



PAGBABALIK

UP DILIMAN COLLEGE OF SOCIAL WORK & COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT ALUMNI ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

UPD CSWCD ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

VOL. 01 | APRIL 2025

UPD CSWCD ALUMNI ASSOCIATION LAUNCHES STRATEGIC PLAN 2024-2027



PHOTO CREDIT: SUE MAGALONA-NAZAL

UPD CSWCDAA's Strategic Plan for 2024 to 2027 is the result of a collaborative visioning exercise and a series of in-depth discussions among alumni, board members, and officers. To ensure broad participation in the planning process, the association launched an online survey in October 2024, inviting input from a wide range of alumni.

The plan is grounded in the UPD CSWCDAA vision of becoming "a thriving and inclusive community of alumni nurturing the *Utak at Pusong* CSWCD, in its shared pursuit of justice, peace, and sustainable well-being of the Filipino people and the global community."

To achieve the vision, the UPD CSWCDAA will carry out activities that are aligned with the **Five Strategic Pathways**, which are:

1. **Pagsinsin.** The first pathway will establish the UPD CSWCDAA as a thriving organization which amplifies the CSWCD vision of academic excellence in the pursuit of justice, peace and sustainable well-being of the Filipino people;
2. **Pangangalaga.** The UPD CSWCDAA will develop and strengthen its members to become part of an active network of alumni who embody the values of honor, excellence, and service;



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3. **Pagbabalik.** The association will provide the platform for the alumni to “give back” using their resources and expertise in supporting CSWCD and in nurturing the current iskolars into future leaders;
4. **Pagpapalawak.** The UPD CSWCDAA will create strategic partnerships across the university and other key stakeholders to build mutual support towards common goals; and,
5. **Pagsubaybay.** The association will ensure that its governance structure and practices are inclusive, efficient, and relevant in helping the organization accomplish its strategic pathways.

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR ALUMNI BOARD AND OFFICERS



Dear Alumni,

We are pleased to launch the first issue of *Pagbabalik*, the official newsletter of the UP Diliman College of Social Work and Community Development Alumni Association (UPD CSWCDAA)!

The past years - marked by the pandemic and other unforeseen challenges - have made it difficult for us to reconnect and gather in person. The Alumni Homecoming held in August 2024 was a welcome opportunity to restart our engagement and reflect on our roles as alumni. The meeting also installed the new set UPD CSWCDAA officers.

Our first task has been to chart the direction of our association. The UPD CSWCDAA Strategic Plan reaffirms our vital role in nurturing the *Utak* at Pusong CSWCD - where alumni live out the values of honor, excellence, and service.

This newsletter serves as a personalized communication channel to help us stay connected with the college, feature stories about fellow alumni, and promote meaningful engagement as a thriving and inclusive community of alumni. As we move forward together, we hope you'll join us in finding ways to give back to the college -- whether through volunteering, mentoring, or donations. Every contribution, big or small, created a ripple of positive impact for current *Iskos* and *Iskas*, and for the broader society.

We look forward to your active participation in our alumni activities

Padayon,
Your UPD CSWCDAA Board & Officers



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NEWS AND EVENTS

LAUNCH OF DSW @ 75



The Department of Social Work kicked off its year-long 75th anniversary with a vibrant "Arangkada" motorcade on February 22, 2025. The event assembled over 15 vehicles that paraded through the UP Diliman campus and around the Quezon City Memorial Circle. Students, faculty, staff, and alumni, enthusiastically participated, marking the start of the milestone celebration with energy and unity.



In the afternoon, over 100 participants - including students, faculty members, and alumni-attended the event, "A Forum on a Social Worker's Journey in the Midst of Challenges and Opportunities." Ms. Alicia dela Rosa-Bala, former Chairperson of the Civil Service Commission, shared the many challenges she faced and valuable lessons learned throughout her years of service as a social worker in government.

CHRISTMAS GIFT-GIVING TO CSWCD ADMIN STAFF



Last Christmas season, the UPD CSWDAA Board and Officers called for donations to extend cash and in-kind gifts for CSWCD's hard working administrative personnel. "Pusong" CSWCD flowed as donations from alumni poured in. The gift-giving activity was held on December 16, 2024.

ALUMNI YEAR-END FELLOWSHIP



As a year-end activity, the UPD CSWCDAA celebrated the holiday season on December 20, 2024, at the University Hotel in UP Diliman. Close to 30 alumni joined the festivity which included karaoke singing, games, and gift-giving. Watch out for exciting fellowship activities in the coming months!

PHOTO CREDITS:

JACELLE ISHA B. BONUS, UP DILIMAN INFORMATION OFFICE;
UP CSWCDAA FB; MARIA THERESA NIÑA ESPINOLA-ABOGADO



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NEWS AND EVENTS

PAGBABALIK ALUMNI HOMECOMING 2024



A total of 163 CSWCD alumni—from batches 1953 to 2024—gathered for the Pagbabalik Alumni Homecoming held on August 31, 2024. The event was part of the celebration of CSWCD's 57th founding anniversary, marking its establishment as an Institute in 1967.

This year's homecoming carried the theme, "*Pag-alabin ang Pusong UP CSWCD*", igniting a renewed sense of connection, pride, and solidarity among alumni across many generations.

The event opened with department-level fellowship as a way to reconnect with fellow alumni under the same academic programs. In the afternoon, everyone gathered for some music, games, and inspirational messages. The newly-elected officers of the CSWCD Alumni Association were introduced and took their oath of office, followed by the general members' oath of re-commitment. The event also saw the launch of the *Pusong CSWCD* Student Support Fund, envisioned to help CSWCD students who are financially-challenged in completing their education.

PAGBABALIK PHOTOS BY JACELLE ISHA B. BONUS,
UP DILIMAN INFORMATION OFFICE

DISTINGUISHED SOCIAL WORK ALUMNI AWARD



As part of its 75th anniversary celebration, the Department of Social Work, in collaboration with the UPD CSWCDAA, will confer the Distinguished Social Work Alumni Awards to deserving alumni who have made exceptional contributions to the field of social work. Awardees should have demonstrated outstanding achievements in any of the following areas: human rights and peacebuilding, gender and development, healthcare, social protection, or social work education. A call for nominations will be announced soon!

UPCOMING EVENTS

ALUMNI FELLOWSHIP THIS JUNE



The UPD CSWCDAA is organizing a *Palarong Alumni* sports and fitness event, tentatively set for 28 June and 5 July 2025. The event aims to foster camaraderie by reconnecting with our batchmates and meeting alumni from other batches, while also promoting health and fitness for all. Stay updated by joining our Facebook Group through this [link](#).

ALUMNI HOMECOMING IN AUGUST 2025



Mark your calendar for the Alumni Homecoming on August 30, 2025! Be sure to spread the word to your friends and batchmates. Stay tuned for more updates through our [Facebook Group](#) and the [CSWCD website](#).

THE UPD CSWCD ALUMNI ASSOCIATION LOGO



UPD CSWCD ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

The four figures represent the programs offered by the CSWCD, beginning with the establishment of Social Work, represented by the maroon figure. This was followed by the creation of the Community Development program in green and the Women and Development Studies symbolized by the purple figure. The latest program, the Doctor of Social Development, is represented in yellow.

The logo symbolizes alumni members from various parts of the globe who are committed in supporting CSWCD's mission of academic excellence in the service of the nation, rooted in the principles of Honor, Excellence, and Service. The UP Diliman CSWCD Alumni Association unites all alumni in forming a thriving and inclusive community that partners with CSWCD, symbolized by its logo at the center, in its role as a leading academic institution that drives social transformation and people-centered development.

LOGO DESIGN BY MICAH ANGELA M, NAZAL



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MEET YOUR ALUMNI ASSOCIATION BOARD AND OFFICERS

BOARD OF TRUSTEES



WILFREDO AWITAN
MASTER OF COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT 2009,
DOCTOR OF SOCIAL
DEVELOPMENT 2019



**HAZEL COMETA-
LAMBERTE**
MASTER OF SOCIAL
WORK 2008



VICTOR OBEDICEN
BS COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT 1998,
MASTER OF COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT 2012



MARIEL QUIOGUE
MA WOMEN AND
DEVELOPMENT 2019



ROWENA LAGUILLES-TIMOG
MA WOMEN & DEVELOPMENT
2012, DOCTOR OF SOCIAL
DEVELOPMENT 2018

OFFICERS



PRESIDENT:
SUZANNE MAGALONA-NAZAL
BS SOCIAL WORK 1989



VICE-PRESIDENT:
**MARIA THERESA NIÑA
ESPINOLA-ABOGADO**
BS COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT 1999



SECRETARY:
MARICEL CRUZ-DELORIA
BS SOCIAL WORK 1993



TREASURER:
IMEE TALAVERA
BS COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT, 1999



PRO:
**DAISY DAWN A.
MACAHILO**
MA WOMEN AND
DEVELOPMENT 2019

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS



**PROF. LENORE POLOTAN-
DELA CRUZ**
DEAN, UP COLLEGE OF
SOCIAL WORK AND
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



DR. PAUL EDWARD MUEGO
HEAD OF THE CSWCD ALUMNI
RELATIONS COMMITTEE AND
COLLEGE SECRETARY



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CONVERSATIONS

“

I love UP as a bastion of academic freedom, as critic of society and its avowed goal of service to the people.

Dr. Judy Taguiwalo
B.S. Social Work Batch 1970



Dr. Judy Taguiwalo is a retired Professor at the CSWCD and also served as a Faculty Regent in the university. She graduated B.S. Social Work, Cum Laude, from CSWCD, in 1970. In 2009, the UP Alumni Association recognized Dr. Taguiwalo as a Distinguished Alumni Awardee for Gender Equality and Women Empowerment. She was bestowed with the Outstanding Alumna Award by the UP CSWCD Alumni Association in 2010. In 2024, she received the Gawad Tandang Sora from the local government of Quezon City.

“Manay Judy”, as she is fondly called, spent years in organizing work among women and students. When President Ferdinand Marcos Sr. declared Martial Law, she joined the underground movement and went to prison because of her activism. Manay Judy joined the CSWCD in 1992 as lecturer under the Women and Development Studies where she taught until her retirement in 2015. She was appointed Secretary of the Department of Social Welfare and Development under President Duterte in 2016 but was not confirmed by the Commission on Appointment because of her stand against the pork barrel.

Manay Judy is a product of the first quarter storm in 1970 when the university and the country was in a period of what she said as “social ferment.”

At the time of the Vietnam war, feminist movement, and cultural revolution, “UP’s cultural political and social milieu was conducive to discussions questioning and thinking about the future”. She noted how UP nurtured her activism which was easy to embrace with her social work background. Throughout her career, she was guided by the principle of “connecting private problems with public issues”. This means that any helping intervention should take place both at the individual level and the advocacy or social level. She explained that “what’s happening in the country now is affecting individuals, as well as the whole public wellbeing”. Manay Judy emphasized that there are many challenges faced by social workers, social development professionals, community development workers, and gender advocates in today’s society.

Manay Judy expressed appreciation for the efforts made to revitalize the alumni association. “I salute the current alumni association doing this service to our college. Truly it is giving back, pagbabalik sa kolehiyo na naghubog sa atin.”

PUSONG CSWCD STUDENT SUPPORT FUND



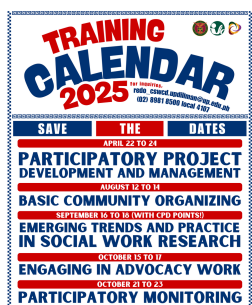
The *Pusong* CSWCD Student Support Fund was created in 2024 to help CSWCD students in difficult financial situation. The target is to raise PHP 700,000 per year, or PHP 3.5 million over the next five years. The fund builds on the donation from Mr. Cayetano "Ka Nitoy" Santiago, Jr., the first graduate of the M.A. in Sociology and Social Welfare who finished the program in 1953. To date, the fund has raised PHP 530,390, made possible by the generous support of alumni. For more information, contact cswcd.alumni.upd@up.edu.ph.

WHAT'S NEW



Read the latest issue of the Philippine Journal of Social Development

Download the [Left-Behind Subjects: A Critical Interrogation of Philippine Development from the Margins](#)



Join the training programs offered by the Research and Extension for Development Office

Check the [Training Calendar](#) for 2025. Contact redo_cswcd.updiliman@up.edu.ph

ALUMNICONNECT



Join our vibrant alumni network by updating your contact information in the UP CSWCDAA database. Simply fill out the CSWCD Alumni Tracer form through this [link](#).



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