



# University of the East Ramon Magsaysay Memorial Medical Center Alumni Foundation, USA, Inc.

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[www.uermafusa.com](http://www.uermafusa.com)

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## AFUSA Chairman's Report

Greetings to all. It is an honor for me to be chosen as the new Chairman of the Board of AFUSA . Let me start my first of many reports with a Bible scripture:

Mark 10:31

"But many who are first will be last, and the last first."

This scripture points to a profound principle about humility. It will be one of the virtues the AFUSA board will follow.

For the first six months of 2025, our goal is to strengthen the structure of our foundation. We were able to consolidate all our investments and hired Joel Lagore of OLV Investments to help us make sound financial decisions. Joel is very familiar with UERM matters, and have multiple alumni clients. Management fees are also significantly lower than previous accounts.

We have established full control of our bank accounts with Chase. These include multiple signatories to assure continuity and transparency of control. We have also acquired a new PO Box to handle mailings and donations.

The foundation has also acquired an official phone number to help with administration continuity. This will ensure accessibility of authentication codes, access to donation modes securely and prevent use of personal attachments. Having a dedicated phone helped us get a Zelle account.

To assure smooth transition of administrations, all AFUSA documents as far back as we can gather , have been scanned and organized into an easy-to-read format. This will also enable us to answer donor questions efficiently.

Our official AFUSA website UERM AFUSA.com has been updated and is now mobile-friendly . The Board approved the appointment of Nikki Gavino-Collins '01 from Michigan, our official web editor replacing Sam Piga '73. Our web developer and host are now handled by BOLD Designs. The website will be a tool to show AFUSA's commitment to transparency and accountability.

In addition to our electronic checks, mailed checks and credit card, we have added Zelle, PayPal and Venmo as modes of donation payments.

To improve AFUSA's social media presence, we have requested Ned Valen '65 to share co-administration duties of our official Facebook account. As of this writing, our account has 600 members. This allows yours truly to chat with alumni on a personal level for questions using Instant Messenger.

The Board also approved the creation of the different standing committees which include CBL, audit, finance budget and investment, and fundraising. We have added ad hocs for board manual, recruitment and MAAAI Liaison.

Early this year, we have successfully funded our programs for SY 2025-2026. We have received encouraging comments from the COM Dean AMPIL for the timely release of funding. We have also released money for the Dr. Ida Tiongco-Sarmiento Scholars. The Board also approved the creation of the Anna Lisa Raymundo Endowment Merit Award. This \$1,800 scholarship money goes to the class valedictorian of the freshman class through the generosity of Drs. Renato and Susan Raymundo of Class 1967 to honor the memory of their academically gifted daughter. This award will run for 5 years.

All Trustees have completed certifications after reviewing IRS tutorials on Tax Exempt status and disclosures. Each trustee has been undergoing continuous education on 501(C3) matters. To supplement training of the Board, we have solicited teaching sessions with two of our illustrious medical graduates, Dr. Vickie Casibang'71 and Dr. El Castro '63. We are so lucky to have them as mentors as they have extensive knowledge on foundation, federal and state regulations.

We have also consulted our accountant, Romy Coronacion of New York, to help us file our 990 and CHAR500 returns for 2024.

We have tentatively scheduled our Strategic Planning meeting this October at beautiful Mackinac Island in Michigan. This will coincide with the fall colors. We promised a fun-filled and educational memory for the Board.

Again, with everyone's help, we can achieve our goals. If we are successful, and nobody wants to take credit, then we have done our job .

Reported by: Rommel Aquino, MD ('85), HMDC, DABFM  
Chairman, Board of Trustees  
UERM AFUSA 2025-2027