on their Facebook page.

It was supposed to be conducted on April 30, 2020, Thursday, at the Manila Hotel starting exactly at 4:30 in the afternoon. Only the graduating SHS students of Adamson University are expected and eligible to participate in this event.

Interested students who were to take part in this graduation ball paid a fee of two thousand and six hundred pesos (P2,600). Following the announcement of the cancellation of the event, AdU-SHS admin also confirmed that students who have

already paid their fees may demand a refund on the cashier. The exact date will be announced until further notice.

Some grade 12 students gave some of their opinions and reactions concerning the cancellation of their graduation ball. "It's bad that SHS Graduation Ball was canceled because I was looking forward to it that I've prepared for this" a participant said in a chat interview.

"But it would be selfless. I will not think on the other side of the coin, that there is a contagious pandemic disease vastly spreading throughout the country. Let's just considerate and think of our safety well" the student also added.

Basic Education Department including Senior High School has also placed certain number of announcements considering the ending of the school year 2019-2020. Senior High School students are required to finish the activities before the suspension of online classes—no more additional tasks.

Other important events such as graduation and moving ceremonies are postponed until further notice is given.



# University raised ₱1.5M for the less privileged by its catchphrase "School for the Poor"

By Mat Jefferson Richter



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The compassion of the university to aid in flattening the curve has symbolized its Vincentian way of providing empathy as they supplied transportation, dormitories, and meals to the frontliners by raising PHP 1,549,298.85 since the 15th of March.

Adamson University extended its help by distributing the relief packs to its different adopted communities outside Metro Manila and along Luneta, Kalaw, United Nations, and San Marcelino. With the help of the program "Program COVID" assisted by the university, including the generosity of the student bodies, 500 hot meals have been continuously distributed daily for the past 4 weeks of April 23, 2020.

The university is known by its popularized line "school for the poor", the Vincentian way. In the time of a pandemic, the university's acts of compassion and empathy toward the less privileged prove that their tagline concerns not just the student bodies, but also the poor in general.

The recipients of relief packs and donations are the streetdwellers near the university, the adopted communities in Rizal, Bulacan, and Laguna, and Malate construction workers. However, now that the community quarantine has extended up to May 15, 2020, the university strongly appeals once again for generosity.

The university has been transparent with regards to where the donations are lent to. They keep track of how much they have raised from time to time and document the event.

"On our fifth week, we continue to serve 500 hot meals daily. Weekly relief goods are distributed not only in our parish' community but in our adopted communities outside Metro Manila" said Adamson University's representative.

Meanwhile, the university is also planning to give rebates with regards to the tuition fees of its students to aid in lessening the financial burden of the parents amid quarantine.

## HIMIG Musicians of Adamson University raised Php30,000 for Frontliners through Online Concert

By Donnabelle Munsayac

The digital age of bayanihan took place in HIMIG's online concert via Facebook live as they were able to raise Php30,000 for the frontliners and the less privileged since the 6th of April.

From monetary donations to volunteerism, individuals and non-government organizations have teamed up together, to battle with the struggle that the people are currently facing, by donating through mobile gadgets, bank accounts, and e-wallets. The age of mobile digital finance has made donations easier and faster for everyone located anywhere and at any time.

With classes currently suspended to prevent further spreading of the virus, students were still able to find a way to help despite being separated and in the comfort of their own homes. The musicians of Adamson University or known as 'HIMIG', has turned to social media to raise funds for the people most affected during the current health crisis.

The organization had also successfully raised funds for the victims of the Taal eruption by holding donation drives and busking sessions last January 14-17, 2020. Their selfless act had managed to reach help for four barangays and evacuation centers in an elementary school in Balayan, Taklang-Anak, Calaca Batangas, Bauan Batangas, and Calaca Central School.

Now, the organization has prepared an online benefit concert named: "AMBAGAN: Online Concert for a Cause" to raise funds and donate to a non-profit organization named FRIENACTUS, hosting a project entitled: "BENTE: COVID-19 Donation Drive."

The proceeds were to be spent on vitamins and hygiene kits that will be directly donated to at least 170 homeless Filipinos. As of April 14, 2020, the donation drive has a total of PHP 30,000+ donations with the help of HIMIG, all for bonding together and sharing talents amidst these trying times.

**AMBAGAN:**

**ONLINE CONCERT FOR A CAUSE**

MONDAY / WEDNESDAY / FRIDAY

HIMIG - Musicians of Adamson University

BENTE: COVID-19 DONATION DRIVE. The official poster of the "Online Concert for a Cause" posted at the Facebook Page of Himig - Musicians



# A Woman of the New Generation

By Donnabelle Munsayac

**P**ursuing one's career amid the despair from yesteryears whilst fearlessly strutting the runway in stilettos has already been part of this lady's daily routine. Having only been 14 at that time, Veronica Chantel Gualberto had already sashayed her way into the modeling industry, effortlessly catching all eyes on her at any angle.

## The Spotlight's Glare

18-year-old Veronica Chantel Gualberto is not only a student-model-artist and ambassador but an award-winning figure as well. Throughout her career, the multi-talented 18-year old has been recruited as an ambassador of Chroma Music Festival, Revamp, Umbria Commercial Center, and Sarah G Cosmetics.

Along with her prosperous career, she has won multiple awards such as Miss Umbria 2017, Grand Winner of Metro Manila Face of Fashion 2016,

and SM Youth Finalist and a UN Ambassador 2019 in FEU Diliman. She was able to claim and achieve all these at a young age and such will serve the starting point for more of her career development.

## Self-Regulating

Veronica managed to balance her mental health, family, social life, and academics, making sure each one gets in the center spotlight as it deserves. "I badly wanted them to be so proud of me and my milestones" she pointed out.

"Seeing them happy when I achieve things is enough to get me inspired to pursue my career." Besides her family, she also points out that: "Self-regulation is a must". She heavily implied that ensuring one's mental safety in a heavy working environment is crucial. She keeps herself awakened by simply meditating, interacting with friends, avoiding hurtful environments, getting enough sleep, and eating healthily.

## Behind the Scenes

Grateful was she, after attaining the privilege of being signed under her company,

Merge Talent Casting Agency and Model Management Inc, and being able to participate in several huge projects that helped boost her career. In her 5-year term of being in the industry, Veronica implied that authenticity is vital in her workplace and that focusing on honing one's personality will lead to thriving career performance. "Build a solid ground in terms of character and talent."

She has accomplished a lot throughout the years, but even the brightest days turn dim. Despite her prosperous career, she has also encountered mournful days but still kept her head held up high by believing that negative outcomes are simply just tests that lead to fruitful experiences.

"I had faith that my lowest points are the beginning of my next steps." She truly became a woman of the new generation for her strength and power of self-love that kept her above everything. Veronica knows her power by knowing herself and trusting, believing, and improving on her capabilities, becoming confident with them and by knowing she's one unstoppable woman.

Rkind Arilla

## Ways on how to De-Stress amid Quarantine

By Mat Jefferson Richter

The need to be productive during a pandemic is quite a draining duty as we tend to receive dreadful news each day. The mental and physical tension caused by the pandemic oftentimes lead to rampant stress and excessive anxiety; the never-ending thought of when will this pandemic end. While we are mandated to stay at home to aid in flattening the curve, there are still various ways on how we can de-stress at home without the need to expense safety.

### Get back to your hobby

May it be painting, writing, singing, cooking, or any form of hobby that you enjoy doing, now is the perfect time to get back to what you once loved to spent time on. Getting your mind to work creatively will aid in breaking the tension and anxiety as you will be tended to focus on your craft. Remember: you have a supple amount of time! Use it wisely and try to learn new things if you can.

*However, don't force yourself to be productive each day.*

Learn to take a rest from time to time and don't conform to society's schedule; be spontaneous instead. Get back to your passion only when sudden bursts of creativity and productivity visit your mind. Forcing such would only mess things up.

### Sweat out

Our body and mind are interconnected; that is, to aid in breaking both mental and physical tension, sweating out is definitely one of the best ways to do it. Not only does exercising will de-stress tension, but you will also get to maintain a healthier weight. The best time to exercise is at mornings.

*There's no need to go outside!*

There are various physical activities that can be easily done at home, even without equipment. You may do jumping jacks, household chores, squats, push-ups, curl-ups, mountain climber, burpees, planks, and so much more. The core goal here is to sweat out to release tension.

### Tidy up your room

A messy bedroom is unhealthy for our mental well-being. Tidying up your room will aid in cleansing your mind as you will be able to think clearer and more profoundly with a much cleaner surrounding. Throw the curtains and pillowcases in the laundry, wipe the walls of your room clean, and mop the flooring as well. You may re-decorate your room in accordance to how you prefer it to look like; now is the perfect time to focus on such!

### Spend time with your family

Since the enhanced community quarantine is still effective, we are mandated to stay at home as much as possible. Hence, it is mostly our family members that we get to interact each day. Spend time with your loved ones during the quarantine period and make up the missed times when everyone was busy dealing with their personal lives.

*Social interaction is a necessity for our well-being.*

Watching a movie all together at home is one of the best ways on how you can spend the time with your family. Simply interacting with them will make you feel less lonely, especially in the time of a pandemic.

### Reach out to your friends online

The feeling of being alone is inevitable, mostly when you are mandated to stay at home and not interact with people outside at all. Reaching out to your friends will help you have a healthier mental health. Ask them how their lives have been going through despite the pandemic and remind them to keep in touch with you.

While we have various ways on how to cope up with the crisis, it is still important to practice incurring healthy coping mechanisms to get by. Taking care of not only our physical health but also our mental health is a crucial part of such; after all, it is difficult to stay sane with very limited social interaction.

*Keep in touch with your loved ones, and that must include yourself.*

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# Silent

By Donnabelle Munsayac

tossed and turned all night desperately trying to sleep. I couldn't help but think about what else would happen around the next day.

It's not like every other day though, following people who didn't want me around and to stick with them because of the fear of being left out or being labeled as weirdo that nobody liked. Forcing myself to be in a room for the sake of dodging the categories and labels I put me in was easier, I thought.

Probably seemed like a stray piece of duct tape inaction on a surface it needs to be on: A pest, a mislabeled something they chose to ignore because it's not what else could they do but tolerate it?

As I was seeking for so much acceptance that I led myself to base my likes and dislikes similar to what I let myself be stepped on like a fresh out-of-the-box doormat sitting on someone's front

of course, countless teen films would tell you to 'Don't let anyone tell you who you are' but in the mind of a desperate 12-year-old kid countless hours of self-loathing, it wouldn't be inter-

as hard to be positive when you're surrounded by

even if you had the chance to defend yourself, just being the only voice trying to explain against five

made that throat lump much more unbearable than it already is. To make matters worse, they'd rebut with dangerously harmful words with condescending tones that smoothly run across their tongues with no second thought followed by patterned laughter, obviously mimicking you as see you none other than a piece of their prey.

In one circumstance I was in, I vaguely remembered looking around and seeing faces that watched and simply remained silent. They didn't need to do anything of course; they didn't owe anything from me. I was a mere schoolmate they've probably seen around campus, a total stranger but any little yell from a junior or a senior, any disruption I was aching to wait for just so I could get out of that agonizing position.

The eerily unforgettable feeling of choking on air, my throat itching as it was burning in prickly heat and eyes twitching just to release tears slowly escaping without thought, but I knew I couldn't satisfy them with the imagery of my vulnerable state even if the struggle could be seen from the sour look on my face.

Everything was way too overwhelming and I wanted all of it to stop and it eventually did, but the feeling remained. Luckily enough, in the following years that came, I met several amazing people that I didn't need to morph into something to be loved by. They've helped me with seeing friendship from a different perspective and made me feel contentment and happiness, the glorious and gracious feeling of being accepted.

Being in that outnumbered and defenseless state will forever remain in my memory as remnants of self-questioning arose afterward. I hated every second of it but as corny as it sounds, it built me to be a stronger person.

I'm not completely blinded by the fact that a portion of what happened was my fault, but hey, I was young and didn't really know any better and it could have ended in other ways. In that occurrence, I was stuck with the option of sticking up for myself even though my self-esteem stood close to obliteration, or to satisfy them by allowing myself to succumb and crumble beneath them.

Pursuing a battle of one against five is almost impossible, a death wish, even, not unless you were a comical genius. I was nowhere near that. As I was young, I was more vulnerable to emotions.

Bullying amongst children can serve as a hindrance to their growth, and whether things turn bad or good, no child should spurt out harmful words and think it is okay or thinks harmful words thrown at them defines who they are entirely.

In that vulnerable state, the final resort I could think of was to internally pray for a savior to come out as they do in movies, whether it was a person or some physical disruption like a volleyball hitting someone's face.

The playthrough of what happened during that memory may not be as accurate as it is now but what stuck to me was the feeling. From that, I learned that whether it's for me or other people's welfares, *no one should be silent in the face of wrong-doings.*

## 7 SIGNS YOU'RE A CERTIFIED ADAMSONIAN

BY FRANCESQUEL ARIMATEA

Ah, Adamson University. Always tagged as the low key among the UAAP schools. Where everyone calls each other "Uy! Klasmeyt!" Hidden on the streets of San Marcelino are the Adamsonians, best known as the Soaring Falcons. But, does that consider you a certified Adamsonian immediately? *Hmm, di ka sure!* In order for us to know, I've listed 7 signs that tell us you've become a certified Adamsonian already.

### 1. The longest walk of your life

If you think getting stuck on traffic gives you a lot more reason for being late, think of it again. You might be forgetting about taking that long walk on ADU's walkway. Well technically, it only consumes about 3 minutes of your time but man, the feeling tells otherwise. Oh well, that's the way inside of the university though. Besides, you might want to grab a hot *taho* or caramel *kutsinta* first before heading in. You're late anyway, so what's with the rush?

### 2. A quick stop by the SV Church

Every day, before and after classes, you'll see students taking a quick stop by the SV church, dipping their hands on an angel statue before doing the sign of the cross, walk a little bit in front, and then fervently pray afterwards. If you're not one of them, better check if the Vincentian spirit still touches your soul. *Naaah*, kidding aside, this does not define your spirituality. Your ways to strengthen your relationship with God, or even if you don't, are still respected and viewed equally.

### 3. Best Food inside and outside the campus

A true Adamsonian knows the best dishes from different *karinderyas* and food stalls in and out of the campus. A few of them are: the famous *Paotsin* with their Asian chicken, sharks fin, Hainanese rice in sweet chili or toyo chili flavor is a must-try! No matter how long he line is, it will always be worth every second of waiting. *Karinderyas* outside ADU are also a crowd favorite. A variety of *lutong-ulam* in

*Ayabelle's*, *Suga's* chicken wings and Coffee Bryant, buffalo wings of *Jejuken*, and the ever-popular Lomi and sigis in *Lomian ni Mommy*. Everything mentioned portrays that Adamsonians sure know how to quench their thirsts and satisfy their cravings.

### 4. It's lib to sleep hub real quick

I bet about 70% of the owners of the bags surrendered at the baggage counter has one reason why they went inside the library; that is, to sleep. Well, the tables and chairs do not seem to be sleeping mats or beds to you, but a sleepyhead will certainly fall in their trap. Sleeping inside the library is prohibited but not to these tired sleepyheads.

### 5. Vincentian Identity at 12

The Vincentian spirit is most evident at noon after the clock strikes, reminding everyone to pray the Angelus. Students at the hallways, corridors, or anywhere around the campus pause for a while, keep still, and pray quietly. This is at least one of the religious traditions an Adamsonian upholds, which then shows a true Vincentian identity within him/her.

### 6. Hidden paradise. A nature's call

Ever felt the call of nature amid classes? No worries, these hidden paradises exist to save your day. You'll get comfortable spots at any of the following comfort rooms: Oz building, JP building, and the Registrar in CS building; lots of *klasmeyts* out there could testify. Oh well, don't forget to thank me later.

### 7. Unbothered by the Falcon Bridge's smell

Of course, the last but not the least, to be a certified Adamsonian is to be unbothered of the smell of Estero de Manila, located under the falcon bridge. The smell coming from it is truly malodorous. But for some reasons, without realizing, you'll get used to it that you'll even find yourself spending hours staying beside it at the CS walkway.

If you aced everything or at least 5 of the signs mentioned above are relatable, then congratulations! You have become a certified Adamsonian. I hope your stay at Adamson University is worthy of an experience. Let the spirit uproar inside you!

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**Mat Jefferson Richter**

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF  
PROOFREADER, NEWS EDITOR, ONLINE AND SOCIAL  
MEDIA MANAGER

**Myra Joy Remolacio**

ASSISTANT EDITOR-IN-CHIEF  
CHIEF OF PHOTOGRAPHERS, NEWS EDITOR, ONLINE  
AND SOCIAL MEDIA MANAGER

**Francesquel**

**Arimatea**

NEWS EDITOR, FEATURE EDITOR,  
OPINION EDITOR

**Jon-Rheen**

**Dela Cruz**

OPINION EDITOR, LAYOUT ARTIST,  
ONLINE AND SOCIAL MEDIA EDITOR

**Hannah Sophia**

**Lerriorato**

LAYOUT ARTIST, OPINION  
EDITOR

**Keith Candice**

**Cruz**

OPINION EDITOR, SPORTS  
EDITOR

**Donnabelle Mae**

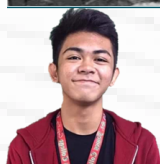
**Munsayac**

NEWS EDITOR, OPINION EDITOR,  
LAYOUT ARTIST, FEATURE EDITOR

**Charlie Daphne**

**Corales**

CHIEF OF PHOTOGRAPHERS,  
OPINION EDITOR



*Optimism will not fill  
up an empty stomach*

**MAT JEFFERSON  
RICHTER**

### False Positivity reeks of Privilege.

The pandemic has been continuously causing the loss of many lives and the deterioration of global economy. While it is ideal to incur positivity amid such crisis, the most affected ones, particularly the socially-disadvantaged, the underprivileged, and the frontliners, cannot just simply "pray away" the growling of an empty stomach.

These people then are in need of money to suffice the necessities of their family, and you cannot force them to just stay at their homes and abide by the law, as they are fighting for their means of survival each day. To stay at home reeks of privilege; how a privileged individual already has food provided on his table, regardless if he stays at home or not, unlike the poorest of the poor.

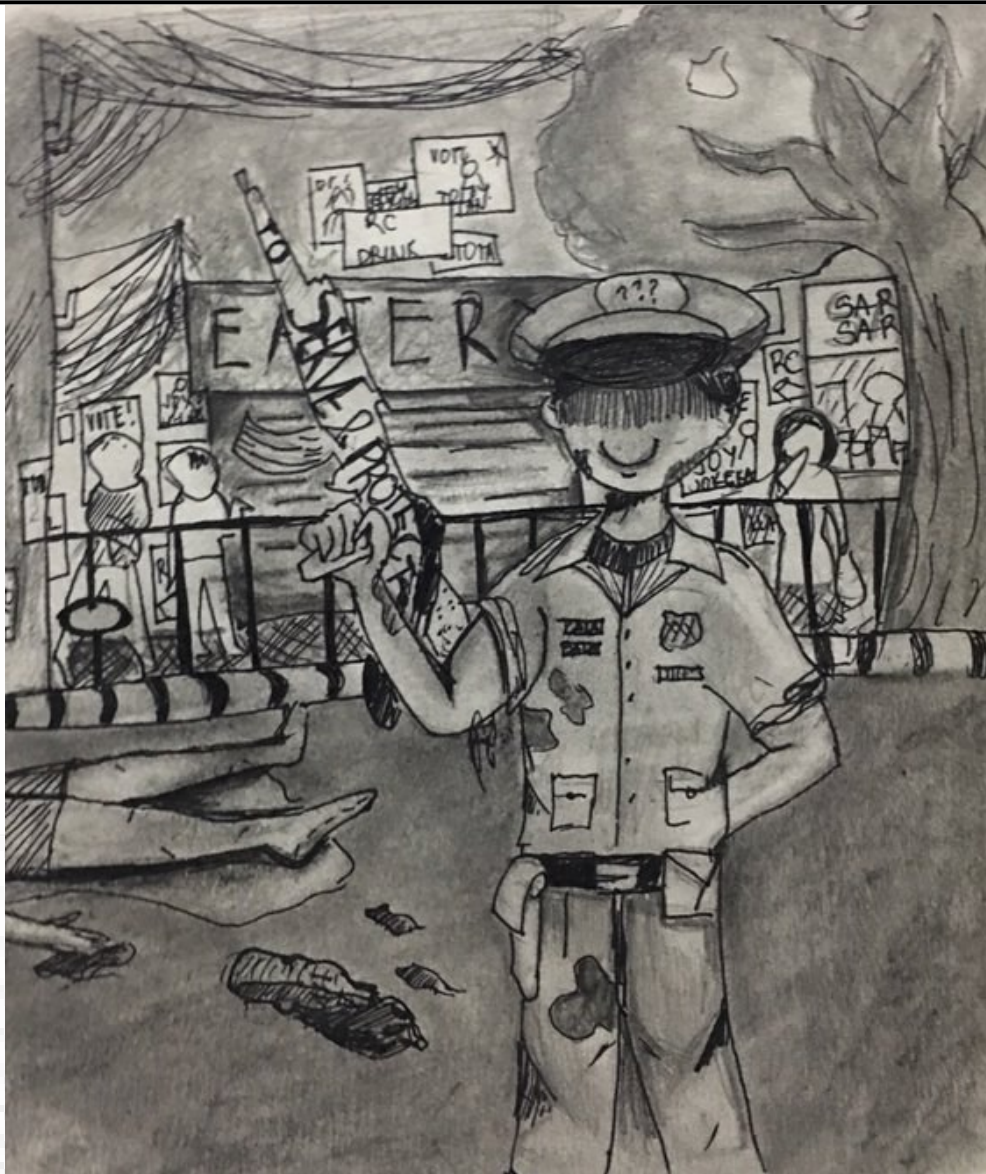
Many artists and social media influencers such as Vice Ganda and Gary Valenciano have also voiced out their opinions regarding the pandemic. Most of them reeked of false positivity and elitism, telling people to just pray, stay at home, and abide by the law. Have they even thought of people who are residing on the streets and in slum areas? The less privileged who are reliant on their daily income?

If you perceive them as merely disobedient and ungrateful people; someone who merely lacks self-discipline, then you have to work up on your thinking and view the crisis through different lenses. What they lack is a competent government that can provide effective solutions to flatten the curve and can implement laws that do not merely favor the privileged.

The poorest of the poor are incapable of digesting positivity for their breakfast and dinner; it will not fill up their empty stomach. One cannot be optimistic when tomorrow is uncertain and all that is left on the table is an empty plate. False positivity is when you see the famished suffer from hunger and you try to feed them with bible verses and pretentious optimism. Staying positive then has its limitations, too.

Acknowledging your privilege is one thing you have to work on if you loathe the ways on how the less privileged find ways to survive amid the pandemic. It is not merely due to the lack of discipline; a person whose privilege is less oftentimes forces him to stand firm at the end of a cliff.

To you, this pandemic is mere boredom as you are just mandated to stay at home and stay optimistic, but to some, each day that has passed by and will pass by is a battle deciding between the need to survive and the need to abide by the law.



*Seek the truth*  
**HANNAH SOPHIA  
LERRIORATO**

### A Silent Cry

Everyone deserves to have a decent job, where you are given of importance as an employee, regardless of the type of job you have. But in our unjust and inequitable society, where the thriving patronage system—that only favors the privileged—exists, workers are exploited of their rights and experience undesirable circumstances in the workplace.

In our constitution, it is clearly written in Article 3 BILL OF RIGHTS, Section 1 that "No person shall be deprived of life, liberty, or property without due process of law, nor shall any person be denied the equal protection of laws."

However, for a security guard who experienced corruption and illicit acts of backing system in their workplace for over the last 5 years, despite dutifully doing his job, we should ask, does the law actually protects everybody or simply those individuals with influence?

It is a simple desire to seek justice, but even people with the purest of intentions to do so, could choose violence when their understanding and tolerance have reached the maximum mark.

With the hostage-taking incident that took place in Greenhills last March 2, 2020 by security guard Alchie Paray, it's easy for everybody to see him as the villain and plainly neglect his side of the story, but we deserve

to know the core reason of that action that led to a harmful aftermath.

It's only the truth that could bring us the greater freedom and protection. And that's what he demanded and wanted to express his version of truth.

Panay strictly enforced the mall's "No ID, No Entry" policy as a security guard, but a tenant threatened him saying "You will not last here anymore". He was then ordered to immediately transfer by the management, and that made a negative impact on him. The reassignment caused him to quit work. But for the management, he was accused to have absences without leave (AWOL) and was already replaced by another guard.

This became his battle—a trigger for him to take everything under his own hands. It's true that he placed the lives of the hostages in great danger, but this was his only way to express himself and let everyone hear his side of the story.

Our job is our property to help us survive. Such reassignment means, big adjustments and problems for him; it means a change of lodging and transportation since he was only commuting to work, a change of management, and a new set of people to work with again, and much more.

A warning or written notice should have been given to the management's discretion was to inform him about the complaint against him, but based on the decision, it is due to patronage and bribery. He's been given an unfair and inhumane treatment.

If the leaders of the company are honest and have a proper management system implemented, this hostage-taking should not have been Paray's way to express his rights. This should serve as an eye-opener to for all of us that everyone must be treated equally under the protection of law.



# War on Drugs in the lens of Class Issue

The unrestrained movement, war on drugs, has perpetuated threat and peril among Filipinos. Over the past 3 ½ years, the campaign had led to various extrajudicial killings and atrocious violations of human rights, many of which victims belong under the marginalized.

The campaign has aimed to dramatically decrease the abuse of drugs in the Philippines within a span of three months. The slums and streets of the country, as stated by President Duterte, are now safer spaces to walk past onto due to his tactics. However, such a campaign will not reach its objective if abuse of military power is perpetuated and if particular laws favor merely the elitists.

Only the privileged ones are capable of undergoing the due process of law, a legal process wherein one is given the chance to prove himself not guilty in the eyes of the law by means of hiring professionals, particularly lawyers and investigators. The marginalized barely has access to public lawyers, as they are also limited in the country. Such an anti-poor campaign reflects the current administra-

tion's objective of the classist approach, considering that almost every victim does not attain the privilege to defend themselves in the court. It perpetuates injustice and voices that are long yet to be heard; worse, not heard at all.

The issue of drug abuse is not just an issue of drugs alone, but poverty. It is also due to poverty that the marginalized is tempted to abuse the usage of drugs, as such act as a hunger-suppressant. It alleviates their hunger in quite a period of time. Hence, criminality is deeply-rooted within the walls of poverty, for people under the marginalized sector are tempted with the choice of not abiding the law- for the sake of survival.

Deciding to turn a blind eye to the different lenses of war on drugs proves that one is already comfortable enough in their seats to be unbothered of the injustice and extrajudicial killings in the country caused by abuse of power. The current administration has to consider that drug abuse is also a class issue.

The victims of such are most perpetuated in Manila's poverty-stricken neigh-

borhoods as they are more exposed to drug abuse than the privileged; repeatedly, drugs alleviate hunger thus keeping the famished sane for a period of time. The current administration then must first aim to eradicate poverty in the country before diving into another issue that is caused by such.

Providing decent jobs for the marginalized, regularizing workers, providing actual free education; as it must primarily be free in the country, focusing on economic growth, and implementing the campaign but without the abuse of power will aid in dramatically decreasing the abuse of drugs- the primary goal of war on drugs.

The war on drugs up to date is still a long-overdue debate in the country. Even before President Duterte had decided to run for the presidency, his mere objective has always been eradicating drug abuse. However, he must foresee the issue through different lenses, that is, drug abuse is not just caused by the abuse of drugs alone; rather, it is because of the deeply-rooted poverty that causes people to commit crimes in the name of survival.



*Opt for progress, not perfection*

**MYRA JOY  
REMOLACIO**

## Clownery in a public health emergency – it's not fun in the Philippines!

"Everything is well in the country, there's nothing really to be extra scared of the Coronavirus thing. It has affected a lot of countries, but in one or two cases in any country is not really that fearsome," said President Duterte. Was there too much complacency or cleanly down-playing?

Before the COVID-19 was officially declared as a global pandemic on March 11, 2020, it can be recalled that President Duterte actually believed that the public was being hysterical about it. Lest we forget, it took 17 days before he declared a public health emergency in March, despite the recommendation coming from the Department of Health a month earlier.

With no concrete plan of action presented and well-thought protocols directly implemented to counter the COVID-19 outbreak, it is a clear indication that the weight of this health crisis we are facing was not gravely taken by the administration. There had been a denial from DOH Sec. Francisco Duque III, to conduct mass testing in the country, which puts more lives at risk.

Note that negligence and lack of preparedness caused so much delay in providing help and assistance, particularly in our health sector, which gambled the safety of our medical front liners and healthcare workers for contracting the virus.

Although it's true that there's no perfect government, don't we have the right to be mad and blame them with the lives being compromised due to their incompetence?

A line detaching the rich from the poor was invisibly drawn; the system of rules employed and vague procedures- bringing panic and confusion to the public- was in favor of the elites. Ideally, no one is and will be starving, if only our government is rightly doing its job.

With no means of transport available, we are all expected to walk the distance; even the persons with disability and the elderly, who live alone, were not given consid-

erations. It is then not fitting and decent to spread optimism in this time for a virus that takes lives, costs people their livelihoods, and amplify the division between the rich and poor.

While the rich could be in panic buying to stock up their fridge, the poor, and many of us, would only be panicking because we don't have the money to buy. How insensitive and out of touch could our government be, on the plight of many Filipinos daily?

Military functions were stipulated in a situation that required medical solutions and a health-centered approach. The presence of force would most likely, and could sometimes bring more mischief than its intended benefit. In instances like these, citizens should be ensured of their safety and not feel neither alarmed nor threatened; sadly it's the other way around.

We've been presented with an answer that does not match the real problem we're dealing with. Human welfare ought to be the concern; thus, people-centered policies should be the focus. But who are they really serving? Is it the people, or their need to exercise control and maintain their power?



*What the world suppose to see*

**FRANCESQUEL  
ARIMATEA**

## The Government vs. The Crowd Favorite

For years of living in a country governed by corruption and inefficiency, we Filipinos have grown tired of anyone who administers unusually, yet a well-deserved leadership was then given of recognition and acclimation. With over hundreds of public officials in the country whom we all expect to do their job, even just the bare minimum, Pasig City Mayor Vico Sotto stands out as an exemplar of his performative and humble governance, and people are hopeful about it.

It's no surprise that everyone's on the look out for his every move, because as the youngest city mayor, his proactive COVID-19 initiatives are truly worth applauding. In case you didn't know, he ordered the installation of sanitation tents on the entrances of the Pasig halls and in its two

government hospitals, and proffered three disinfection drones to help sanitize public places.

As we faced this pandemic, alarm and panic had become an evident reaction from people. So in an effort to curb this creeping fear among his constituents, he imposed the anti-hoarding ordinance to avoid basic necessities to run out from bulk buying and also set up mobile kitchens to cater food for frontline workers and responders.

We've all been made aware that President Rodrigo Duterte expects everyone, especially the Local Government Units to cooperate with him, after he placed the entire region of Luzon under enhanced community quarantine. He even reiterated that mayors can issue executive orders to "make the environment of their municipality more conducive to a healing process," which means allowing them to actively take control of their communities without waiting for the national government.

On that note, despite the mass public transportation ban, Mayor Vico allowed the operation of tricycles in Pasig, with the intention of making an easier transfer of patients from their homes and to ferry the frontline workers to hospitals.

But recently, President Duterte threatens criminal charges to LGU's who don't follow lockdown rules, pointing specifically on the transportation ban, as Cabinet Secretary Karlo Nograles said on a statement, that tricycles were unsafe because COVID-19 could potentially be transmitted to its passengers.

How odd? If we come to think of it, these warnings were only stressed by the president soon after Sotto's name and efforts became an online sensation.

Now it's caused another turnaround. What does the pro-government sees as a real danger? Is it the virus or the fame and recognition that Sotto receives from the masses, which they consider to be a potential threat to them?

It is truly alarming and demoralizing how despite of this pandemic disease, politics stay as is, dirty and manipulative. As a true Filipino citizen, let this be your wake-up call to involve yourself. Whoever wins in this battle of the government or the crowd favourite lies in our hands, and it is about time to live with our eyes wide open, not with the lies being fed to us. We don't deserve the bare minimum. The system has to change, so be the catalyst.



# Adamson Lady Falcons gives help for families affected by ECQ

By Keith Candice Cruz

The Softball Team of Adamson University proves that they are not only good in sports but also on giving help to those are in need.

Due to COVID-19 and the enhanced community quarantine (ECQ), the Lady falcons that were left stranded in the dormitories of the school put off efforts to pack goods that will be given to several families around Metro Manila.

The players had a conflict going to their hometown, which resulted in getting stuck to their dormitories during ECQ

Such gestures of empathy reflects the support of the Vincentian priests' Charity Over Virus Indifference and Despair (COVID) and Facemasks Cover Your Face Not Your Hearts program.

The Adamson head coach, Ana Santiago, stated that she and her team are doing their part as a contributor to help the less privileged, as it is one of their ways on how they can provide their love and support to our fellow countrymen.



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HEART OF A LADY FALCON. The Lady falcons exerts effort to pack relief goods to help those people who are in need

On the other hand, the players who were supposed to embark on getting their titles, exerts much attention to what the nation really needs. By not proving how strong and efficient they are but to show charity and respect for every people who were affected by the sudden lockdown.

The supposedly game for the UAAP Softball competition was suspended for their safety and protection. However, the actual game is on the outside of the field.

They packed goods as the Vincentian way of the falcons' compassion remained intact for the less privileged.

## Cancellation of UAAP Season 82

By Keith Candice Cruz

The cancellation of Season 82 of UAAP was enforced due to COVID-19

For the remaining second-semester, sports events were cancelled for the safety and welfare of student-athletes, coaches, officials, and fans. Further, all the collegiate tournaments including high school events were suspended in accordance with the government's declaration of public health emergency to aid in flattening the curve.

It is the first time in history that the UAAP cancelled a season.

The sports that were affected from the season cancellation were as follows: volleyball, beach volleyball, football, baseball, softball, athletics, lawn tennis, 3x3 basketball, and streetdance. Meanwhile, the league decided to officially end the junior's division, efficiently canceling all the matches that are yet to be played.

It is then an indication that Adamson University and the University of Santo Tomas will share the inaugural girls' basketball championship since their best-of-three series is scheduled to go the full length with both teams splitting the first two games.

On the other hand, the crowd-drawing sporting event ran for a week, a total of four playdates since its delayed opening last March 3. Many of the players and fans, shared their reactions upon hearing the heartbreaking news.

Before the UAAP suspended all the events, some schools played for two games while De La Salle University and Adamson University only had one outing each.

With the number of COVID-positive cases, the government declared an extension of the ECQ until May 15, 2020. Therefore, the expected resumption of collegiate events under alternative formats of the competitions were supposed to begin no earlier than May 1, 2020, signed the agreement by the UAAP President, Emmanuel Fernandez, and Executive Director, Atty. Rebo Saguisag.

Meanwhile, the National University men's volleyball team member, Ricky Marcos, a graduating NU libero said the pain of learning that the season for him has ended; Blue eagles star Ron Medalla was still thankful for the good season he had despite the cancellation; Senior Mean Mendrez of University of the East also took a final bow.

Issues arising from the season will be discussed approximately. The league congratulates the people who made the latest season a success regardless of its cancellation.



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FRUITS OF SWEET. Adamson University's Lady Falcons portrays camaraderie and sportsmanship in the fiery of UAAP Season