REGENTS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

PRIMER
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The Foundation is an independent organization that manages donations and exclusively supports the UST Faculty of Medicine and Surgery to sustain and aid the initiatives influencing administration, faculty, students, support staff and patients.

Its dynamic Board of Trustees is composed of representatives from UST Administration FMS, UST Hospital, Alumni Association, and Blink Group. The Foundation works hand-in-hand with the Development Office, which serves as its implementing arm.

‘Anargyroi’ is a Greek word meaning ‘penniless ones.’ In the 3rd century, twin brother Cosmas and Damian were revered with this name because refused to accept payments for healing the sick. They insisted it was Christ doing the healing.

Anargyroi: FMS Foundation, Inc. is in honor of the two philanthropists, the patron saints of UST Faculty of Medicine & Surgery.
KINDS OF SCHOLARSHIPS IN UNIVERSITY OF SANTO TOMAS

There are several scholarships in the University (Scholarships in bold are for Faculty of Medicine and Surgery students):

- The Santo Tomas Scholarship Program, given to students with excellent academic performance. Valedictorian (Top 1), 100% of Total fees (initial benefit). Learning materials Allowance, for the First Term of the First Year of admission only. Salutatorian (Top 2), 50% defrayal of Total Fees (initial benefit).

- The Saint Martin de Porres Scholarship, for Senior High School/College Level/Leap Med), to deserving students in need of financial assistance. The approval of this scholarship program is subject to the availability of funds and slots per Faculty/College/Institute/School. Usually this scholarship amounts to 50% of the fees.

- The Santo Domingo Scholarship Program, for Senior High School & College Level, to students who excel in the arts, music, ad sports. 100% defrayal of Tuition fees.

- The San Lorenzo Ruiz Scholarship, given to students in need of financial assistance and who are willing to render services for twenty (20-30) hours per week in different university service departments. They enjoy 100% defrayal of Total Fees subsidy for the Valedictorians (Top1); plus, a monthly allowance of approximately One thousand (1,000) pesos.

There are other scholarships granted by particular individuals or institutions.

- Santo Tomas Scholarship Program (For LEAP Med). Highest rank 1 and 2, 100% defrayal of Tuition fees, plus, learning materials allowance for the first term of the first year of admission only. For the renewal of the scholarship the scholar must maintain an average grade of at least 88.50% with no falling grades in both academic and non-academic courses.

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- Santo Tomas Scholarship Program. For Faculty of Medicine and Surgery. The application requirements and procedures are intended for incoming Faculty of Medicine and Surgery Freshmen applicants who are Magna Cum Laude, or Summa Cum Laude graduates of UST who wish to apply for it. The scholarship is renewable every academic year. Benefits: Magna Cum Laude, 50% defrayed of Tuition fees. Summa cum Laude, 100% defrayal of Tuition Fees (around 80 scholars for the four years of Medicine).

- Saint Dominic Scholarship. Supported by USTMAAA and other local benefactors. To Medical Students in need of financial assistance, starting on the second year of Medicine. Depending on their academic performance and on their financial needs. There are two kinds of aid: 40,000 pesos or 80,000. Since this scholarship depends on the availability of funds there is not a fixed number of recipients (approximately 40 students every year).
MESSAGE OF REV. FR. ANGEL A.
APARICIO, O.P

A reflection on the philosophy of the so-called Regent’s scholarship for necessitated medical students, or why the Regent of the Faculty of Medicine believes that these should not be required to pay back, a persuasion that goes back to the very beginning of the conception of the scholarship, through all the negotiations to establish it, until the present.

Why a Regent’s scholarship then?

In a previous reflection I have already explained how the Regent’s scholarship originated. It happened in one of the USTMAAA reunions, in Long Beach, California, in 2015. Along with the Rector of the University and the Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, I was invited to participate in this annual reunion. My role was merely ceremonial. Unfortunately, neither the Rector, nor the Dean, nor their substitutes, the Vice Rector and the Assistant Dean were able to attend the meeting. The Regent was left alone to represent the FMS Administration. I was caught by surprise and unprepared. My intention was simply to accompany the authorities of the University and to acquaint myself with our alumni. But all of a sudden, I was immersed in discussions, messages, sharing of ideas and activities. It was during celebration of the closing Eucharist, as I was thinking of what to say besides the homily on that Sunday Gospel this idea dawned on me like a flash. Since our alumni have demonstrated a proverbial generosity to their Alma Mater, it would be opportune to appeal to their generosity by suggesting to them to support five (5) full scholars per year so that by the time the Faculty of Medicine and Surgery celebrates its Sesquicentennial in 2021, we would have twenty (20) scholars to make this auspicious event not only celebratory but memorable.

Why twenty scholars?

I calculated that with an approximate number of 20,000 alumni alive, if everyone donated 1,000 pesos we could collect 20 million, enough to support the 20 scholars. Very simple! Wishful thinking?

It was like a dream, it needed to be translated into reality. “It is easier to raise 20 million from 20 donors than from 20,000,” was the comment of one former dean. There have been all kinds of reaction, suggestions, etc., and yes, very few have so far contributed the proverbial 1,000 pesos.

Still, we persisted in the original idea of a total and unconditional scholarship (fees, books, living allowance, etc.) without conditions. Thank God, the project was adopted by the Anargyroi: FMS Foundation Inc, which was also starting its long and difficult path towards a solid foundation. This was the challenge and trial for the success of Anargyroi.
Four years ago, when we started selecting candidates for the first group of scholars, the head of the Search committee was hesitant to proceed with the enrollment of the five selected candidates. The available fund could only cover the expenses of one academic school year.

What will happen if we will not be able to collect? There was no choice, though. We must start if we want to have these students graduate in 2021. Notwithstanding major obstacles, we decided to proceed with faith in our trustees and hope for the better. Truly so, at present we have 18 scholars whom we can support until they end their medical studies.

All along these years, several generous people have come with bigger or smaller contributions which have permitted us to look with optimism to the success of this project. However, it is not only financial aid which is most needed and deeply appreciated. We welcome suggestions, corrections, inputs that can improve on our early plans. For the project to be sustainable beyond 2021, we all ought to cooperate by establishing a solid and sound program. The floor is open for suggestions. Only a substantial endowment of 200 million pesos will make it viable. Is this achievable? One of our most generous benefactors has pledged 50 million pesos. We pray and hope that the good example of Drs. Linda and Peter Fang will stimulate the generosity of our best alumni. Miracles happen, yes, and many other things. It depends on us.

Let me close this reflection on an historical note. It was never the purpose of the first Spanish Dominicans who came to the Philippines to establish a school of Medicine in the country. We, Dominicans, are officially referred to as the Order of Preachers, and that is who we are, preachers. Saint Dominic, from whom we get our popular name of Dominicans, was a preacher. So was the patron of our University, Saint Thomas Aquinas, and Blessed Angelico whose beautiful representations of the Christian mysteries still attract masses of people to the great museums of the world; and thousand others who through 800 years of existence of the Dominican Order have proclaimed the message of the gospel in thousand different forms. We preach by word of mouth, like the late Fr. Sony Ramirez, O.P., or in the classroom, as I myself, or with music, painting, etc. We are educators.

There are other religious congregations who manage hospitals like the Daughters of Charity or the Sons of San Juan de Dios. We leave the practice of Medicine to those who have the vocation, the talents, and the determination, and the administration of hospitals to those who have the charisma for it.
Why then, do we, Dominicans, have a school of Medicine and a Hospital here in the Philippines? The University Historian, Fr. Fidel Villarroel, writes.

“When in 1645, the initial Colegio de Santo Tomas (founded in 1611) was raised to the status of “university” by Pope Innocent X (Bull In Supereminenti), this title, though very welcome, was short of fulfilling the expectations of the Dominicans who wanted a “Public University of General Studies.” But this title was only given to universities having some faculties, such as Law and Medicine. And so, in 1680, upon request of Santo Tomas University, a Papal Bull and a Royal decree were issued giving license to establish the two mentioned faculties. But unfortunately, for unknown reasons, the license was not carried to effect.”

It is not my purpose here to trace the steps taken in the creation of the Faculty of Medicine from the first attempts until it was finally established more than two centuries later in 1871, or to flaunt on the great achievements it has accomplished throughout the 150 years of existence. I am not a historian. My interest lies only on small details, those found in the footnotes.

Somebody threw this question to me

*What is the secret of the longevity of the Dominican Order (800 years), of the University of Santo Tomas (409), of the Faculty of Medicine and surgery (149)?*

It is not easy to understand how UST has lasted for four hundred years, despite opposition and countless difficulties, such as invasion by the British, change of administration, wars, occupation of the land, not counting the internal struggles and conflicts. It is not easy to foresee what the future has in store for it, especially for its Faculty of Medicine and Surgery. One can only say that it is only by fidelity to the vision and values of its founders that these institutions were able to survive and that they will last.

It is not mere coincidence that it was the founder of the University, Fr. Miguel de Benavides who, back in 1589, set the foundation of a hospital that lasted for more than two hundred years, the San Gabriel Hospital in Binondo. We read in the first chronicle of the Dominicans about him and two of his companions:
“In the first place, when Fr. Miguel de Benavides, who later became archbishop of Manila and Fr. Juan Cobo, his companion, in charge of the ministry of the Chinese, transferred to a small nipa house, since they were near the Parian of the Chinese, and noticing that some of them were sick, in order to dispose them to receive the Holy Baptism, started to bring them to their house. And I heard Fr. Juan Cobo say: “now that the said Father, having in his room the sick, lay on the floor and placed the Chinese on his bed. Seeing that many people came to them, the said Fathers tried to erect a small hospital. Fr. Leon, who died in Mariveles, and whose body was found intact after the disinterment eight months later after burial, donated some fifty pesos.”"

Fr. Leon donated fifty pesos for the Hospital San Gabriel. I don't know what the equivalent of 50 pesos of the 16th century would be in our time. It doesn't matter. Fr. Miguel de Benavides bequeathed 3,000 pesos and his personal library for the foundation of what is now our University. The Pontifical and Royal University of Santo Tomas, the Catholic University of the Philippines, believe it or not, is a conglomerate of little bricks and big sacrifices, all glued with the blood and tears of our predecessors, the Spanish Dominicans who administered it during its long existence and who joyfully have bequeathed it to their Filipino brothers to continue their mission in the education of the youth of this beautiful country.

If anybody questions why an unconditional scholarship for future doctors, there you have the answer. I am fully convinced that good seeds have potential for abundant harvest. And as our Lord Jesus said, “Man will not live on bread alone.” The devil who tempted him was right. One must be realistic; nothing is possible without money. The medical career is very expensive. It is not only good words, or good intentions, or beautiful dreams that count. Something substantial, material, money, is needed to achieve it. But Jesus was right too, the intangible deserves some consideration.

Let me thank all of you who believed in the goodness of this project: our benefactors who have supported it with your generous contributions; the BOT of Anargyroi Foundation; the members of the Regent’s Scholarship Committee. These extraordinary students, beneficiaries of the Regent’s Scholarship. Your faith and enthusiasm are the surest promise for a brighter future.

May the good Lord bless you all!
We know how education can transform oneself, a community, and a country for the better. As they say, it is the great equalizer.

The Regent Scholarship Program of the Anargyroi: FMS Foundation, Inc. is a need-based scholarship program that aims to provide deserving young men and women from low-income family to gain access to quality medical education. Funded by generous alumni from the Faculty of Medicine and Surgery, the RSP applies a holistic financial assistance approach to ensure the successful program completion of each scholar. In 2020, our Regent’s Scholarship priority has given a total of eighteen students a start on their dreams in becoming doctors of our future. We pray that there would be more opportunities like this be given to other young people as what we give them goes beyond scholarships, we give them hope.

The RSP is a testimony of our unity, a proof of our collective strength and a legacy of the victory of the Thomasian medical community promising a brighter future for the next generation of Thomasian physicians.

MESSAGE OF DEAN MA. LOURDES D. MAGLINAO, MD
Anargyroi Regent’s Scholarship Program (RSP) Primer

Program Description

The RSP is a need-based scholarship program that aims to provide deserving young men and women from low-income family to gain access to quality medical education. Funded by generous alumni from the Faculty of Medicine and Surgery, the RSP applies a holistic financial assistance approach to ensure the successful program completion of each scholar.

The Development Office – Alumni Relations (DOAR) serves as the implementing arm of the RSP through the Anargyroi Scholarship Committee.

The RSP Program is classified under the San Martin Scholarship category of the University of Santo Tomas Scholarship Program.

Functions of the Scholarship Committee

The Anargyroi Scholarship Committee has the following functions:

1. Announce the call for scholarship application in January.

2. Implement the RSP selection process
   A. Qualify applicants for panel interview through the DO-AR
   B. Conduct the panel interview
   C. Conduct a deliberation before the official announcement of the qualified scholars

3. Announce the results of the selection process

4. Create a development program for the scholars

5. Review and update the RSP policies and guidelines
RSP Benefits

A RSP scholar enjoys the following privileges:
1. Full tuition and miscellaneous and other fees
2. Monthly allowance (As needed)
3. Board and lodging (As needed)
4. Books and Learning materials

General Qualifications

1. Must be a Filipino citizen
2. Must pass the Faculty of Medicine and Surgery Entrance Examination for 1st Year
3. Must have an average of not less than 2.25 (85%) in the preparatory program.
4. Must belong to a family with a combined annual income not exceeding ₱500,000.
5. Must have graduated within the last three previous academic years.
6. Must not have any derogatory record in the previous school and in the community.

Application procedures

Step 1

The applicant must submit the following requirements to the Development Office – Alumni Relations (DOAR) at the ground floor of the San Martin de Porres Building.

1. Accomplished and signed Application Form
2. Photocopy/print out of the USTET Entrance Examination result
3. Photocopy of grades from the undergraduate course
4. Certification of good moral character signed by the Office of Student Affairs
5. Parents’ proof of income

- Photocopy of the latest Income tax Return of both parents
- Certification of Non-filing from BIR with an affidavit indicating the estimated source of annual income, or
- Photocopy of proof of income/pay slip/contract (for OFW)
- Barangay Clearance with a location map of the applicant’s house at the back of the page
- 1 copy of the latest 2 x 2 photo
- Recommendation letter from the Parish Priest/Religious Leader

Step 2

If qualified, the applicant must submit to a scheduled panel interview.

Successful applicants will receive a congratulatory letter from the DOAR and shall be invited to an orientation for scholars.

Renewal of scholarship

The RSP is renewable every semester subject to 100% compliance of the Memorandum of Acceptance by the scholar.

Procedure of renewal

To renew the scholarship, the student should submit the following to the DOAR:

1. A copy of the grades in the previous semester as proof of academic performance
2. Accomplished RSP Scholarship Renewal Form

Revocation of scholarship

The scholarship may be revoked under the following conditions:

1. Non-compliance with the Memorandum of Acceptance
2. Double scholarship
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