

Republic of the Philippines
Province of Cagayan
TUGUEGARAO CITY

NINTH CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE REPORT

December 20, 2023

Submitted by:

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

PRESENT:

HON. ARNEL T. ARUGAY	- Chairman
HON. IMOGEN CLAIRE M. CALLANGAN	- Member (via zoom)
HON. GRACE B. ARAGO	- Member (via zoom)
HON. CERENE PEARL T. QUILANG	- Member

GUESTS:

HON. RONALDO S. ORTIZ	- City Councilor
HON. JUDE T. BAYONA	- City Councilor
HON. TIRSO V. MANGADA	- City Councilor

RESOURCE PERSONS:

MS. KATHLEEN KAYE PAGUIRIGAN	- UCV Representative
MR. ORLANDO TURINGAN, JR.	- UCV Representative

FOR THE PRESIDING OFFICER:

The committee met and deliberated on the referral:

COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 293-2023

SUBJECT:

Draft Resolutions Commending and Congratulating Dr. Esther Susan N. Perez-Mari, President of University of Cagayan Valley, for being awarded Most Outstanding UPLB Alumna- sponsored by Hon. Ronaldo S. Ortiz et.al.

FINDINGS:

1. The University of the Philippines Los Baños Alumni Association (UPLBAA) is a prestigious organization that seeks to encourage the maximum participation, involvement, support and commitment of the alumni to the University of the Philippines social mission.

Adapted during the 7500 RS - Jan. 9, 2024

2. UPLBBA awarded Dr. Esther Susan N. Perez-Mari last October 8, 2023, the Most Outstanding UPLB Alumna Award for her invaluable contribution to the field of Medical Sciences held at the UPLB Campus.
3. Dr. Perez-Mari is a reputed physician-scientist in the field of Oncology drug development research, recipient of numerous awards internationally and the Philippines for her groundbreaking work in advancing immunotherapy and cancer research.
4. The Tuguegarao City Government commends the noteworthy accomplishment of Dr. Esther Susan N. Perez-Mari for bringing pride and honor to the city.
5. Documents as proof of such achievement of Dr. Esther Susan N. Perez-Mari was furnished to the committee.
6. The members of the committee shall be sponsors to the herein resolutions.

RECOMMENDATION:

Finding the subject indorsement to be in order and meritorious, the committee favorably recommends the passage of a Resolution Commending and Congratulating Dr. Esther Susan N. Perez-Mari, President of University of Cagayan Valley, for being awarded Most Outstanding UPLB Alumna.

Respectfully submitted:


HON. ARNEL T. ARUGAY
Chairman


HON. IMOGEN CLAIRE M. CALLANGAN
Member


HON. GRACE B. ARAGO
Member


HON. CERENE PEARY T. QUILANG
Member

DRAFT RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING DR. ESTHER SUSAN N. PEREZ-MARI, PRESIDENT OF UNIVERSITY OF CAGAYAN VALLEY, FOR BEING AWARDED MOST OUTSTANDING UPLB ALUMNA

SPONSORS: Hon. Ronald S. Ortiz
Hon. Mary Marjorie P. Martin-Chan
Hon. Mark Angelo B. Dayag
Hon. Cerene Pearl T. Quilang
Hon. Arnel T. Arugay
Hon. Maria Rosario B. Soriano
Hon. Grace B. Arago
Hon. Imogen Claire M. Callangan
Hon. Cerene Pearl T. Quilang

WHEREAS, the University of the Philippines Los Baños Alumni Association (UPLBAA) is a prestigious organization that seeks to encourage the maximum participation, involvement, support and commitment of the alumni to the University of the Philippines' social mission;

WHEREAS, the UPLBAA gives recognition to deserving alumni of the University of the Philippines Los Baños (UPLB) who transcend their disciplinary fields of expertise and make significant contributions to address contemporary issues, and have attained national and international prestige that has brought honor and distinction to the institution and the country;

WHEREAS, on October 8, 2023, the UPLBAA awarded Dr. Esther Susan N. Perez-Mari the Most Outstanding UPLB Alumna Award for her invaluable contribution in the field of Medical Sciences held at the UPLB Campus;

WHEREAS, Dr. Esther Susan N. Perez-Mari made many significant contributions in the fields of medicine, science and research as well as education that impacted the lives of many, both globally and locally;

WHEREAS, Dr. Perez-Mari, a reputed physician-scientist in the field of Oncology drug development research, is a recipient of numerous awards internationally and in the Philippines, for her groundbreaking work in advancing immunotherapy and cancer researches;

WHEREAS, Dr. Esther Susan N. Perez-Mari, MSc-FM, MD, Ph.D. is an alumna of the University of the Philippines Los Baños (UPLB) who graduated with the degree of Bachelor of Science in Zoology in 1986;

WHEREAS, the achievement and prestigious award conferred to DR. ESTHER SUSAN N. PEREZ-MARI as Most Outstanding UPLB Alumna is worthy of commendation and shall serve as an inspiration for fellow Tuguegaraoeños;

WHEREAS, Tuguegarao City Mayor Maila Rosario S. Ting-Que and the Ninth City Council recognize citizens who have brought home awards and honor worthy of admiration and merit;

NOW, THEREFORE, RESOLVE, as it is hereby **RESOLVED**, to commend and congratulate DR. ESTHER SUSAN N. PEREZ-MARI, PRESIDENT OF UNIVERSITY OF CAGAYAN

VALLEY, FOR BEING AWARDED MOST OUTSTANDING UPLB ALUMNA HELD AT THE UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES LOS BAÑOS;

RESOLVED FURTHER, to furnish a copy of this resolution to Dr. Esther Susan N. Perez-Mari for her information.



UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES LOS BAÑOS
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION, INC.



present this

The Outstanding UPLB Alumna Award

for
Medical Sciences

to

DR. ESTHER SUSAN N. PEREZ-MARI

BS Zoology 1986

Dr. Esther Susan Perez-Mari personifies the global-local nexus, that is, the impact of the local and the interaction in the reverse direction. In the diverse fields of Medicine, Science and Research, and Education, Dr. Perez-Mari has made many contributions that impact the lives of many, both globally and locally.

She has distinguished herself as an Oncology Physician- Research Scientist in the United States of America through her clinical acumen, strategic leadership in Oncology Clinical Development Programs, and expertise in the design and conduct of clinical trials, which exceeds approximately 70 clinical trials to date. Dr. Perez's clinical experience includes drugs now used to treat multiple cancer indications in the clinic (i.e., Keytruda, Optivo, Yervoy, Ethyol, OncoToc, Herceptin, Birabersb, and others). Dr. Perez has also traveled the globe to advance and advocate for various oncology clinical trials that deliver potential or new cancer indications in development to patients. In addition to Oncology Clinical trials, Dr. Perez was a Clinical Lead in developing treatments and vaccines for infectious diseases at AstraZeneca/MedImmune.

Multi-awarded Physician Scientist in the Pharmaceutical Industry, she was awarded by Schering Plough Research Institute for Shining Performance three (3) times for her clinical studies in Chemotherapy induced Nausea and Vomiting. Bristol-Myers Squibb presented her with the award for Immunotherapy treatment for various cancer indications for Nivolumab (Optivo) Life Cycle Management. Dr. Perez concluded her clinical research practice as Global Clinical Director of Merck Sharpe and Dome, where she strategically led the development to advance multiple Oncology Research Programs of the company.

The multifaceted nature of Dr. Perez's professional and scientific engagements is rooted in her well-rounded educational background from premier institutions in the Philippines and the US. Dr. Perez finished her PhD in Organizational Leadership (Honors) at Northcentral University, Prescott, AZ. She got her diploma for Master in Forensic Medicine (Honors) at Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine, Philadelphia, PA. Dr. Perez received her Doctor of Medicine degree from Our Lady of Fatima Medical Science Foundation, Manila, Philippines. She finished her baccalaureate degree, BS Zoology, from the University of the Philippines-Los Baños, Laguna, Philippines, where she was bestowed Most Outstanding Researcher Award by Philobiosciencia in 1986.

Her Alma Mater, Our Lady of Fatima University, awarded her as Most Distinguished Alumna twice in 2016 and 2017 for her significant contributions to Oncology Clinical Trials and as a strategic leader in advancing multiple Oncology Research Programs. The University of Cagayan Valley recognized her as its Most Outstanding Alumna of 2005 for her continuously impressive stints in oncology clinical research. Dr. Perez has been a consistent honor student throughout her academic life. She was nominated as the most outstanding dissertation at the magnum opus of her academic trail when she completed her PhD in Organizational Leadership at Northcentral University in Phoenix, Arizona.

In the Philippines, she conducted a pioneering study on Philippine Wildlife and was the first to use the electron microscope at the Research Institute of Tropical Medicine (RITM). The study, "A Comparative Study of Tongue Morphology of Philippine Bats in Relation to their Trophic Adaptations," earned her the Most Outstanding Undergraduate Thesis award by Philobiosciencia, at the University of the Philippines at Los Baños.

Dr. Esther Susan Perez-Mari is the epitome of an individual who believes in reverse brain drain. She decided to come home and accepted the position as University President of the University of Cagayan Valley in Sept. 2019. Within only six months of her being installed as University President, the COVID-19 pandemic happened. Her leadership sustained the University of Cagayan Valley through the COVID-19 pandemic and the severe flooding experienced in the Province of Cagayan during typhoon Ulysses, submerging the University in approximately 15 feet of water. Through all these, the University, in partnership with many sponsors, fed 33,830 and provided 25 tons of relief goods to the constituents of Cagayan. Ongoing efforts during the pandemic include a food-sharing program for tricycle drivers, kutseros, and delivery riders to show appreciation for their efforts during the pandemic. Notably, Dr. Perez led a research team at the University of Cagayan Valley to evaluate the internet connectivity of the students and Faculty in various areas of the Cagayan Region to address the education gap and to address the issue of digital divide as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Dr. Perez also advocated for students working from home by being the resource speaker on reducing noise pollution in the City Council of Tuguegarao. She has also been a key resource speaker for International Women's Day with the theme "Women in Leadership Achieving an Equal Future in a COVID-19 world". Most recently, Dr. Perez was also a resource speaker at the Commission on Higher Education First National Higher Education Day. She shared "Experiences and Initiatives of the University of Cagayan Valley in addressing the COVID-19 Challenges". Dr. Perez is also a new member of the National Research Council of the Philippines. Barely two years as University President and being back home in her beloved Cagayan, already her impact is strongly felt.

In recognition of being at the forefront of advancing science and education, Dr. Perez-Mari was awarded the Outstanding Research Leader in Asia jointly by the Association of Scholarly Editors (ASE) and the Philippine Association of Institutions for Research (PAIR) in August 2022. She was also awarded by the Provincial Government of Cagayan the Gintong Medalya in the Dangle ng Lahing Cagayano! 2021. Also a member of the National Research Council of the Philippines. Recently, she was a delegate to the CA-ASEAN Expo in Nanning, China representing the Educational Sector.

True to her roots, Dr. Esther Susan Perez-Mari embodies the UP tradition of honor and excellence!

Given this 8th day of October, Two Thousand and Twenty Three at the University of the Philippines Los Baños, College, Laguna.



MAUROW. BARRADAS
UPLBAA President
Chair, Awards Committee



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