

## New LEAD Administrator



I wish to thank Br. Richie Pacis Yap FSC for serving as the pioneer LEAD Administrator from August 2012 to April 2015. In the course of his term, he was able to set up the Communications Systems and Information Processes of the Provincialate. He served as Secretary to the District Council and various Ad Hoc Committees.

He was very much involved in the conceptualization of the Asian Lasallian Renewal Program. Aside from District involvements, Richie was on the Preparatory Committee for the International Young Brothers Gathering in Dasmariñas, Philippines and he was also on the Liturgy Committee of the 45th General Chapter. He remains the Consultant of the Preparatory Committee for the 1st LEAD Young Brothers Assembly.

Br. Richie has returned to the Sector of the Philippines and will take on his new assignment as the Principal of La Salle

Green Hills, High School Department. My deep gratitude and promise of prayers go with you, dear Richie.

Br. Francisco de la Rosa VI FSC has officially replaced him as LEAD Administrator. Prior to accepting his assignment, Sockie was the Head of the Religious Education and Philosophy Unit at De La Salle Health Sciences Institute and Instructor of Psychology at De La Salle University-Dasmariñas. Sockie was an appointed Capitulant for PARC at the 45th General Chapter and is the Chair of the Preparatory Committee for the 1st LEAD Young Brothers Assembly. He will be based in Manila from April to December, preparing for his Perpetual Profession of Vows. By January 2016, he will move to Hong Kong.

I warmly welcome Sockie and thank him for his generous response to the invitation to work for the District.



## 3<sup>rd</sup> Philippine Lasallian Family Convocation



The 3<sup>rd</sup> Philippine Lasallian Family Convocation was held on 15 – 16 April at La Salle Green Hills. Held once every five years, it is the Sector of the Philippines' Lasallian Family direction – setting exercise. The first Convocation was held in 2003 and the second in 2009. This convocation had a nine-month process and involved all our schools across the country. In attendance were about 100 LS partners and Brothers. In the end sixteen resolutions were passed in four areas namely: Leadership and Formation, Excellence in Education, Accessibility, and Operational Efficiency.



I was requested to give a presentation on the "Role of the Philippine Sector In LEAD" and presented the story of LEAD in the last four years and the directions it will be taking for the future. I encouraged the Brothers and Partners present to be open to learning from other Sectors and to be ready to share resources, both human and material, to LEAD.

Thanks to Br. JJ Jimenez for spearheading the planning and to Br. Kenneth Martinez and Mr. Ramelle Javier for co chairing the Preparatory Committee. Gratitude to all the men and women in the Central House who helped ensure the success of the Convocation.



## Visit to the Communities in Japan | 7 – 13 April

My annual visit to the communities in Japan took place in the second week of April. I flew into Hakodate via Haneda on the evening of the 7<sup>th</sup> and was met in the airport by Brs. Rodrigo (Sector Leader), Andre (Director of Hakodate) and Mark. The next day I met some of the key

administrators of La Salle Hakodate. I spent the rest of the day interviewing the three Brothers from the community, Brs. Fermin and Victor Guiterrez, aside from Andre. Mark Maheu from travelled from Sendai to Hakodate so that I didn't have to go to Sendai.

We flew out on the 9<sup>th</sup> for Kagoshima and arrived mid afternoon. I interviewed the Brothers of the community on the 10<sup>th</sup>, Brs. Jose, Fujita and Domingo. Br. Fujita is the only remaining Japanese brother but at 89 is still active and healthy. He bikes around town and is very much a part of the community and the sector. Br. Jose is still the Principal of La Salle Gakuen, Kagoshima. Br. Domingo this year has been made over all charge of the Dormitory. On the 12<sup>th</sup> we had the sector council meeting and I flew back to Hong Kong on the 13<sup>th</sup>.

It is still very much winter in Hakodate. Temperatures were dipping below zero (centigrade) in the few days I spent there. In Kagoshima it was pleasant with temperatures ranging from 12 – 18. I didn't see much of the cherry blossoms as it had not reached Northern Japan and was already gone by the time I arrived in the south.

Br. Rodrigo accompanied me throughout and my gratitude goes to him for organizing the visit. Thanks, too, to all the Brothers, especially the Directors, for the warm welcome and hospitality.



Fraternally,

Br. Edmundo Fernandez FSC  
Hong Kong