

UNITED BOARD HORIZONS

AUGUST 2014

UNITED BOARD FOR CHRISTIAN HIGHER EDUCATION IN ASIA

LEARNING FROM YOLANDA

WHEN Typhoon Yolanda smashed into the Philippines last November, the United Board wanted to contribute in some way to the area's recovery from the devastating storm. So we reached out to our partners throughout Asia to organize a service-learning project in the hard-hit communities of Visayas, in the central Philippines.

"Learning from Yolanda: Disaster Response, Community Resilience, and the Role of Universities" was held June 28-July 11, with nearly 220 student and faculty participants from nine countries and regions of Asia. Service-learning combines meaningful community service with instruction and reflection. Through lectures, physical labor and sharing of insights, our students and their teachers learned how communities can be both fragile and resilient in the face of natural disasters.

We are grateful to our three organizing partners (Central Philippine University, University of St. La Salle, and Silliman University), two host institutions (Filamer Christian University and the College of St. John), and the generous United Board friends who supported this unique undertaking.

We hope that these photos from participants, accompanied by the words that Glenn Shive, our vice president for programs, delivered at the project's opening session, will give our readers a sense of the project's focus and impact.

"As a group, we represent youth from all parts of Philippines, youth from all parts of Asia."



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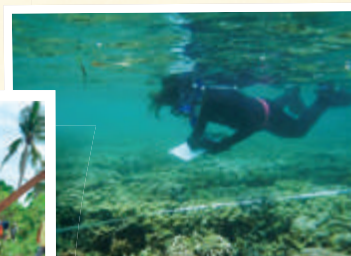


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“We are guests of our host communities. We come in a difficult time, yet they welcome us.”



“We are here to give service, but we are here more fundamentally to learn. Yolanda is our classroom.”



“This international service-learning project is a practical way to share our humanity across cultures, languages, geographies and life circumstances.”

Our thanks to Allen del Carmen, Hope Antone, Val Rianne Billones, Vinay KC and Yan Wu for contributing their photos.



UNITED BOARD FRIEND: MAKING A GIFT FOR TODAY AND TOMORROW



*Louise Woodruff and
her husband,
Rev. Laurence Woodruff*

LOUISE WOODRUFF encountered the United Board at a young age, she recalls, because “my father always talked about his work at the dinner table.” Her parents, Dr. and Mrs. John Coventry Smith, were missionaries in Japan before World War II, and later helped Japanese Christians establish International Christian University (ICU) in 1949.

Mrs. Woodruff was a young girl when she left Japan in 1941 but feels those early years truly broadened her world view. Her global perspective influenced her many years of work with the International Student Office at Eastern Michigan University, connecting international students with local school children, community organizations, and dinners with local families.

“Peacemaking has been an important emphasis of my life,” Mrs. Woodruff finds, in part because of her experience of World War II. She shares the United Board’s interest in helping universities bring people with differing views together. “Education helps to sort through conflict and deal with it peacefully,” she said, “so I want to support what the United Board is doing.”

“During my father’s years as General Secretary for the

mission work of the Presbyterian Church (USA) he became familiar with other Christian universities in Asia and supported the United Board. After his death I wanted to continue that support, and by the grace of God we have been able to do that.”

The United Board is thankful for Mrs. Woodruff’s continuing support through annual gifts and joining the United Board Legacy Society by making a planned gift, thereby ensuring that her gifts have a deep impact — both today and tomorrow. **UB**

The United Board welcomes your support through a legacy gift. Many individual donors, both past and present, have chosen to help build Christian higher education in Asia by establishing an endowment through a bequest, so their impact is felt for generations to come. For example, a bequest gift (either a specified amount or a percentage of the residue) can establish a named Fund to provide faculty and leadership development opportunities for Asian scholars and faculty.

To discuss making a legacy gift and joining the United Board Legacy Society, please contact us at: 1-212-870-2612 or email legacysociety@unitedboard.org



*Dr. and Mrs. John Coventry
Smith. (Courtesy of ICU)*



Louise Woodruff (above, left) at ICU.

DID YOU KNOW?

International Christian University (ICU) is a longstanding United Board partner in the areas of service-learning and peace studies and a host for United Board Fellows. The United Board provided funding for scholarships to Chinese students living in Hong Kong, enabling them to complete their undergraduate degrees at ICU. Over 30 years, about 120 Chinese scholars benefited from this program. **UB**



*International Christian University (ICU)
—University Hall*

UNITED BOARD FORMER STAFF GATHERING CONNECTING OUR PAST AND PRESENT

THE men and women gathered in our New York conference room on June 4 represented loyal service to the United Board across the years of 1971 to 2011. The special occasion reconnected retired United Board staff and provided an opportunity to link their memories of United Board partners and programs to our current work in Asia.

“My love of Asia and higher education came together,” reflected Patricia Magdamo, a native of Myanmar, a graduate of Silliman University, and the United Board’s vice president for programs (1989-1995).

“It was good to step into the old space, the river view, the welcome and meeting all ‘new’ occupants. No one stopped talking and telling stories during lunch. The United Board’s abilities to meld the New York and Hong Kong offices, as [Dr. Nancy Chapman] emphasized, has made it more immediately relevant for our times and the Board has held to its initial goals.”

The day-to-day work of the United Board “was more than a typewriter or a computer,” said Ibby Turnipseed, China program coordinator (1981-1993). Our colleagues recalled how they helped open doors: building new relationships with universities in China, creating opportunities for Asian scholars to earn advanced degrees, and networking with universities across Asia. Those efforts laid the groundwork for our present undertakings, including the United Board Fellows Program, Faculty Scholars Program, and Asian University Leaders Program. **UB**



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United Board retired staff and guests. First row (From left): Patricia Magdamo, Donald McComb, Carmen Dagnino, Ibby and Lonnie Turnipseed, Candy Eng, Joseph Sprunger. Second row (From left): David Vikner, Ronald Taylor, Mark Sheldon, Nan Hawkins, Gloria Godfrey, Richard Wood, Judy Wood, Richard Knox.



Don McComb and Ibby Turnipseed.



Pat Magdamo and Carmen Dagnino.



Candy Eng and Gloria Godfrey.



UNITED BOARD EVENTS AND PROGRAMS

UNITED BOARD SCHOLARS PROGRAM 2015-2016

Application Deadline: September 30, 2014

ASIAN UNIVERSITY LEADERS PROGRAM

October 16-19, 2014

The Hong Kong Institute of Education, Hong Kong

UNITED BOARD INSTITUTIONAL GRANTS PROGRAM 2015-2016

Proposal Submission Deadline: October 31, 2014