

HISTORY OF PHAVISMINDA

The Association

The idea of a Philosophical Association of the Visayas and Mindanao was constituted by Fr. Quintin C. Terrenal, SVD. Through his behest, Miss Amosa Velez, at that time chairman of the University of San Carlos, Department of Philosophy, wrote invitation letters to several philosophy teachers in Southern Philippines to attend an organizational meeting of a potential association.

Date of Founding

Thus on May 27, 1979, the day of the foundational meeting, held at the University of San Carlos in Cebu City, a community of philosophers called the Philosophical Association of the Visayas and Mindanao became an actuality.

The Founder

The founder of the association is Fr. Quintin C. Terrenal, SVD, Ph.D., STD. This association he founded, initially *acronymed* PAVM, is now PHAVISMINDA.

The Founding Members

The following teachers representing their respective schools responded to the invitation: University of San Carlos (USC)-Virginia L. Jayme, Rosario Manzanares (Rosario M. Espina), Amosa Velez; Colegio de San Jose (University of San Jose-Recoletos)-Jesus Arevalo, Lourdes Cedeño, Gloria Lingao-Lingao; Cebu Central Colleges (University of Cebu)-Antonio Fronteras; Ateneo de Davao (Ateneo de Davao University)-Fr. Michael D. Moga, SJ; Iligan Institute of Technology (MSU-IIT)-Bernardino Cuino Jr.; Mindanao State University-Flora C. Alima.

The following were also present during the organizational meeting of PHAVISMINDA but have not kept in touch with the Association: Erlinda Fronteras, Lilia N. Lopez-Chua (Ateneo de Davao), Fr. Victor Mallada, OAR (Colegio de San Jose-Recoletos), Nelito Baclay, Ledinila A. Quimpo, Vicente Sarigumba, Genoveva R. Vasquez, and Atty. Gabriel Ingles (University of San Carlos).

Prepared by: Amosa Velez, PhD

As founder of the Association, Fr. Terrenal was awarded (in absentia) a Plaque of Recognition during the 18th Conference of the Association in SEARSOLIN, Xavier University, Cagayan de Oro City on May 28, 1995, on the occasion of the quadricentennial year celebration of the University of San Carlos as a school.

On the same occasion, those who were present at its founding and who have continued to be with PHAVISMINDA (either as members or as speakers), were presented with Certificates of Recognition: Flora C. Alima, Rosario M. Espina, Antonio M. Fronteras, Virginia L. Jayme, Michael D. Moga, SJ, and Amosa L. Velez.

Presidents of PHAVISMINDA through the Years

		On Their Resignation, The Following Took Over
Mrs. Ledinila Quimpo (USC)	1979	1979 Amosa L. Velez
Ms. Amosa Velez (USC)	1979-1982	
Fr. Quintin Terrenal, SVD (USC)	1982-1985	
Dr. Agustin Sollano, Jr. (CSC)	1985-1987	
Dr. Rolando Gripaldo (MSU)	1987-1989	1989 Dr. Prisciliano Bauzon
Dr. Prisciliano Bauzon (USM)	1989-1991	
Fr. Ronan Callahan, CP (USC)	1991	1991 Jose Ivan Natalaray
Mr. Jose Ivan Natalaray (USLS)	1991-1995	
Ms. Amosa Velez (USC)	1995-1999	
Mr. Nestor Castor (NDMU)	1999-2002	
Dr. Amosa Velez (USC)	2002-2004	
Dr. Jane Gallamaso (XU)	2004-2006	

Legend:

USC	University of San Carlos, Cebu City
CSC	Cebu State University (now Cebu Normal University), Cebu City
MSU	Mindanao State University, Marawi City
USLS	University of St. La Salle, Bacolod City
USM	University of Southern Mindanao, Kabacan, North Cotabato
NDMU	Notre Dame of Marbel University
XU	Xavier University, Cagayan de Oro City

Prepared by: Amosa Velez, PhD

Conferences

April 2000 experienced the joint national conference of the Philosophical Association of the Visayas and Mindanao (PHAVISMINDA) and the Philosophical Association of the Philippines (PAP). It was held at the Holy Family Retreat House in Lahug, Cebu City. It was sponsored and hosted by the University of San Carlos and co-sponsored by the Ateneo de Manila University and the University of Santo Tomas.

In the same venue, was held the 27th Conference of PHAVISMINDA and its silver jubilee on May 21-23, 2004. This special day was marked by the Keynote Address of Fr. Roderick C. Salazar, Jr., SVD, President of the University of San Carlos and the taped Welcome Words of its founder, Fr. Quintin Terrenal, SVD. Awards of Recognition were presented in absentia to the Founder, founding members and its past presidents. Of the founding members, only Bernardino Cuino Jr. was present.

In its twenty-five years of existence, PHAVISMINDA has had 27 conventions or conferences held in different places in the Visayas and Mindanao. The venues are changed in order to bring philosophy to as many interested persons as possible without their having to travel far, in the hope of maximizing the number of teachers and students who can benefit from the seminars and lectures during these conferences. To date, however, it is mostly the permanent members who travel around and benefit these meetings and change of venue, aside from the teachers of the host school.

Thus far, conferences have been held in the following venues: In Cebu City, at the University of San Carlos main campus, USC Retreat House in Talamban, Christian Lay Formation Center, also in Talamban, sponsored and/or co-sponsored by the University of San Carlos and the University of Cebu, Talavera Retreat House in Pardo, Holy Family Retreat House in Lahug, both hosted by University of San Carlos, San Jose-recoletos and Cebu Normal University. In Tagbilaran City, Bohol, at Dumadag Farm, and Agricultural Promotion Center in Dao, hosted by the Divine Word College (now Holy Name University). In Tacloban City, Leyte at the Divine Word University, in Dumaguete City, Negros Oriental at Silliman University, in Negros Occidental at the Don Bosco Retreat House in Mambucal, Murcia hosted by the University of St. La Salle (also its venue in a later conference) in Bacolod City. In Musuan, Bukidnon at the Central Mindanao University. In Cagayan de Oro City, at the SEARSOLIN in

Prepared by: Amosa Velez, PhD

Manresa hosted by Xavier University and at VIP Hotel hosted by Liceo de Cagayan University. In Iloilo City at Punta Villa Convention Centre hosted by University of San Agustin. In Koronadal, South Cotabato, at Punta Isla Resort, Lake Sebu hosted by Notre Dame of Marbel University.

Themes of the Conferences

The themes of the conferences are varied, in four of which, the highlight was a seminar: Seminar on Hermeneutics, Seminar on Lonergan, Seminar on Oriental Philosophy (Chinese and Filipino), and Seminar on Oriental Philosophy Part II (Indian and Zen Buddhism representing Japanese Philosophy).

Objectives of PHAVISMINDA

To thresh out common problems in the teaching of philosophy and to work out their possible solutions, to update one's knowledge in philosophy through the seminars or workshops which the organization will provide, to help members find topics for research in philosophy in the Philippine context, and to provide a venue for the publication of scholarly articles in the field.

In answer to the last objective, the Association has "created" the PHAVISMINDA Journal.

Membership in PHAVISMINDA

Membership is open to anyone who has earned a graduate degree in philosophy, any student or teacher of philosophy courses, anyone who values philosophy enough to be willing to take up the obligations and enjoy the benefits in the association.