

2021-2022 United Board Fellows Program

Profiles are listed in order of family name.

Fellows

Mr. Salex Espinosa ALIBOGHA, JD
Central Philippine University, Philippines

“Good leadership in higher education is like a magnet. It attracts people to pool their efforts and resources together to create an environment of good governance, commitment, compassion, confidence, and competence as quintessential ingredients to realize their mission and vision. “

Mr. Salex Espinosa Alibogha is a nurse by training, an educator by choice, and a lawyer by profession. He earned degrees in nursing and a Juris Doctor (magna cum laude) and has been serving as Dean of Nursing since 2018. His innovation in his institution is the actualization of the virtual laboratory and classrooms through alumni funds. Salex is the president of the Association of Deans of Nursing in Region 6 and a member of the Regional Quality Assessment Team of the Commission on Higher Education in Region 6. His research interests center on HIV/ AIDS and on impact assessment of health and environmental programs. He aspires to enrich his approaches to leadership, whole person pedagogies, and research initiatives by embracing the best practices of institutions.



Ms. Melody ARANDELA-AMBANGAN
Southern Christian College, Philippines

“I have always been a strong advocate of lifelong and holistic learning. I believe that going beyond the portals of Southern Christian College through this program will make me see things from a better, wider, and more objective perspective.”

Ms. Melody Arandela-Ambangan is dean of the College of Social Work. At Southern Christian College, she has found her passion in working



with people in communities, leading her to pursue and obtain her master's degree in social work from Central Philippine University. Besides dedicating herself to ensuring quality social work education through accreditation and molding young minds as a teacher, she is also passionate about making significant changes in society through her civic engagements and volunteer work with professional social work organizations in the Philippines. She is a volunteer online counselor and psychosocial support provider for the United Registered Social Workers (URSW) and National Vice President of the National Association for Social Work Education, Inc. (NASWEI). Melody looks forward to a meaningful experience as a United Board Fellow, sharing and learning valuable insights and practices on Christian leadership, service-learning, and quality assurance.

Dr. Samrat BHATTACHARJEE
Scottish Church College, India

"Good leadership in higher education is being a role model with a clear vision of the challenges and a strong motivational power to guide people towards the path that leads to excellence through holistic development."

Dr. Samrat Bhattacharjee joined Scottish Church College in 2004 and is currently associate professor of zoology as well as the coordinator of the Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC). He completed his doctorate in insect taxonomy from the University of Calcutta in 2009. As a teacher and college administrator, Samrat has closely observed the challenges his institution faces with respect to the changing education scenario, both locally and globally. He hopes to hone his leadership skills with a focus on efficient management of human resources, time, and data. He is also eager to implement the concept of "whole person education" in his institution and looks forward to opportunities to bond with other United Board Fellows to open doors for future exchange programs.



Rev. Dr. Satanun BOONYAKIAT
Payap University, Thailand

"Good leadership in higher education is God-centered leadership that aims to honor God by serving, nurturing and empowering people in the context of higher education."

Rev. Dr. Satanun Boonyakiat is currently assistant president and chaplain as well as lecturer at McGilvary College of Divinity at Payap University. He previously served as dean of McGilvary College of Divinity for 11 years. He received his PhD in theology (theology and culture) from Fuller



Theological Seminary, USA. Through the United Board Fellows Program, he intends to learn from other leaders how to lead faithfully and fruitfully in higher education in the Asian context, and he also hopes to contribute Thai perspectives in discussions with others.

Mr. Romulo Vinci R. BUEZA

Ateneo de Davao University, Philippines

“Good leadership in higher education demands a visionary standpoint where one commits to strategic foresight – a vision that is driven by a deep conviction for a future that upholds social justice and the common good.”

Mr. Romulo Vinci R. Bueza is assistant to the president for external affairs and director of the Ateneo Internationalization for Mindanao Office. He also serves as the program manager of the Madaris Volunteer Program, which sends volunteer teachers to Muslim communities, and as project manager for the development of cultures-based curricula for a school in Northern Thailand and for the Tboli people in Lake Sebu, Philippines. The Ateneo de Davao University is constantly re-envisioning how education should be used to address challenges today and those that may emerge in the future. As a young university administrator, he is confident that the United Board Fellows Program will help him prepare for this brave new world in the education sector through exposure to new cultures of learning emerging from all over the world. He obtained his master of arts degree in anthropology from Ateneo de Davao University, specializing in disaster anthropology.



Dr. Ronald Allan L. CRUZ

Ateneo de Manila University, Philippines

“Having the courage and conviction to introduce innovations in educational systems and paradigms – innovations that are dynamic and interdisciplinary while still respecting culture and tradition – and being able to convince stakeholders, especially students and faculty, to invest in these innovations are key to good leadership in higher education.”

Dr. Ronald Allan L. Cruz obtained his doctorate in biology from Ateneo de Manila University. He has been teaching biology courses at Ateneo since 2003 and has also been involved in student and faculty formation work, primarily in his capacity as moderator of the Ateneo Biological Organization and coordinator of the Teacher Formation Institute and Faculty Spiritual Formation. He is currently vice chair of the University Research Ethics Committee. He has published research in the fields of ecology, research ethics,



bio-education, fisheries, aquaculture, and popular culture. He hopes that the program will equip him with the knowledge, skills, and networks that will allow him to contribute to his university's growth as a premier higher education institute in the region, especially in the sciences.

Dr. Shajini Judith DIANA
Women's Christian College, India

"A good leader in higher education should be a collaborative, committed, confident and creative person, a catalyst in initiating change, creating a positive influence on others, with a vision to see the big picture and strive towards it with an undeterred spirit and integrity."

Dr. Shajini Judith Diana has been serving Women's Christian College in the Department of Foods and Nutrition since 2004. She earned her PhD in nutrition from the University of Madras. As a nutrition educator, her primary focus has been on designing and delivering community-based education programs that help individuals, families, and communities make informed choices about food and lifestyles. As coordinator of international programs, she works toward strengthening international collaborations. Through the Fellows Program, she desires to sharpen her leadership skills, grow in confidence, experience cross-cultural learning, gain global perspectives, and prepare to take on new and challenging roles that will come her way and to contribute effectively to the larger community. She has a keen interest in cooking and spends her leisure watching cookery shows and trying out new recipes.



Dr. Howell T. HO
Trinity University of Asia, Philippines

"Educational leaders are innovative, inspirational, and pro-active professors whose mission is to ensure the future of learners."

Dr. Howell Ho is an associate professor at Trinity University of Asia. He has a PhD in biology and is the current dean of the College of Arts, Sciences and Education. He has administrative experience as a technical assistant to the vice president for academic affairs and department head of research and basic sciences. He seeks to develop relationships by networking with colleagues who have shared goals in the region. He hopes to learn from fellow administrators as we navigate through a "new normal." He also would like to see closer industrial and educational partnerships across the region.



Br. Augustin JOSEPH, SDB
Salesian College, India

"A good leader in higher education should not only inspire and lead by example but also be a visionary who can take the institution forward and align it with the requirements of the present and future."

Br. Augustin Joseph has been a teacher, administrator, and leader for over 25 years. He is an empathetic person who brings a hands-on, multidisciplinary approach to learning in fields ranging from literature to social sciences to management. He has headed large academic institutions in urban and rural environments. Presently he is the vice principal of Salesian College Sonada in Darjeeling and is pursuing his PhD in educational leadership. Through the Fellows Program, he would like to enhance his skills in leadership, team building, achieving excellence, and research. He hopes to interact with great minds and use this learning to successfully face and overcome the challenges of managing higher education. He has training in scouting and music and was active in sports.



Dr. Sr. Stella Mary KASIMIR FMM
Stella Maris College, India

"Good leadership in higher education is the ability to steer educators and other stakeholders towards the achievement of a common goal that benefits all."

Dr. Sr. Stella Mary Kasimir FMM is assistant professor in the Department of Economics and currently holds the position of dean of student affairs. Her area of research specialization is microfinance and women's development. She also holds a postgraduate diploma in ethics in human resource management. Sr. Stella has mentored and guided the members of the Student Union in organizing and conducting events and activities on campus. She has taken a leadership role in planning programs to induct student leaders into their roles, counselling students, and collaborating with faculty members to support student success. Sr. Stella hopes that the Fellows Program will help to hone her leadership skills and enable her to learn about educational administration in different contexts. She hopes to create partnerships that will enable exchange of ideas in pedagogies and whole person education.



Dr. Fransisca Endang LESTARININGSIH
Duta Wacana Christian University, Indonesia

“Being a leader in higher education is unique and challenging – one needs to maintain not only the sustainability of the institution, but also to think about the life-long education of all members: the faculties, the staff, and the students.”

Dr. Fransisca Endang Lestariningsih received her master’s degree from the English Studies Program at Sanata Dharma University in Yogyakarta, Indonesia, in 2008. Her doctoral degree in language education was earned in 2019 from the Language Education Sciences program of the State University of Yogyakarta. She also completed an online course on learning styles and strategies from the University of Oregon in 2010. Her leadership experiences include serving as the secretary of the Center of Language Training, head of the Office of International Affairs, and currently as the director of the Institute for Education Development and Instructional Innovations. Her interests are in English for specific purposes, teacher training, and andragogy. She likes traditional dancing (Javanese classic dance), cycling, and singing.



Dr. Monirith LY
Pannasastra University of Cambodia, Cambodia

“A good university leader listens to as many people as possible, especially the university’s most important human resources – the faculty members who have expertise and direct contact with students.”

Dr. Monirith Ly’s qualifications include a PhD in adult, professional and community education from Texas State University in 2013 and an MEd in higher education administration from Loyola University Chicago in 2006 with the support of the United Board. Since 2001, Monirith has been working progressively in various university teaching and managerial positions leading curriculum development, student advising, faculty development, quality assurance, program evaluation, and ICT application in teaching and management. He has completed research on community service-learning and is studying outcome-specific evaluation. Through the Fellows Program, he hopes to develop interpersonal skills, competencies, and strategies in organizational change politics and leadership.



Dr. Giovanni “Jake” T. MACAHIG

Silliman University, Philippines

“The hallmarks of good leadership in higher education are collaborative and inclusive attitude and perspective anchored on trust in God’s divine providence especially during disruptive and challenging times.”

Dr. Giovanni “Jake” T. Macahig is an assistant professor in the Psychology Department. He obtained his master’s degree in social and community psychology from Silliman University and a doctorate in management from the University of San Jose Recoletos. He is currently the university registrar and admissions officer, and coordinator of the Civic Welfare Training Service (CWTS) component of the National Service Training Program at Silliman University. In the CWTS program, he introduced projects that enhanced student-centered learning that focused on environmental protection and sustainability. Jake would like to enhance his leadership and educational management skills in the context of globalization and digital technologies through the Fellows Program. He looks forward to sharing insights on coping with the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and post-pandemic preparations for tertiary education.



Dr. Sudi MUNGKASI

Sanata Dharma University, Indonesia

“To lead is to serve. Leadership in higher education is serving others to grow and to grow together with them.”

Dr. Sudi Mungkasi has been the dean of the Faculty of Science and Technology at Sanata Dharma University, Yogyakarta, Indonesia since 2016. In addition, he is an associate professor at the Department of Mathematics with research interests in applied and computational mathematics. Previously he served as the vice chairman of the Institute of Research and Community Services at Sanata Dharma University from 2014 to 2016. He obtained both his master’s degree and PhD in mathematical sciences from the Australian National University, Canberra, in 2008 and 2013, respectively. He is grateful for the opportunity to be a United Board Fellow. By joining the program, he will develop his leadership capacity in order to be able to provide better services for others.



Dr. Rhoderick V. NUNCIO

De La Salle University, Philippines

“Good leadership in higher education entails the ability and stability of oneself to nurture and positively influence others in achieving continuous learning, professional and organizational growth and service to others amid social transformations and difficult challenges.”

Dr. Rhoderick V. Nuncio is a full professor of the Department of Filipino and currently the dean of the College of Liberal Arts at De La Salle University. Previously, he was vice dean, research director of the college, research director of the Social Development Research Center and chair of the Department of Filipino Studies. He earned his PhD and MA in Philippine studies at the University of the Philippines Diliman. His research areas include youth Internet studies, Philippine culture and society, and philosophy. He also paints and writes novels. Through this program, he would like to explore the importance of liberal arts orientation, research, and advocacy work to complement and amplify the social mission of universities, inspire learners, and develop the next generation of leaders.



Dr. Jenish PAUL

Union Christian College Aluva, India

“A higher education leader shall be an inspiring personality with an innate realm of charisma lifting the spirit of individuals he/she interacts with. He/she shall strive to bring out the best in others and shall be a visionary to instill change and challenge against the odds.”

Dr. Jenish Paul is an educator with 13 years of experience teaching chemistry. He obtained his master’s degree in chemistry from Union Christian College and PhD in polymer chemistry from Cochin University of Science and Technology. He is an approved M.G University Research Guide. His research is in the areas of polymer blends and nanotechnology. He also served as department head from 2017 to 2020. He is presently a member of College Standing Council and Association. He is also the college-level co-coordinator for star college scheme under the Department of Biotechnology and a member of the Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC), Centre for Service-Learning, and Center for Environmental Studies. From the Fellows Program he hopes to acquire skills in leading effectively, including the skills needed to persuade and influence people for the good of the institution and the community. His hobbies are playing cricket and football.



Dr. Bui Ha PHUONG

University of Social Sciences and Humanities,
Vietnam National University, Vietnam

“A great leader in higher education is a responsible, influential person who has the capacity to willingly commit, motivate, lead and develop others to jointly fulfill the goals of the university.”

Prior to her position as the head of Personnel and Organization and as a member of the University Council, Ms. Bui Ha Phuong was the vice dean of the Faculty of Library and Information Science (2014-2019). She has contributed to developing curriculum and teaching methods. She also has encouraged and made policies for colleagues to participate in academic activities designed to improve their skills in teaching and research. She has made significant contributions to the university's strategies for enhancing the quality of human resources, improving the effectiveness of the operational and organizational structure of the university, and implementing the process of managing as well as evaluating the human resources. She believes the Fellows Program can help her make additional contributions to the development of her university.



Dr. Hindriyanto DWIPURNOMO

Satya Wacana Christian University, Indonesia

“Good leadership in higher education means influencing, encouraging and facilitating others to develop their competencies in order to achieve the institution goals. It needs the ability to innovate, be agile and adapt to changes well.”

Dr. Hindriyanto Dwi Purnomo has been head of the Department of Information Technology at Satya Wacana Christian University since 2018. He has been an academic for more than 15 years and involved in various committees and administration roles in the university. He received his master's degree in information technology from The University of Melbourne, Australia and PhD in industrial and system engineering from Chung Yuan Christian University, Taiwan. Through the United Board Fellows Program, he hopes to develop his leadership and management skills and enhance connections with other Fellows as well as gain a deeper understanding of whole person education.

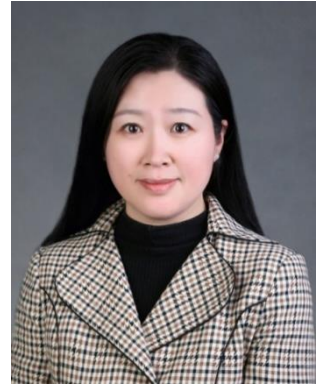


Dr. Ling QIU

Shandong University, P.R. China

“Higher education leadership plays an important role, and it refers to the ability to coordinate and make full use of resources to improve the efficiency of the entire university. Higher education leaders should have good moral character, creativity, and credibility.”

Dr. Ling Qiu is deputy dean and associate professor of the School of Journalism and Communication, Shandong University. She is in charge of management of undergraduate and international exchanges. She is also a board member of the Journalism and Communication Professional Committee of the China Higher Education Association. She has been an educator for 18 years. She earned her MA degree from Goldsmiths College, University of London in 2004 and her PhD from Fudan University in 2009, and she was a visiting scholar at the School of Journalism, University of Missouri in 2013. She would like to gain new ideas and management methods from the Fellows Program and examples of operations and management from visiting other universities. Her academic interests are cross-cultural and international communication, and she enjoys experiencing different cultures and customs through travel.



Dr. Belinda RAJARATHNAM

Madras Christian College, India

“A good leader in higher education should have a collaborative approach and adopt methodologies to keep the current generation of students engaged leading to whole person education so as to ultimately build responsible future leaders.”

Dr. Belinda Rajarathnam has completed her master’s and research degrees in social work. She has been serving Madras Christian College (MCC) for the past 20 years and currently is head of the Department of Social Work, as well as a faculty member of the Centre for Peace Studies. She served as the placement officer (campus recruitments) of the college from 2013 to 2020 during which period an average 350 students each year received job offers from reputable corporations. An ardent researcher, she has completed 13 funded projects and has published more than 30 research papers in ISBN and ISSN publications. She joins the Fellows Program with a desire to learn innovative teaching-learning-assessment methodologies and pioneering practices in peace education. She loves doing handicraft work especially embroidery. Involved in Sunday catechism classes at her parish, she loves Bible story telling. Gardening is also her passion.



Dr. Siby SAMUAL

St. Aloysius College, India

“Leaders have a significant impact on the environment, mindset, and credibility of learning institutions; under able leadership, institutions become successful learning incubators, where learners and the teachers both are challenged, nurtured, and encouraged.”

Dr. Siby Samuel holds a master’s degree in computer application and a doctorate in computer science from Rani Durgavati University, Jabalpur. Her area of research is mathematical modeling in the domain of one-dimensional cutting stock problem. She was appointed head of the Department of Computer Science in 2005. In 2019 she was also appointed as coordinator of the Internal Quality Assurance Cell. By joining the Fellows Program, she would like to better understand the vision of leadership in higher education, as well as governance and administration, and to explore global initiatives and innovations. She also hopes to know herself better as a person and as a leader. She enjoys reading and gardening.



Fr. Eko Budi SANTOSO, S.J.

Sanata Dharma University, Indonesia

“Leadership in higher education is a vocation not only to run the institution according to its mission and identity, but also to help faculties, staffs, and students in developing their potentials as God’s children for the benefit of others.”

Fr. Eko Budi Santoso is currently secretary of the Secretariat of Mission and Identity of Sanata Dharma University. After finishing his PhD in mathematics at Ateneo de Manila University, Fr. Eko was assigned as a lecturer in the Department of Mathematics Education. One of his current assignments at Sanata Dharma is to help its leaders to practice Ignatian leadership, which is characterized by being a servant leader. Ignatian leadership is drawn from the spiritual exercises of St. Ignatius of Loyola. As a Jesuit, he is familiar with the spiritual exercises, but his challenge is how to implement its values in leadership. By joining the United Board Fellows Program, he hopes to better articulate Ignatian leadership and share it with leaders of Sanata Dharma University and beyond.



Dr. Dwi SETIAWAN

Petra Christian University, Indonesia

“Good leadership in higher education involves interpersonal communication, constant innovation, and sheer persistence.”

Dr. Dwi Setiawan has been dean of the Faculty of Languages and Literature at Petra Christian University, Indonesia since 2018. He previously served as vice head (2006-2009) and head of department (2009-2013) at the same institution. Under his leadership, the faculty and its departments have managed to create new academic programs, develop lasting links with foreign institutions, secure institutional funding from Indonesia and abroad, and achieve the highest accreditation of excellence in Indonesia. Dwi received his PhD in adaptation studies from De Montfort University, United Kingdom in 2017. His research interest is in postcolonial literature-to-film adaptation. Through the United Board Fellows Program, he hopes to enhance his leadership skills, particularly in leading multidisciplinary teams, strategic thinking, and institutional advancement.



Dr. Augustina SULASTRI

Soegijapranata Catholic University, Indonesia

“Leadership is about mapping out where you need to go to ‘win’ as a team or an organization. Leaders must set vision and mission, set directions, and help themselves and others to achieve their common goals.”

Dr. Augustina Sulastris has been teaching psychology at Soegijapranata Catholic University for 18 years. She obtained her PhD from Radboud University, Nijmegen, the Netherlands. She is currently vice dean for finance and personnel development. She has held several managerial positions: coordinator for international cooperation (20018–present), vice rector for academic affairs (2016–2017), and director of the Institute for Research and Development in Education (2013–2016). She was a 2009 scholar at the United Board’s Institute for Advanced Study in Asian Cultures and Theologies. In addition to developing expertise in educational psychology, she has conducted research on neuropsychological tests and neurofeedback intervention. By joining the Fellows Program, she hopes to expand her perspectives on the advancement of higher education.



Dr. Chia-Lin TU

Chang Jung Christian University, Taiwan

“Leader is a word combining a verb + er, meaning that it is someone’s work of how to get together toward a goal. Leadership in higher education is a mission of how to get the whole team to work together to make our next generations become better selves.”

Dr. Chia-Lin Tu spent 15 years studying philosophy and earned her PhD from Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, USA. Her research is in the areas of metaphysics, epistemology, analytic philosophy, and Philosophy of mind. She has served as the chairwoman of the Department of Applied Philosophy (formerly the Department of Religion and Philosophy) for eight years, and served two years as the dean of the Office of Student Affairs. Dr. Tu recognizes that, for 21st-century students, critical thinking, creativity, collaboration, and communication are essential skills for success. Thus, she wishes to develop her leadership skills so that she can work with colleagues to integrate these competencies into the university curriculum.



Dr. S. Angeline VEDHA

Bishop Heber College, India

“A good leader has the ability to look ahead of others, crafts the way forward, but is determined not to leave anyone along the journey.”

Dr. Angeline Vedha is associate professor of chemistry at Bishop Heber College. She has led the Deanery of Training & Placement since 2017. She is currently the associate dean of Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC). She was instrumental in designing the Life Skills Education for the undergraduates on campus. She holds a doctorate in theoretical and computational chemistry and specializes in teaching chemistry through research-based pedagogy. She is also the elected member of the Senate, the administrative legislature of the Bharathidasan University to which Bishop Heber College is affiliated. Through the Fellows Program she aims to acquire leadership and management skills, get to know contemporary models of organizational structures in globally competent Christian institutions, and be introduced to the policies they adopt to sustain quality. She looks forward to connecting with peers from different countries for learning through shared experiences.



Dr. Weiyan XIONG

Lingnan University, Hong Kong

“Good leadership in higher education is an empowerment process, through which everyone at the university and college can fully grow and devote themselves to the achievement of the mutually supported individual and institutional goals.”

Dr. Weiyan Xiong is program director of the Master of Arts in International Higher Education and Management (IHEM) program at Lingnan University, Hong Kong. He also serves as a research assistant professor in the School of Graduate Studies, conducting research and teaching courses on higher education management. Weiyan received his PhD in higher education management from the University of Pittsburgh and completed his bachelor’s and master’s degrees at Peking University. Through the United Board Fellows Program, Weiyan aspires to obtain an in-depth multicultural and transnational understanding of the higher education cultures in different Asian countries, which will inspire his administration work and research.



Dr. Francis Ching-Wah YIP

Divinity School of Chung Chi College,
The Chinese University of Hong Kong

“Good leadership in higher education fosters an environment that encourages interdisciplinary scholarship and multidimensional maturity.”

Dr. Francis Yip is director and associate professor of the Divinity School of Chung Chi College, The Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK). He has been the director of the Centre for Christian Studies of the Department of Cultural and Religious Studies since 2010. A former journalist, Francis received theological education at CUHK and his doctorate from Harvard University. His research interests focus on the intersection of theology and society. Francis is the author of *Capitalism as Religion: A Study of Paul Tillich’s Interpretation of Modernity* and co-author of a Chinese commentary on the Nicene Creed. Through the United Board Fellows Program, he seeks to develop management competencies in a setting of higher education and to share the experience of conducting theological education in a public university.



Dr. Zhenbin ZHANG

Shandong University, P.R. China

“Good leadership is the capability to cultivate a team culture/mechanism that inspires individuals to willingly, cooperatively, and effectively contribute to a common goal.”

Dr.-Ing. Zhenbin Zhang is a full professor at Shandong University (SDU). He received his PhD (summa cum laude) in electrical engineering from Technical University of Munich (TUM), Germany, and is a guest professor at TUM. He is an IEEE senior member and general chair of the 2021 International Conference on Predictive Control of Electrical Drives and Power Electronics (IEEE-PRECEDE-2021). Dr. Zhang is the founder and director of the lab for More Power Electronics Energy Systems (MPEES), and chairman for the International Center of Intelligent Energy and Power Conversion Systems (IEPCS) at SDU. In addition, he is the deputy dean of the Department for Science and Technology Management, coordinating industrial cooperation and government funding projects at SDU. Through the Fellows Program, he desires to hone skills to build a successful team culture/mechanism, and knowledge to foster institution-wide co-worker effectiveness.

