



NEWSLETTER



UP CHEMISTRY ALUMNI FOUNDATION, INC



UP CHEMISTRY BATCH 1998

by Janir Datukan

The journey of these innocent and young students started in 1994. If there is one thing common to all, it is their student number: 94-xxxxx. Most of them belonged mainly to Blocks M5 and M6. Among the science majors, the BS Chemistry students were the fewest, much to their dismay and disappointment. Most of them were "dormers," the special privileged few initiated at Kalayaan Residence Hall, who enjoyed the benefits of living on campus and not worrying about the commute to and from school.

Everyone started their immersive UPD experience with enlistment. During period, there was this all-powerful piece of paper that will determine your fate for the semester: the Form 5. It used to be a long, piece of thick white paper where all subjects are personally encoded. One may only write a subject once confirmed through a walk-in enlistment process, which requires not only going from one building to another, but also going through classrooms where specific subjects are assigned. This can be generally problematic for General Education (GE) subjects, which are as numerous as they are diverse. This experience was definitely a trial-by-fire, unless one was accompanied by a guardian or companion who did all the work.



94-XXXXX



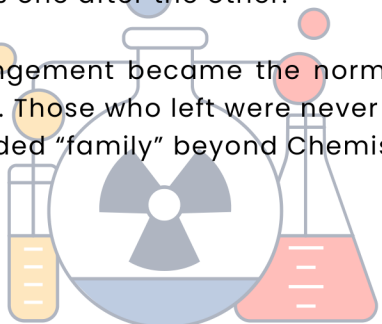


Batch '98 learned the names of buildings through this important immersion process: Institute of Math (IM), Institute of Chemistry (IC), Palma Hall, Palma Hall Annex (PHAN), gymnasium, CASAA, Shopping Center (SC), and the notorious Department of Military Science and Tactics (DMST) Complex, to name a few. They learned to walk a few steps to get to their destination, or a longer, un-leisurely walk to get to another building. The dormers, though, seem unfazed by all these since they think of the campus as part of their domicile.

Then there was the Freshmen Orientation Program Committee (FOPC). During the first week of classes, FOPC organized a series of activities, which included a sort of parade around the academic oval and ending in the UP Theater where University Officials welcomed the freshmen. During this time, student organizations, or simply "orgs," started a recruitment campaign for unsuspecting students. Students' '94 were not too keen in joining any org just yet, except for a couple of brave ladies who probably thought it would be more fun to just do it while the academic mood is not too complicated.

Blocks M5 and M6 started separately during the First Semester of AY 1994-1995—same classes but different and separate schedules, sometimes sharing a common instructor/professor. There was a risk of being compared, which happened on more than one occasion. By Second Semester, things got a little bit "cozy" as many batchmates migrated to other courses with a very few still leaving UPD for good. It was a time of adjustment to a new set of people with a slew of attitudes and personalities that did not necessarily jive with one another. Adversity has a way of bringing people together, though. Students '94 realized that the academic sufferings are greater than their personal differences; ergo, they banded together to form a stronger, more cohesive cluster, overcoming difficulties one after the other.

This arrangement became the norm—Blocks M5 and M6 merging into just the Chem Majors of their year level. Those who left were never completely forgotten—in fact, they became part of the reason for the extended "family" beyond Chemistry (the discipline).



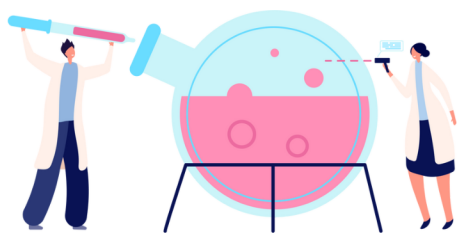
Majority of Students '94 joined the UP Chemical Society. It was the only Chem org at the time. Those who did not join either finished their undergraduate pristine and unblemished, in the "org" sense, or they joined orgs outside of IC. It was during the third year of Students '94, however, that a new org emerged—the Association of Chemistry Majors and Enthusiasts (ACME). Whether this was borne out of intense despise for one another, through a series of disagreements, or by virtue of competition, whether friendly or otherwise, one thing was certain: ChemSoc and ACME were there to stay. This did not end up being a bitter rivalry, as one expected at the time. A year later, both existed amicably with each gaining its own following.

Undergraduate life was mostly devoted to academics, for most, and org life, for a very few. It was made richer by a bustling campus life at UPD: org anniversaries, The UP Fair, Lantern Parade, concerts at the Sunken Garden or UP Theater, special screenings at the UP Film Center, overnight stays at the UP ChemSoc tambayan, out-of-town travels, frequent visits to SM North, Oblation run (!!!), and others. If there was one thing that Batch '98 deem unforgettable, it is IC's historic participation and performance during the 1995 Lantern Parade: the giant Erlenmeyer Flask leading the band of laboratory instruments composed of stirring rods, beakers, test tubes, and many more.

Most of Batch '98 graduated in May of 1998, still wearing the black academic gown. Two (2) were privileged to be awarded latin honors: Ms. Evert T. Uy and Ms. Lady Christine L. Ongsio. While a very few others were left behind, by Divine's grace, they were able to catch up a year or two later.

Fast forward to 25 years later, Batch '98 have outgrown their immature and reserved demeanors to take on bigger roles in various capacities as they flourished in their careers. A majority stayed in the Chemistry profession as academics (instructors and professors in universities), researchers, laboratory managers, and analysts. Many also joined the medical field and are currently specialists. Some left the profession utterly and joined the administrative, finance, and other domains. Despite the differences, Batch '98 continues to keep close contact with one other, often meeting after prolonged periods, to reforge, rekindle, and reconnect. Unfortunately, three (3) have passed: Ms. Adel Briones-Catapang, Dr. Marianne P. Collado, and Ms. Cherrie S. Calderon.

2023 is a celebration of fabulous existence, enduring friendships, incredible tenacity, and remarkable resilience. Let Batch '98 entertain you during the UP Chemistry Alumni Foundation Annual Alumni Homecoming!



"Adversity has a way of bringing people together... the academic sufferings are greater than their personal differences; ergo, they banded together to form a stronger, more cohesive cluster, overcoming difficulties one after the other."

The UP Chemistry Alumni Foundation (UPCAF) handled the implementation of the Educational Assistance Fund (EAF), which was established by the Silver Jubilarians of Batch 1985 of the Institute of Chemistry, UP Diliman. Since its inception in 2014, succeeding Silver Jubilarians generously supported the EAF. In addition, specific scholarships were also established. These are the Tenmatay Scholarship, established by Dr. Laura David who is a Chemistry Alumna herself in honor of her grandfather, Dr. Augusto L. Tenmatay, who served as the Department of Chemistry Chairperson from 1959 – 1960; and, the Sally O'Connor (Batch 1970) Scholarship. In addition, contributions were received from the UP College of Arts and Sciences Alumni Foundation (UPCASAF) amounting to Php 100,000.00 and from the golf tournament fund-raising activity "CHEMIS-TEE FORE A CAUSE" held at the Villamor Air Base amounting to Php 130,000.00 which was hosted by the UPCAF in 2018 and 2019.

Since its inception, there have been thirty (30) recipients who were mostly awarded Php 20,000.00 per semester. Others were provided educational support such as internet connectivity during the pandemic semesters (AY 2020-2021 to AY 2022-2023).



From **The Terror Prof** by Manix Abrera (pg. 128, published 2022), first appeared at Philippine Daily Inquirer for Kikomachine Komix by Manix Abrera. Used with permission

YEAR 2014**RECIPIENTS**

MARK JEFFREY DIAZ
CHRISTIAN PAUL RAMOS

SCHOLARSHIP FUND

BS CHEM BATCH 1985
BS CHEM BATCH 1985

YEAR 2015

CHRISTIAN PAUL RAMOS
ROMMEL C. FIGUEROA
MARIELLE JOY POJAS
MARK JEFFREY DIAZ

BS CHEM BATCH 1985
BS CHEM BATCH 1985
BS CHEMISTRY BATCH 1990
U.P. COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES
ALUMNI FOUNDATION (UPCASAF)

YEAR 2016

ROMMEL FIGUEROA
MARY JUNELYN VINUYA
MARIELLE JOY POJAS

BS CHEMISTRY CLASS 1989
UPCASAF
BS CHEMISTRY BATCH 1990

YEAR 2017

AUSTIN SYMON ABACAN
REINA TERESA VALDERRAMA

BS CHEMISTRY BATCH 1992 & FRIENDS
TENMATAY SCHOLARSHIP

YEAR 2018

JASPER DUMALAOG
CHRISTIAN DANIEL GUY
KARL ALBRIGHT TISTON
REINA TERESA VALDERRAMA
LORRAINE GRIA AVENA

BS CHEMISTRY BATCH 1992 & FRIENDS
UPCASAF
BS CHEMISTRY BATCH 1992 & FRIENDS
TENMATAY SCHOLARSHIP
BS CHEMISTRY BATCH 1992 & FRIENDS

YEAR 2019

KARL ALBRIGHT TISTON
LORRAINE GRIA AVENA
LILIAN MAE MORA
JAICA LYNELLE PARAS
STEVEN JAMES SALVADOR

BS CHEMISTRY BATCH 1992 & FRIENDS
B.S. CHEM CLASS 1993
BS CHEMISTRY BATCH 1992 & FRIENDS
BS CHEMISTRY BATCH 1992 & FRIENDS
TENMATAY SCHOLARSHIP

YEAR 2022

LORENZO ANGELO MAPALO
NAOMI GABRIELLE VALENCIANO
ROGIE BAUTISTA
JAMES ANGELO PARCO
ESRON REY NATIVIDAD
CHRISTIAN PAUL ENDE
ACES JOSEPH SAN PEDRO
ALRENCE JAECY HILARIO
MA. JANELLA BORROMELO
JUDELYN LACOSTA
PRINCESS VINIA PUTULIN
LANCE JU-EL GALAMAY
JAY LAWRENCE GONZALES

TENMATAY SCHOLARSHIP
B.S. CHEM CLASS 1979
B.S. CHEM CLASS 1965,1978 & 1989
B.S. CHEM CLASS 1965,1978 & 1989
B.S. CHEM CLASS 1979
B.S. CHEM CLASS 1965,1978 & 1989
B.S. CHEM CLASS 1965,1978 & 1989
B.S. CHEM CLASS 1965,1978 & 1989
B.S. CHEM CLASS 1979
B.S. CHEM CLASS 1979
B.S. CHEM CLASS 1965,1978 & 1989
SALLY O'CONNOR SCHOLARSHIP GRANT
B.S. CHEM CLASS 1965,1978 & 1989

YEAR 2023

MARIELLE DE GUZMAN

B.S. CHEM CLASS 1965,1978 AND 1989

Congratulations Scholars!

For applications, please contact Ms. Cecil upcaf@yahoo.com
(UPCAF Office, Institute of Chemistry, UPD)

AY 2022-2023 marked the nearly complete return to pre-pandemic norm. The previous years were a challenge, and most of the students still had a lot to cover in terms of basic to advance skills in the laboratory. Much of the final training had to be done through their thesis and internships done within the institute and other allied units in the university, as opposed to industrial experience prior to the pandemic. The results of the 2022 Chemistry Licensure Exam reflected the lack in formal training brought about by the online modes of learning, with a drop to 80% passing rate (compared to the 2019 passing rate of 93.44%).

Nevertheless, the graduating class of 2023 had an impressive turnout of **62 graduates: 17 Cum Laude, 33 Magna Cum Laude, and 4 Summa Cum Laude.** The Summa Cum Laude graduates are **Ma. Janella Borromeo, Lars Emmanuel Labsan, Judelyn Lacosta, and Aces Joseph San Pedro.** Lacosta received the *Leticia Shahani Award for Best Undergraduate Thesis and Research Paper*, while Labsan and San Pedro received the *Baldomero Olivera and Lourdes Cruz Excellence Award in Chemistry.* The Institute also produced 12 graduates in the Master of Science in Chemistry program, with **Rufus Mart Cesar Ramos** earning the Most Outstanding M.S. Graduate Award, under the tutelage of Dr. Michelle Regulacio. The IC Recognition Program was successfully held in the 29th of July at the David Consuji Theater of the Institute of Civil Engineering in UP Diliman.

The institute also paid tribute to its pillars who have recently retired: **Mr. Mateo Sebastian** (October 3, 2022), **Dr. Irene Villaseñor** (June 19, 2023), and **Dr. Lilibeth Coo** (July 10, 2023). The events were attended by family, friends, former colleagues, and the IChem faculty, staff, and REPS.

Of course, Dr. Irene Villaseñor's party is mostly ceremonial as she was appointed as *Professor Emeritus.*



(L-R) Director Len Lim with IC reps, Aces Joseph San Pedro and Pamela Bianca Aguila



UP ACME

University of the Philippines
Association of Chemistry Majors and Enthusiasts

ICHEM STUDENT
ORGANIZATIONS

making matter meet purpose

The University of the Philippines Association of Chemistry Majors and Enthusiasts (UP ACME) is a university-wide, academic, and student-oriented organization that promotes the study of Chemistry through developing well-rounded students that strive for academic honesty and excellence. The organization gears toward the promotion and appreciation of Chemistry by holding various academic-based and community-based events that uplift the field of Chemistry in the Philippine setting.

MATTERx PURPOSE

Throughout the AY 2022-2023, the organization held various events despite the gradual transition of activities from online to face-to-face. Academic events along with a month-long string of ACMEMonth 2023 events were successfully conducted.

9th Hanep sa Science at Math (HSM)

The 9th Hanep Sa Science at Math (HSM) is the flagship event of UP ACME. It is a science and math quiz bee conducted among Grade 9 and 10 public and private high school students where the winners received giveaways and cash prizes from sponsors.

Thesis It! 2022

Thesis It! 2022 is a hybrid undergraduate thesis symposium which aimed to introduce BS Chemistry undergraduate students to various research fields and laboratories in the Institute. Professors were invited to discuss their recent research activities to assist students in deciding their research specialization.

Tracing the Truth: An ACLE tackling the Chemistry of Forensic Sciences

The alternative classroom learning experience (ACLE) webinar introduced students to the forensic science field. It discussed forensic science as a profession, its national relevance, and chemical processes, techniques, and instrumentation used in this field.

Chemistry Review Series

The organization conducted 6 face-to-face/online review sessions in Chem 16, Chem 17, Chem 33, and Chem 112. Review sessions were also done in collaboration with the College of Science Student Council (CoReS) and Kapihan.

ACMExhibit

ACMExhibit is an annual exhibit featuring UP ACME's history, members, and events as part of its month-long celebration of the organization's 26th year.

AKAPNAYAN

AKAPNAYAN 2023 is a community outreach program held at Meritxell Children's Home and House of Refuge Foundation, Inc., involving Chemistry experiment demonstrations and hands-on activities. The kids from the childcare agencies were also provided with kits, food, and cash donations.

Lab-Ah!

Lab-Ah is a two-day event wherein lab gowns are collected for free laundry services. The service is offered to students and staff who partake in laboratory classes or research within the Institute of Chemistry.

Kimikain

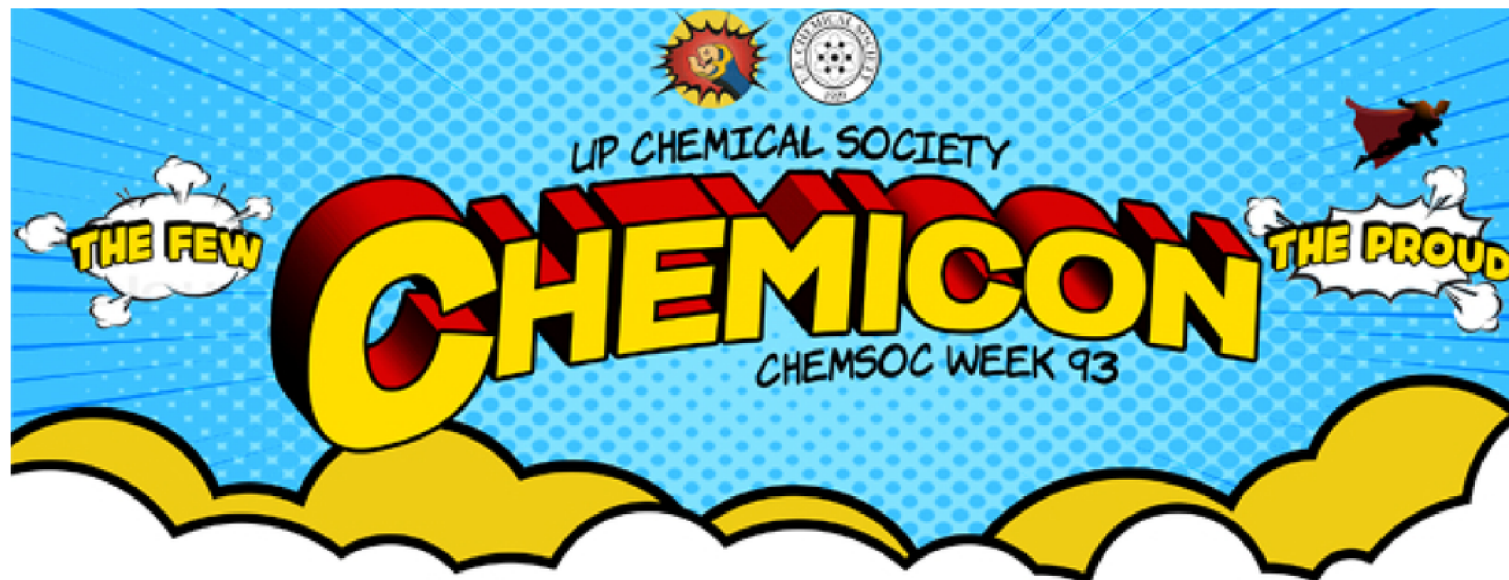
Kimikain is a grand pakain event which aims to give back to the students, faculty, and staff of the Institute of Chemistry. The event was open to the UP Diliman community as well.

SYMBO

SYMBO is a chemistry twist on the game of Bingo. Instead of numbers, cells of bingo cards contain Elements and Chemical Formulas. This event aims to spark the interest and enthusiasm of players in chemistry, and allow them to learn more about the subject through an interactive game.

Kara-O-Chem

Kara-O-Chem is an internal event held for the applicants, members, and alumni of the organization to bond and interact with each other through a series of karaoke trivia quiz competitions to showcase the organization's love for music and science.



Founded in 1929, the UP Chemical Society (ChemSoc) is the premier student organization of the Institute of Chemistry (IC), University of the Philippines Diliman. UP ChemSoc is also recognized as an official member of the Philippine Association of Chemistry Students Inc. UP ChemSoc brings quality events, products, and services to the Institute, the college and the university to fulfill its goals of promoting general welfare, encouraging intellectual inquiry, in the study of science, and recognizing achievements in and in service to chemistry. For the AY 2022-2023, UP ChemSoc celebrated 93 Heroic years and here are the events that its hardworking members organized.

CHEMSOC WEEK*

An annual event celebrating the founding of the organization. It showcased events throughout a whole week from September 4 to 10, 2022. With the theme "CHEMICON", comical and heroic activities were conducted and kicked off with a Thanksgiving mass at the Parish of the Holy Sacrifice in UP Diliman. Followed by a virtual zoom session.

VIRTUAL EXHIBIT

With the theme "Chemicon", the virtual exhibit featured the organization's brief history, its members, the week's events and photos from past years. It is posted in the Facebook page of UP ChemSoc.

I CHEM SING Vol. II

Rebranded from the annual Chem Idol, this event became an avenue to showcase the talent in singing of university students' within the National Capital Region. The event was held on Facebook via the official UP ChemSoc page and concluded on September 7, 2022. The participants had to sing songs that has been used as an official soundtrack for hero movies, series, and show.

PITAGAN

To replace the annual grand pakain and to recognize the years of hard work of the faculty and staff of the Institute of Chemistry, Pitagan 2022 was held. Publicity materials were posted to recognize the hardwork of the faculty and staff of the institute. An online event was also held via Zoom to award Dr. Irene Villaseñor for working for 42 years in the institute.

BRAIN FREEZE

Became an open-for-all 5-day challenge to solve the mystery behind a mysterious illness in the university. Held via the official BrainFreeze FB page, the event concluded on September 9, 2022 with the podium finishers getting cash prizes.

EXERGONIC: Chemistry Career Talk

Four resource speakers, all Chemistry graduates who branched to various fields, namely medicine and research, gave career talks on Chemistry on September 10, 2022 on Zoom and was broadcasted on Facebook Live.

MEM'S NIGHT

For UP Chemical Society's 92th anniversary, UP ChemSoc resident members got together via Zoom. The finale of the 93rd ChemSoc Week was spent playing and interacting with each other for a virtual reunion.

COVALENCE*

An event to contribute to a selected cause through a donation drive as part of the organization's goal to promote general welfare. Formerly Chemistree, Covalence '23 collected a total of P 10,110.18 and the whole amount was directly to Kythe Foundation, Inc. The collected donations were turned over to the Foundation last June 17, 2023.

ACADEMIC EVENTS*

PHILIPPINE NATIONAL CHEMISTRY OLYMPIAD

The PNCO - NCR division is an annual event headed by the Philippine Federation of Chemistry Societies with the UP Chemical Society. Due to the pandemic, this high-school level quiz bee was conducted through Zoom last February 12, 2022. The top 5 winners eventually represented NCR at the national level of PNCO.

ALTERNATIVE CLASSROOM LEARNING EXPERIENCE

An onsite discussion catered to the university students to (1) educate them about the chemistry of monosodium glutamate, (2) discuss its effect on health and (3) its effect on Philippine cuisine. Held on April 25, 2023, the event had over 60 attendees.

BATTLE OF THE BONDS

This year's BOTB is an onsite quizbowl where students can win prizes by answering basic Chemistry questions. It was open for UPD students who were taking Chem 16 and Chem 17 during the second semester of AY 2022-2023. The event took place in the Chevron room at the Institute of Chemistry Teaching Building.

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH IC*

PASINAYA: Alay sa mga Bagong Pasa

Organized by UP Chemical Society together with the Institute of Chemistry and UP Chemistry Alumni Foundation, the event congratulated the PRC Licensure Examination for Chemists passers in the Institute of Chemistry. Out of the 32 passers, 16 passers attended the event.

Baldomero Olivera Jr. & Lourdes Cruz Awarding

A yearly recognition even organized by UP Chemical Society together with the Institute of Chemistry and UP Chemistry Alumni Foundation to award the top 1 and 2 graduating students with the highest curriculum weighted average marks in the Institute of Chemistry. This year's awardees are both from UP ChemSoc: Larz Emmanuel V. Labsan and Aces Joseph L. San Pedro for the Baldomero M. Olivera and Lourdes J. Cruz award for Excellence in Chemistry, respectively. Mr. Labsan received P10,000 while Mr. San Pedro received P8,000.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

UPCAF Board of Trustees:

Thelma Valenzuela-Balingit, UPChem'77	Chairman
Charina Paras-de Silva, UPChem'90	Vice-Chairman
Josefina Montes-Santos, UPChem'79	Secretary
Evangeline Cancio-Amor, UPChem'89	Treasurer
Laura T. David, UPChem'91	Trustee
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Christine Chichioco-Hernandez, UPChem'94	Trustee
Flordeliz C. Galindo, UPChem'95	Trustee
Meryl Christina Antonio, UPChem'05	Trustee
Renan M. del Rosario, UPChem'77	Adviser
Ma. Bella B. Javier, UPChem'81	Adviser

Standing committees and their heads:

Alumni Homecoming	Janir Datukan
Fund Raising Activities	UPCAF Board
Newsletter	Meryl Antonio

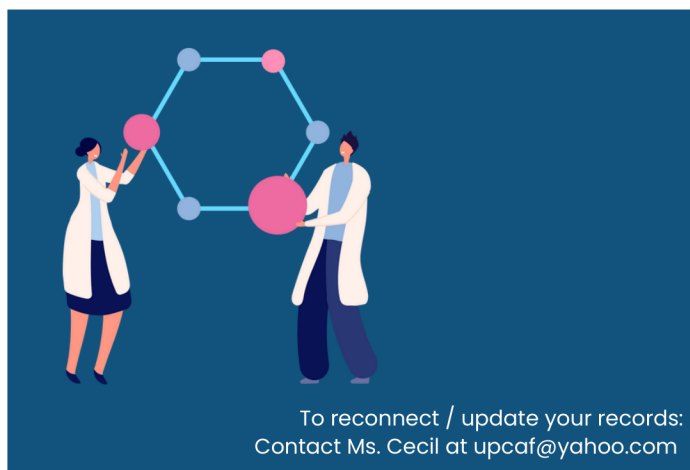
Financial Position

As of December 31, 2022 and 2021

ASSETS		2022	2021
Currents Assets			
Cash and Cash Equivalent	PhP	2,927,991.68	3,431,204.72
Other Receivables		50,000.00	50,000.00
Manuals		4,579.00	4,579.00
PROPERTY PLANT AND EQUIPMENT			
Office Equipment, net		2,007.00	2,007.00
TOTAL ASSETS	PhP	2,984,577.68	3,487,790.72
CURRENT AND NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Funds	PhP	2,213,041.37	3,241,040.34
Other Liabilities		5,230.00	3,430.00
	PhP	2,218,271.37	3,244,470.34
FUND BALANCES			
Capital Fund	PhP	766,306.31	243,320.38
Total Equity	PhP	766,306.31	243,320.38

Your Foundation accomplished the following during the past fiscal year (August 2022 to July 2023):

- We continue to hold regular Board meetings every month at the Institute of Chemistry, U.P. Diliman, Quezon City at no cost to the Foundation.
- We published and sent out one issue of the UPCAF Newsletter.
- We continue to manage the secretariat for the Amando Clemente Memorial Foundation (ACMF).
- We supported the host Silver Jubilarians (UP Chem '95, '96 and '97) in organizing the UP Chemistry 2022 Annual Homecoming held at the Institute of Chemistry Teaching Building, National Science Complex, attended by 28 alumni.
- Even as we were unable to embark into fund-raising projects during the pandemic period of 2020 to 2022, we continued to liaise with the U.P. Institute of Chemistry, more specifically with regards to prioritizing the needs of IC, handling of the Institute's remaining funds, and educational assistance funds donated by previous reunion batches.
- This year's Annual Homecoming will be hosted by UP Chem'98. We assisted Mr. Janir Datukan in the preparation for the UP Chemistry 2023 Annual Homecoming.



*There is nothing like returning to a place that remains unchanged
to find the ways in which you yourself have altered.*

- Nelson Mandela