## CHAIRMAN'S REPORT & REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD CONVENTION MEETING: JUNE 28-29, 2016 BY: ISABELITA BARNACHEA CASIBANG, M. D. CHAIRMAN & MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES UERMAFUSA, INC.

The year was 1981; the man of the hour then was Dr. Fernando Sanchez, a doctor who cared so much for the academe of the UERMMMC. It was he, together with Dr. Asanza, who conceived the idea that to save the school from closure is to gather a few good men and women alumni here in the United States to come together and plan in saving our Alma Mater then. Thus the UERM Alumni Foundation was conceived from the minds of those who met, discussed and toiled to the creation of an idea and later on the birth of the UERMAFUSA.

Let us then remember Dr. Fernando Sanchez, a mentor, an adviser, an idealist who loved our Alma Mater that made so many sacrifices for us to reach our 35<sup>th</sup> year of existence. He was an alumni of another prestigious medical school who came to our Alma Mater to teach many who went through his classes as students during those times. He was our instructor, professor, a friend and later became the man of the hour for our school. He was a physician for all season then and now even if he is gone.

I would also want to thank those alumni who joined him to task in the birth of our Foundation the UERMAFUSA. Thank you from the bottom of my heart, in behalf of the entire Members of the Board of Trustees, past and present after the Charter Members had stepped down to give way to the younger alumni members who had Stepped up to the plate to manage our Foundation, the UERMAFUSA. Thank you from the bottom of my heart. Without you and your great ideas I will not be here standing before you and leading this august group of brave and dedicated alumni volunteers taking on a difficult task, sometimes thankless, because they love their Alma Mater and what it represent to them, for them, personally and otherwise. As we begin a new chapter of our Foundation, the UERMAFUSA, Inc., our 35<sup>th</sup> year of existence, volunteering without any thought of remuneration or pat in the back. I would like to personally thank those who volunteered in the past and in the present time for all the sacrifices, time, physical, mental, emotional and monetary giving you have all rendered to our Foundation for the sake of our Alma Mater. Thank you so very much, may your tribe increase and I hope and pray you would keep coming back with your ideas, time, and contributions for our Alma Mater the UERMMMCI, the best of the best in our old country.

We are therefore good alumni citizen of our medical school because we are actively giving to the activities/projects and goals of our Alma Mater's academic community in medicine, which has the goal of improving the school's academic status. Improving individual's well being by improving human health of it's community. Our school can stand distinct from its peer medical institutions because it has established it to be the place of leaders and school of great ideas from idealistic minds of its graduate alumni.

Ladies and Gentlemen, volunteers and donors as well as observers; we still have a long way to go. We, as good citizen alumni of our Alma Mater, should rally behind the initiatives of our school by giving to the different major projects that the AFUSA has for the Alma Mater.

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The Foundation has taken a lot of initiatives and changes to help towards the goals of the Charter Members of the AFUSA and its father who conceived the idea of creating the Foundation. I can name a few of those changes; web site creations, tele-conferences, use of modern technologies, creation of algorithm in submissions as well as requesting grants, formal donor recognitions. Renaming projects and now the plan of streamlining of present projects, and I am sure that as the younger alumni will take over, there are many more and maybe drastic changes in our beloved UERMAFUSA. I hope and pray that all these changes will be for the best fulfillment of the goals of those who started our foundation, for the good of the Alma Mater and its medical students and faculty staffing, to benefit the medical community of the school so that we can meet again when we reach another 35 years in the making.

Finally, as our Alma Mater's alumni, showing good citizenship means working Together to rally behind the initiatives of our school through our Foundation and MAAAI, our national organization. Looking ahead to the next 35 years, I encourage everyone – us alumni to examine our own definitions of good citizenship of our Alma Mater and work diligently to exemplify our school's values everyday. Thank you.

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