

PRESS RELEASE on 13 January 2021

Virtual Induction Ceremony for the new Executive Board Members of PACES Philippine-Austrian Cultural and Educational Society



Photo Credits: Ms. Jane Abaya

On the 9th of January 2021 in Vienna at 17:00, PACES, the Philippine-Austrian Cultural and Educational Society, has virtually conducted the induction for its newly elected Executive Board Members.

PACES is an association of like-minded members of the Philippine-Austrian community, which aims to provide full scholarship to deserving students in the Philippines pursuing college degrees in the scientific fields. Furthermore, these efforts strengthen the inter-cultural dialogue and the bilateral relationship between these two nations. PACES has partnered with ANCOP (ANswering the Cry Of the Poor) Philippines, a social ministry of the religious organization Couples for Christ, in managing scholarships of the sponsored Filipino students. ANCOP also operates in India, Indonesia and Africa.

PACES' outgoing President Ms. Malou Reininger opened the event by expressing her gratitude for her two-year tenure, which followed by officially transferring presidency on to the newly elected President Ms. Maria Zelda "Marizel" Rojas. The oath-taking ceremony was administered by H.E. Sulpicio M. Confiado, Philippine Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the Arab Republic of Egypt with concurrent jurisdiction to the Republic of Djibouti, the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, the State of Eritrea and the Republic of Sudan and also an Honorary Member of PACES. Furthermore, former Philippine Ambassador to Austria Maria Zeneida Angara Collinson, PACES Founding Ambassador, also conveyed her inspirational message for the new Executive Board: *"I share the pride and good wishes of all PACES members and contributors in congratulating the four graduates of the STEMs 70 scholarship program. Let our passion, determination, hard work and belief in the mission and vision of PACES be our lodestar as we navigate through the uncharted waters of these times. Science and Humanity will prevail."*

The following incumbents have pledged their oaths to serve in their respective positions from 9 January 2021 until 31 December 2022.

President: Ms. Maria Zelda “Marizel” Rojas

Vice President for Internal Affairs: Ms. Priscila “Precie” Ramo-Confiado

Vice President for External Affairs: Mr. Franz Berner

Secretary: Ms. Robee Sallegue

Treasurer: Ms. Nilsa Fischer

Auditors: Ms. Jane Abaya and Mr. Rodolfo Quevenco

Scholarship Committee Chair: Mr. Efren Abaya

Fundraising Committee Chair: Ms. Gina Villanueva-Weinzierl

The event concluded with the song “Light of a Million Morning” sang by Ms. Sonia Macatangay, which was followed by the acceptance and closing remarks of the new PACES President Ms. Marizel Rojas.

###

For more information about PACES, please visit its website <http://www.paces-stems.org/> or email paces.exec@gmail.com