

QUEZON NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI FOUNDATION, INC.

QNHS Alumni Bldg., Iyam, Lucena City

Annual Report on Accomplishments of the Foundation August 2002-July 2003

The year in review was a time devoted to the “building of the house” for the newly organized QNHS Foundation. The period constituted a promotional phase which saw the Foundation focusing on its organizational plans, redefining its goals, reaching out to the alumni here and abroad and expanding its membership. However, it also launched small projects and activities for the benefits of the Alma Mater.

ORGANIZATION AND MEMBERSHIP

Following its legal incorporation in August 2002, the Foundation operated with leadership of the following members of the Board:

Atty. Romeo A. Dato ('54) - Chairman
Atty. Ignacio E. Camba (50) - Vice-Chairman
Mr. Casimiro R. Mora ('48) – Secretary
Ms. Julieta S. Tuason (51) -Asst. Secretary
Mr. Ricardo S. Roqueza (50) - Treasurer
Ms. Erlinda S. Roqueza ('59) - Asst. Treasurer
Mr. Abelardo Sevilla (52) - Auditor
Judge Abelio M. Marte ('53) - P R O
Mr. Renato P. Abastillas ('65) - Trustee
Atty. Bella A. Amilhasan (49) - Trustee
Engr. Edgardo z. Dalida (68) - Trustee
Ms. Isabel A. Largoza (48) - Trustee
Dr. Nacienceno T, Largoza (48) - Trustee
Mr. Zoroaster A. Libozada ('60) – Trustee
Mr. Benjamin S. Santos ('52) – Trustee
Mr. Emmanuel L. Tolentino ('74) – Trustee

With the unexpected death by heart attack of Mr. Mora on January 7, 2003, the Foundation elected Mrs. Juliet Tuason to replace him as Secretary. Sacred Heart College Dean of Nursing Teresita Abracia-Cada (57) was designated Assistant Secretary.

To clearly define and operationalize its goals, objectives and programs, the Board also created standing committees whose chairs/membership involved members of the general alumni body and those who are overseas. The Committees are as follows:

1. Coordination, Membership and Directory Committee - Ms. Leonor Sevilla – Chair, Ms. Phoebe Pasamba-Zarsadias, Vice Chair and coordinator for Europe); Ms. Carmen Cadiz-Ermino ('58), Ms. Isabel Lososo-Rivera ('58) – Coordinator for USA, Batches 37 To 69, Ms. Merly Mendiola ('73) - Balagot – Coordinator for USA, Batches 70 To Present, Ms. Belen Tagbo-Mendoza ('71) – Coordinator for Australia, New Zealand and South Pacific, Mr. Bal Yujuico ('68) – Coordinator for Canada and rest of the world

2. Committee For Communication and Public Information - Ms. Charito Imperial-Sebastian ('73), Acting Chair; Ms. Perlita Fernandez, Vice Chair; Mr. Renato Vergara ('77)
3. Committee For Secretariat and Management - - Ms. Juliet Tuason Chair; Ms. Teresita Cada-Abracia ('57); Ms. Cecil Devela ('72), member
4. Committee for Finance and Fund Raising - Mr. Ricardo Roqueza ('50) – Chair; Ms. Josefina Maliwat ('65); Ms. Ester Devela-Merano ('69); and Mr. Lauro Basanes ('70), members
5. Committee for Legal Affairs – Judge Abelio Marte ('53) – Chair; Atty. Bella Amilhasan – Vice-Chair; Atty. Juanito Zaballero ('68), members
6. Committee for Audit - Mr. Abelardo Sevilla ('52) – Chair, Mrs. Lourdes Dizon, Vice-Chair; Ms. Mylene Sevilla ('80), member
7. Educational Policy Committee - Mr. Napoleon Imperial – Chair, Dean Benilda Villenas ('68) – Co-Chair; Ms. Milwida Sevilla-Reyes; Ms. Milwida S. Reyes ('58), Vice Chair for Policy Advocacy Overseas;
8. Development Projects Committee - Dr. Dionisia Rola – *Chair*, Ms. F. Charito Imperial-Sebastian – *Co-Chair*, Sub-Committee For Physical Planning, Infrastructure, Equipment & Instructional Materials (Engr. Ed Dalida – *Chair*, Ms. Estela Manila – *Co-Chair*)

By the end of the period in review, with its determined efforts to win the involvement and support of the general Alumni, the Foundation has registered increased its membership in three categories:

Incorporators - 15

Lifetime members - 13

Sustaining members - 104

By geographical origin, the members of the Foundation are distributed as follows:

Philippines – 15 Trustees and officers and 24 Committee and sub-committee heads and members

North America – 7

Europe - 2

Asia, Africa and the Middle East - 0

Australia, New Zealand and SouthPacific - 2

With the membership campaign having been launched through the Internet with particular efforts of Toronto-based Mr. Baldomero Yujuico of Class 68 and the aggressive and persuasive appeals of Sydney-based Ms. A Milwida Sevilla-Reyes and Ms. Isabel Lososo-Rivera (in the USA), both of Class 68, Mrs. Phoebe Pasamba-Zarsadias (71) and Belen Tagbo-Mendoza ('70), a notable

increase in the application of new Foundation members of the alumni in North America, England and Australia subsequently resulted in the months to follow.

RE-EXAMINING ORGANIZATIONAL GOALS

Responding to the general sentiments that arose from the School's Centennial celebration, the Foundation decided to play a more developmental role vis-a-viz its relationship with the QNHS. Given this role and in view of the still limited resources it can mobilize, it has also been decided that its programs of assistance should be focused on the School, its faculty and its students and no longer on its graduates.

Noting the emerging trends in educational policy and management mandated by the Government; the inadequate public provisions for the physical, human and financial needs of QNHS; and the potentials of the brain power, moral support and financial resources the Alumni could mobilize, the Foundation sought to operationalize the following specific developmental roles. The decision was with the end in view of incorporating these developmental goals in the future legal amendments of its mandate. These are:

- Full partnership in decision-making (in school governance, improving academic performance of students, promoting faculty welfare and unity, institutional planning, etc.)
- Assistance in the revival of the pre-eminent position and nurturing of the Schools' sacred traditions (The Coconut, Annual Plays, etc.)
- Exerting moral influence on and providing encouragement to the School (e.g. monitoring student performance, etc.)
- External lobbying at all levels to promote total interests of the School

As regards the relationship between the Foundation and numerous groups and individual initiatives of local and foreign-based Alumni in mobilizing resources (financial, logistical and physical), it was also made a clear resolve that the QNHSAF should serve as the clearing house and local conduit of various kinds of assistance from overseas-based Alumni in their distribution and prioritization, deployment and formal donation or turn-over to the School. Equally important as a developmental function is the Foundation serving as both a bridge and forum for the crystallization of ideas of alumni near and far in their desire to be of service and assistance to the Alma Mater.

The above mandates and roles became the bases of the choice and creation of the Standing Committees and the formulation of their respective vision statements, Terms of Reference and proposed activities.

ACTIVITIES

In line with the developmental mandate agreed upon in many earlier meetings of the Board, the Foundation managed to mount key activities in support of the well-being of the QNHS. These activities were pursued even as the Foundation pre-occupied itself with the planning of certain long-term and medium-term goals.

QNHSAF-QNHS Partnership

1. *List of Immediate Needs of the QNHS* – to prioritize the financial and material assistance that could be provided by individuals and groups of alumni, the Foundation endorsed the list of immediate needs prepared by the Subcommittee on Physical Planning, Infrastructure and Instructional Materials. The approved priority list consisted three categories of various physical resources and actions that need urgent action, namely, 1) School Needs (books, desks repairs and renovations), 2) Needs of the Foundation's Office (supplies and equipment) and 3) Alumni Bldg (supplies and repairs).
2. *Alumni – QNHS Dialogue.* Pursuant to the objective of developmental partnership with and providing moral support to the QNHS, the Foundation undertook an important welfare-oriented activity which is the first ALUMNI – QNHS DIALOGUE last December 14, 2002 at the New E-type Bldg., QNHS Campus. The specific objectives of this dialogue were to inquire into the needs of the School which the Alumni can help meet and to encourage fellowship and open line of communication between the Alumni and the constituencies of the QNHS. The dialogue was participated in by the QNHS Principal, the Department Heads, Guidance Counsellors, President of Faculty Association, the Coconut Adviser, Dramatics Club Adviser, Alumni Teachers, Student Government President and The Coconut Editor-in-chief, the PTA Overall President and 4 Curricular Year Presidents. The dialogue succeeded in opening lines of communication between the School and the alumni and in fostering better mutual understanding of the situation of the school and the intentions alumni.
3. *The Coconut Question.* The Foundation inquired into the problematic situation of The Coconut with the end in view of working out with higher education authorities and rallying Alumni into supporting the resumption of the regular publication of the school paper. The Foundation secured a copy of the memorandum from the Department of Education which now authorizes schools to collect fees for school papers. The matter was discussed with the Principal and the English Department Head and Coco Adviser.
4. *Preparation for the December 75th Coconut Anniversary Conference.* With the special efforts of Dean Benilda Villenas who is the Vice-Chair of the Educational Policy Committee, the preparation and the holding of the Coco Anniversary in December 2003 was to be under the auspices of the Foundation. It would be a two-day affair - the first will be for business matters to be held in QNHS and the other for socialization at the Baywatch Resort in Talaan, Sariaya, Quezon.
5. *The Issue of Ownership/Management of the Swimming Pool within QNHS Grounds.* The Foundation also inquired into this issue in order to address peace and order problems of the school. The entry of non-QPHS people like the outside vendors and intruders who otherwise would not be frequenting the school vicinity of the sport facility have become a threat to the security of the children and peace in the campus. The Foundation sought an audience for the possible intervention of Supt. Charlemagne Alejandrino (Class 69) and barangay officials to discuss

deployment of additional policemen or barangay tanods and with the Governor re: the possible turnover of management of the swimming pool to the school.

6. *Turn-Over of the Book Donations and Desks.* With its mandate as conduit and clearinghouse of alumni assistance, the Foundation, through the subcommittee on Infrastructure and Instructional Materials held a simple ceremony to turn over the book donations of Ms. Milwida Sevilla-Reyes former QNHS teacher and member of Class 58 and the library tables, chairs and book shelves purchased from the proceeds of fund-raising conducted as offshoot of the Centennial Celebration in Toronto. The donation was to be known and marked as “Katas ng Strides 100”. Ms. Juliet Sevilla-Tuason, sister of Ms. Sevilla-Reyes represented the donor in the turn-over ceremony. A set of supplementary books and other materials was donated by former QNHS Librarian Estela Manila (now a San Francisco California librarian) was also turned over by the Foundation to the Library.

Local coordinators Engr. Ed Dalida and Dean Benilda Villenas, both of Class '68 with the approval of President Dato and Treasurer Roqueza, ensured that alumni donations are funneled to the priority projects identified by the Foundation and QNHS links.

Other projects

With a specific donation from the Gabatin Family, the Foundation through the Infrastructure Subcommittee also undertook the repair of the toilets of the old Alumni Building complete with the provision of water system. One room of the building was also refurbished for the office use of the Foundation.

Institutional development planning

The Foundation, through its Committees on Educational Policy and Development Projects initiated the following school-oriented development blueprints for the consideration of the QNHS and for the larger alumni community to support.

1. *Five-Year QNHSAF Action Agenda* - after its presentation to the school management and some faculty members through the efforts of the Department Heads and its having been circulated through the Internet for the comments and recommendation overseas alumni, the Foundation approved the **Alumni-QNHS Partnership for Development: Five-Year Agenda for Action**. This Alumni development plan document is to serve as the guidebook for all the actions and programs development of the Foundation for the next five years. The Plan contains an assessment of the school situation, the resource and support base of Alumni interventions and the directions of alumni assistance and specific short-term and medium-term programs and projects that should be taken as a matter of priority within the next five years.
2. *Concept paper on the Establishment of QNHSAF Teaching Chair Scheme* – the Foundation approved this package of financial and professional incentives to deserving QNHS teachers envisioned to improve overall

teacher competency, reinvigorate the School's total learning climate and raise the students' academic performance. However, it was also decided that its implementation would be held in abeyance until such time that sufficient financial and logistical shall have been generated.

3. *Terms of Reference and vision of the Infrastructure, Physical Planning and Instructional Materials Subcommittee* - The TOR was approved by the Foundation to serve as its guide in all matters on infrastructure development; provision of instructional materials, equipment, facilities and other related items; and monitoring/maintenance of physical and environmental requirements of the QNHS in line with the goal of maintaining a wholistic sustainable teaching-learning environment of the School. The TOR is based on the vision of a modest model school whose service growth and renewal are based on well-planned and sustained physical, social and aesthetic environment that nourish "the life of the mind and spirit."
4. *Alumni Assistance to Academic Planning.* The Educational Policy Committee formulated a working paper on the planning of the QNHS' response to the poor academic achievement of students highlighted in the Five-year Development Plan. This was deemed an important concern of the Foundation after the recently conducted diagnostic tests showed further deterioration of the already dismal performance. It emphasizes the need for the Alumni and faculty to team up in addressing the problem. While approving this specific project, the Foundation, due to time and other resource constraints, also decided to hold held its implementation in abeyance.

FINANCE AND RESOURCES OF THE FOUNDATION

By the end of July 2003, the Foundation registered a total of P 284,442.61 cash in banks. The fund represents receipts from membership fees, donations and interest income. The fund total is broken down into P92,213.63 general purpose funds and P 192,228.98 restricted donated funds.

The Foundation's funds are presently maintained in two commercial banks, e.g. International Bank in Quezon City and the Philippine National Bank in Lucena City.

The Foundation has approved the proposed scheme for the financial operations. This scheme is aimed at systematizing utilization and accounting of funds and providing rules on donation.

LOOKING AND WORKING FORWARD

As it enters its second year of existence and moves forward from the post-Centennial euphoria which generated much Alumni goodwill and commitment of service and assistance, it is felt that the Foundation can only fulfill its expressed mandate and expectations of the Alumni at large if it could sufficiently address the following practical concerns:

Sustained alumni mobilization. It will be a tall order of the Foundation to first ensure that the post-Centennial commitments of alumni here and abroad would be sustained. Towards this, the Foundation would require a good

communications and alumni social advocacy machinery working the whole year round. The Foundation through its governing board should continuously act as bridge and forum for the ideas, desired actions and initiatives of the Alumni and translate them into activities that would meet both the short-term priority and long-term needs of the Alma Mater. Needless to say, greater degree of commitment, availability and efficiency is required from the Foundation's officers to inspire the other alumni and to ensure that they properly represent the Alumni in dealing with the QNHS. Part of this commitment is for every officer to learn to make use of the Internet and mobile phones so that the Officers could readily communicate with each and that each one can be reached by interested alumni anywhere anytime.

Need For A Functional Secretariat. It is recognized that the members of the Board can only do so much given that they are full-time professionals. Many of them are Manila-based and meetings could not be oftener than once a month. There is indeed a great need to organize and maintain a functioning QNHS-based Secretariat. Working as the "Nerve Center" for all communications and activities, the Secretariat should be able to regularly be in touch with the Alumni, in behalf of the Officers. It should receive from and provide information to visiting Alumni. In addition, it should provide logistical and clerical services to enable the Foundation to efficiently perform its mandate even when the officers are not meeting.

Working school-based lifeline – in the age of global community and modern information technology, the Foundation's need for efficient and timely communication facility cannot be overemphasized. The Foundation's acquiring a computer and a telephone line of its own is indeed one priority that the other alumni should be able to help secure.

Operationalizing the Planned Programs – the Foundation at this stage no longer lacks vision and plans on how to be a useful and effective partner of QNHS. What it now needs, in the midst of limited time that the Officers can spare, is systematizing that translation of its action agenda into times and phases that will meet the needs, availability and initiatives of the Alumni groups and individuals. These resources and assistance should be given to QNHS at the time they are most needed.

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