TRACING ITS ROOTS:
A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE UST LAW REVIEW

The UST LAW REVIEW is a student-edited law review published by the UST Faculty of Civil Law (Faculty). It was established in 1950 with Andres Narvasa as its first Editor-in-Chief. At the time, the UST LAW REVIEW included in its quarterly publication lead articles by law professors and members of the judiciary, as well as commentaries, case summaries, and book reviews by members of the Law Review – students of the Faculty of Civil Law. Andres Narvasa would later become the Dean of the Faculty, and from 1991 to 1998, the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the Philippines.

Since its foundation, the UST LAW REVIEW has paved the way for enriching legal discourse in the Philippines and has become a vehicle for exploring uncharted regions of law and an arena for deliberating pressing legal issues.

In 2000, the UST LAW REVIEW suffered a temporary setback, and the publication was discontinued. Fate, however, did not leave the publication in oblivion. The UST LAW REVIEW was revived in 2003 through the overwhelming initiative of the late Dean Augusto K. Aligada, Jr., the unconditional support of the former Regent Fr. Javier Gonzalez, the commendable leadership of its Faculty Advisor Rene B. Gorospe, and the enthusiasm of a group of eager law students. Since then, the UST LAW REVIEW has become an annual publication.[1]

In 2004, the UST LAW REVIEW published the second issue of Volume 48 as a tribute to the late Chief Justice Roberto C. Conception Jr., who also served as a Dean of the Faculty.

In 2005, the UST LAW REVIEW published its 50th volume, the Golden Edition. Its Editor-in-Chief, Marian Joanne K. Co-Pua, currently teaches at the Faculty and is one of the contributors in this present volume.

Faced with various questions of form and style, the Editorial Board (Volume 51) codified the UST LAW REVIEW Style Guide, a manual of legal citation and style.

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[1] Santos, Tomas U. 2013. "UST Law Review Turns 63." Varsitarian.net. February 10, 2013. http://varsitarian.net/news/20130210/ust_law_review_turns_63.

In 2007, the UST LAW REVIEW received its first St. Dominic De Guzman Award from UST in recognition of its outstanding performance in organizing activities that promote Thomasian excellence.

In 2008, the UST LAW REVIEW launched its first online edition and became the first law journal in the Philippines to establish its website.

To commemorate the 400th anniversary of UST, the UST LAW REVIEW published a two-part Quadricentennial Edition in 2011 and 2012.

In 2013, the UST LAW REVIEW received the St. Dominic de Guzman award through the leadership of then Editor-in-Chief Lamberto L. Santos III. The first UST LAW REVIEW exhibit and the first Grand Alumni Homecoming were also held in 2013.

In 2019, the UST LAW REVIEW, headed by its Editor-in-Chief Clarice Angeline V. Questin, received a citation of the St. Dominic De Guzman Award.

Supreme Court Citations

The UST LAW REVIEW has also been cited multiple times by the Supreme Court of the Philippines.

In 2008, the Court cited *Denouement of the Human Security Act: Tremors in the Turbulent Odyssey of Civil Liberties* (52 UST L. Rev. 1, 16-21) in *Romualdez v. COMELEC* (G.R. No. 167011, 30 April 2008). The article was written by Gilbert D. Balderama, the Editor-in-Chief of Volume 52.

In 2010, the Court in *Razon v. Tagitis* (G.R. No. 182498, 16 February 2010), cited Joan Lou P. Gamboa's article entitled *Creative Rule-Making in Response to Deficiencies of Existing Remedies* (52 UST L. Rev. 43).

In 2011, the Court cited the article *Uncertainties Beyond the Horizon: The Metamorphosis of the WTO Investment Framework in the Philippine Setting* (52 UST L. Rev 259) written by then Professor Ma. Lourdes P.A. Sereno in In the Matter of the Charges of Plagiarism etc., against Associate Justice Mariano C. Del Castillo (A.M. No. 10-7-17-SC, 8 February 2011).

In *Presidential Ad-Hoc Fact Finding Committee on Behest Loans v. Desierto* (G.R. No. 135715, 13 April 2011), the Court cited *Power and Paradox: Deconstructing Ombudsman Independence Amidst the Thicket of the Constitution, Law and Jurisprudence,* (51 UST L. Rev. 140-141). The article was written by Mischelle R. Maulion, the Editor-in-Chief of Volume 51, who is now the Presiding Judge of the Municipal Trial Court in Lubao, Pampanga.

In 2012, the Court cited Professor Rene B. Gorospe's Songs, *Singers and Shadows: Revisiting Locus Standi in Light of the People Power Provisions of the 1987 Constitution* (51 UST L. Rev 15-16) in *Galicto v. Aquino III* (G.R. No. 193978, 28 February 2012).

The Court likewise cited Franco Aristotle G. Larcina's *Judicial Review of Impeachment: The Judicialization of Philippine Politics* (50 UST L. Rev 45) in the impeachment case against former Chief Justice Renato Corona, *Corona v. Senate of the Philippines* (G.R. No. 200242, 17 July 2012).

Chief Justice Andres Narvasa Lecture Series

The UST LAW REVIEW also holds *The Chief Justice Andres Narvasa Lecture Series,* inviting speakers, often Supreme Court Justices, to talk about legal issues of national interest. Then Associate Justice Roberto Abad was the speaker during the first Narvasa lecture in 2013 titled Chartering New Rules of Civil Procedure for the Philippines.

The second lecture was held in 2014 titled Environmental Reforms: The Role of the Judiciary, featuring then Associate Justice (later Chief Justice) Diosdado M. Peralta as the guest speaker.

The third lecture held in 2015 focused on the right to privacy and featured Atty. Raul C. Pangalangan, who later became the first Filipino Judge to sit at the International Criminal Court at The Hague, Netherlands

The fourth lecture was held in 2016. Associate Justice Marvic M.V.F. Leonen was the honorary lecturer. The theme of the lecture was *Reexamining Dura Lex Sed Lex: Social Justice, the Constitution, and the Continuing Challenge of the Rule of Law*.

Lastly, the fifth lecture was held in 2019. Retired Associate Justice Angelina Sandoval-Gutierrez discussed Multi-Jurisdictional Practices and Disputes. The occasion also served as a homecoming event for UST LAW REVIEW alumni.

70 Years of Indelible Imprint

In 2020, the UST LAW REVIEW celebrated its 70th anniversary with a series of activities, the foremost of which is the launching of its new website hosted by UST's Sto. Tomas e-Service Providers (STEPS). The website was officially launched on 7 October 2020 and can be accessed at

http://lawreview.ust.edu.ph. This occasion could not come at a more opportune time as the world grappled with the Covid-19 pandemic, forcing the UST LAW REVIEW to operate entirely online. The present volume is the first edition of the UST LAW REVIEW to utilize the website for its initial release.

In 2020, the UST LAW REVIEW also adopted a new official seal, which retained the color and form features of its old seal, but with improved image resolution. The effort to digitize past volumes, which began a few years ago, was also revived and is currently in the works.

In April 2021, the UST LAW REVIEW published a Digest Handbook which codifies the rules and guidelines of the USTLAW REVIEW in writing and editing case digests.

As telecommuting and online learning become the norm, the UST LAW REVIEW continues to expand its reach through its website and its Facebook page where readers and subscribers are updated with recent developments of the law and jurisprudence. Aside from the online editions of its journal, the UST LAW REVIEW website also contains articles, commentaries, and trends in jurisprudence written by its members and understudies. Excerpts featuring articles from previous volumes and notes on landmark cases are regularly posted on its Facebook page.

Today, the UST LAW REVIEW carries on its legacy of leaving an indelible imprint as it pushes the boundaries of legal scholarship with this online edition. It celebrates its triumphs as well as the stumbling blocks that it had overcome and used as stepping stones to reach new heights. This volume is a testament to the resilience of the UST LAW REVIEW and its commitment to igniting legal discourse.