



PATLS NEWSLETTER

A publication of the Philippine Association of Teachers of Library and Information Science, Inc.



The newly elected Executive Board for 2026-2028 takes their oath of office, led by Dean Rhea Rowena U. Apolinario, who served as the Inducting Officer.

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Charting the Future of LIS Education: PATLS Inducts 2026-2028 Executive Board

In a milestone event signaling a dynamic new chapter for Library and Information Science (LIS) education in the country, the Philippine Association of Teachers of Library and Information Science (PATLS) officially ushered in its Executive Board for the 2026-2028 term.

The new cohort of leaders officially took their oaths of office during a virtual ceremony held via Zoom on June 8, 2026, uniting a diverse group of educators and visionaries dedicated to elevating the standards of the profession.

Administering the oath was Professor Rhea Rowena U. Apolinario, Dean of the University of the Philippines School of Library and Information Studies (UPSLIS). Dean Apolinario, who previously served as the association's president in 2014, brought both historical perspective and forward-looking inspiration to the ceremony.

MEET YOUR NEW OFFICERS

2026-2028 Executive Board

POSITION	NAME
PRESIDENT	Joseph M. Yap <i>SLIS, UP Diliman / WVSU</i>
VICE PRESIDENT	Romel U. Rellon <i>Tagoloan Community College</i>
SECRETARY	Mark Anthony A. Santos <i>SLIS, UP Diliman</i>
TREASURER	Priscilla S. Laurente <i>University of Santo Tomas</i>
AUDITOR	Annacel B. Delima <i>University of Southeastern Philippines</i>
PRO	Diane D. Bumatang <i>Benguet State University</i>
EX-OFFICIO	Dridge Paul A. Reyes <i>SLIS, UP Diliman</i>

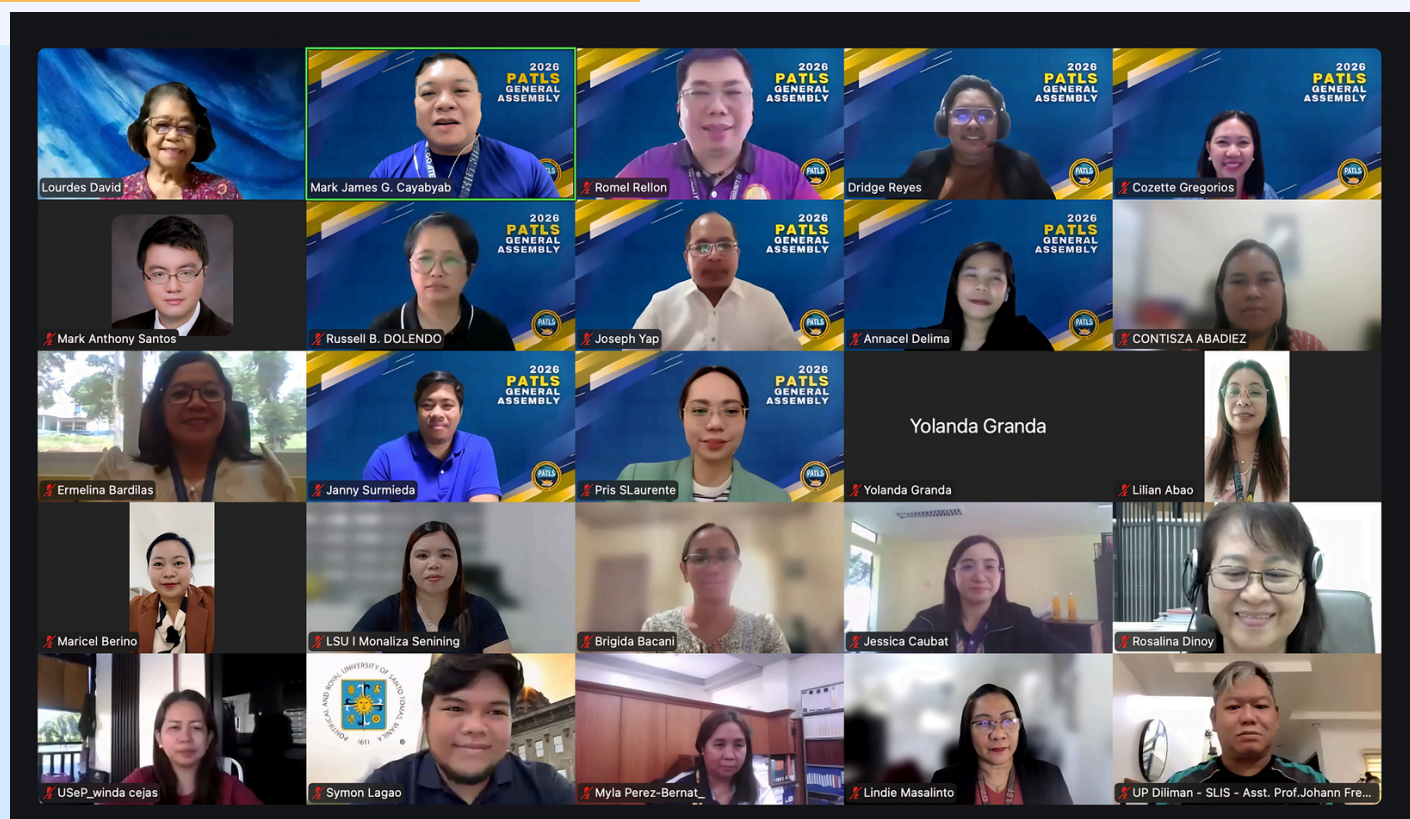
CONGRATULATIONS!

What makes this incoming Executive Board unique is its inclusivity, bridging geographical and institutional divides. Comprising seasoned researchers and veteran instructors, the new leadership team represents a cross-section of the Philippine academic landscape, featuring professionals from large state universities, historic private institutions, and local colleges across various regions of the archipelago.

With a strategic roadmap and a dedicated leadership team, PATLS embarks on this new term with high expectations. The 2026-2028 Executive Board stands ready to champion educational excellence, foster collaborative research, and train the next generation of Filipino librarians and information experts to excel on both the local and global stages.

"Serving as an officer of the PATLS requires a generous heart, a lot of patience, and innovation in what PATLS can become."

– Dean Rhea Rowena U. Apolinario,
UPSLIS Dean & 2014 PATLS President



“We Need to Double Time”: The President's Vision for 2026–2028



Prof. Joseph M. Yap

In a pragmatic yet rallying acceptance speech, the incoming PATLS President laid out a clear, action-oriented roadmap for the next two years. Acknowledging the weight of the tasks ahead, the President framed the upcoming term around the core mandates of the PATLS by-laws, challenging the association with three guiding questions: ***"Where are we heading now? What are our priorities? What should be done?"***

To answer this, the new administration outlined its primary pillars of action:

- **Grassroots Expansion:** Bringing LIS education directly to the barrios to increase awareness and accessibility at the community level.
- **Institutional Cooperation:** Fostering stronger ties between LIS schools through academic consortia, comprehensive curriculum reviews, and continuous dialogues on emerging industry trends.
- **Research & Member Empowerment:** Sustaining the LIS Research Summit, driving general publications, and actively providing scholarships and research grants for PATLS members.

Closing the address with a call for unity and hard work, the President left the incoming board and the general membership with a firm, inspiring directive:

"It seems we need to double time. It seems we need to do more. But with your help, we'll try our best to succeed in all our endeavors."

Founding President Receives Lifetime Achievement Award

In a deeply moving and historic moment, the **Philippine Association of Teachers of Library and Information Science (PATLS)** presented its highest honor, the Lifetime Achievement Award, to its Founding President, **Prof. Candida C. Agcaoili**.

The special presentation took place during the PATLS General Assembly on June 8, 2026. The award celebrates her decades of hard work, leadership, and passion for teaching, which have truly shaped the library and information science (LIS) profession in the Philippines.

As an outstanding teacher and mentor, Prof. Agcaoili has guided generations of Filipino librarians and information experts. She did not just help start PATLS; she also set the high standards that library schools and professionals follow today.

During the online ceremony, the association shared the meaningful tribute printed on her official certificate:

"Her dedication to teaching, professional service, and the advancement of LIS education has set a high standard for education and practice in the field."

The award is a token of gratitude from a community that continues to grow because of her early vision. For the members and new leaders of PATLS, the event was a powerful reminder of the strong foundation upon which the organization stands today.

As PATLS steps into the future, the association promises to keep building on the bright path that Prof. Agcaoili opened for everyone.

***Thank you, Prof. Agcaoili, for
your vision, your leadership,
and your lifelong service to
our community!***



PROF. CANDIDA C. AGCAOILI
PATLS FOUNDING PRESIDENT

Embracing the AI Revolution: PATLS 2026 General Assembly Kicks Off with Visionary Tech Webinar

Stepping boldly into the future of information management, the Philippine Association of Teachers of Library and Information Science (PATLS) officially commenced the first part of its General Assembly on June 8, 2026. The assembly opened with a highly anticipated and timely webinar titled **“Artificial Intelligence Applications in Philippine Libraries and LIS Education,”** tackling the technological wave reshaping the profession.

The session featured **Prof. Janny Surmieda**, who delivered a comprehensive guide to navigating the complexities and benefits of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in the local landscape.

Prof. Surmieda began the lecture by demystifying AI, establishing a foundational definition of the technology before mapping its diverse applications in both Philippine library operations and classroom instruction. From automated cataloging assistance to AI-driven research analytics, the presentation highlighted how these tools can streamline workflows and elevate the modern library ecosystem.

However, the discussion did not shy away from the complexities of the digital transition. A significant portion of the seminar was dedicated to the critical ethical considerations of AI usage, warning educators and practitioners about the challenges of data privacy, algorithmic bias, and intellectual property.

The core message of the seminar centered on a proactive call to action for academic leaders. Prof. Surmieda emphasized that for LIS schools to remain relevant, educators must position themselves at the vanguard of the AI revolution.

Rather than viewing AI with hesitation, Surmieda urged teachers to actively embrace and experiment with these tools in their current teaching methodologies.

The seminar concluded with a clear consensus: LIS educators must dive firsthand into AI applications to understand their intricate “ins and outs.” By doing so, they can effectively guide the next generation of Filipino librarians toward a technologically adept and ethically sound future.

The successful webinar sets a progressive tone for the rest of the PATLS General Assembly, proving that the association remains committed to driving innovation in Philippine library science education.

“We cannot fully teach these tools to our students if we haven't used them ourselves.”



Prof. Janny Surmieda

Shaping the Next Generation of Board-Ready Librarians: PATLS Rolls Out the 2026 LIS Enrichment Program

As part of its enduring commitment to professional excellence, the Philippine Association of Teachers of Library and Information Science, Inc. (PATLS) successfully launched its annual Library and Information Science (LIS) Enrichment Program this June. Serving as the cornerstone of PATLS' academic support initiatives for the first semester of 2026, this intensive review program is designed to fully equip the current batch of examinees for the upcoming Librarian Licensure Examination (LLE).

The program officially commenced on June 7, 2026, under the leadership of this year's Program Director, Asst. Prof. Dridge Paul Reyes. Running on weekends from June through August, the initiative bridges the gap between academic theory and board exam readiness.

To accommodate reviewees from across the regions, PATLS utilized a flexible, hybrid digital delivery system during this first phase. The program pairs online synchronous sessions with continuous asynchronous access via the Moodle Learning Management System (LMS). Through Moodle, participants can access comprehensive lecture notes, instructional materials, and practice quizzes at their own pace.

Furthermore, the integration of Program Forums has allowed reviewees to actively engage with lecturers, clear up complex topics, and build a supportive community with fellow takers during the high-pressure review season.

The first semester saw strong enrollment numbers, driven by competitive investment rates. Early career professionals and graduating students availed of the Early Bird Rate of Php 4,000 (for payments settled by May 1), while late registrants were accommodated at the Regular Rate of Php 5,000.

The first half of the program featured an elite lineup of LIS educators and practitioners covering foundational topics and core library management pillars.

As we transition into the second half of the year, the program shifts its focus toward advanced technical services—including descriptive cataloging, indexing, and reference services—culminating in two rigorous, simulated board exams in August.

To ensure the reviewees are peak-conditioned for the actual board environment, the program will conclude with two comprehensive Program Audits on August 1 and 2, 2026. These automated, timed diagnostic exams will be self-administered on Moodle, giving takers a realistic benchmark of their strengths and areas for final improvement.

The PATLS Board extends its deepest gratitude to our expert facilitators who have generously shared their expertise during the first semester, and we wish our 2026 reviewees the absolute best of luck as they head into the final leg of their board preparation!



**Philippine Association of
Teachers of Library and
Information Science**

2026 LIS ENRICHMENT PROGRAM

Date	Topic	Facilitator
June 7, 2026	Refresher Program Orientation Exam Preparation Strategies	Asst. Prof. Dridge Paul Reyes Frances Wayne Abad Katherine Bunao
June 13, 2026	Principles, Concepts, History, Laws and Legislations, Code of Ethics, and Trends in LIS	Asst. Prof. Elijah Dar Juan
June 14, 2026	Library Management (Principles and Theories)	Asst. Prof. Rhea Rowena Apolinario
June 20, 2026	Library Management (Academic) Library Management (Public)	Ma'am Rochelle Silverio
June 21, 2026	Library Management (School) Library Management (Special)	Asst. Prof. Dridge Paul Reyes Sir Mark James Cayabyab
June 27, 2026	Indexing and Abstracting	Asst. Prof. Janny Surmieda
June 28, 2026	Information Technology in LIS	Sir Carlo Zebedee Gualvez
July 4, 2026	Reference and Information Services	Asst. Prof. Elijah Dar Juan
July 5, 2026	Collection Management	Asst. Prof. Yhna Therese Santos
July 18, 2026	Descriptive Cataloging I	Asst. Prof. Mark Anthony Santos
July 19, 2026	Descriptive Cataloging II	Asst. Prof. Mark Anthony Santos
July 25, 2026	Subject Cataloging	Asst. Prof. Mark Anthony Santos
July 26, 2026	Preparing for Standardized Examinations	Asst. Prof. Yhna Therese Santos
Aug 1, 2026	Program Audit 1 Management Collection Management Indexing and Abstracting	Self-Administered via scheduled Moodle Platform
Aug 2, 2026	Program Audit 2 Reference and Information Services Cataloging and Classification Information Technology	Self-Administered via scheduled Moodle Platform



Charting the Future of LIS Education: PATLS Board Convenes First Face-to-Face Strategic Planning at UP Diliman

Transitioning from screen grids to shared physical space, the Executive Board of the Philippine Association of Teachers of Library and Information Science (PATLS) for the term 2026–2028 gathered for its first face-to-face Strategic Planning and Workshop

PATLS EB AT WORK: (L-R) Dridge Paul A. Reyes (Ex-Officio), Mark Anthony A. Santos (Secretary), Dr. Joseph M. Yap (President), Annacel B. Delima (Auditor), and Dr. Romel U. Rellon (Vice President) during the PATLS Executive Board 2026–2028 Strategic Planning and Workshop held on July 27–28, 2026, at UP Diliman.

on July 27–28, 2026, at the University of the Philippines Diliman.

After a series of initial virtual meetings, the two-day intensive workshop provided board members with a dedicated platform to brainstorm, align on organizational goals, and map the roadmap to elevate LIS education and professional practice across the country.

The strategic workshop focused on finalizing the organizational calendar and establishing ironclad execution plans for several flagship national initiatives. Key programs spearheaded by the board for the upcoming term include the **3rd LIS Research Summit, scheduled for November 23, 2026, at the University of Santo Tomas (UST), the LIS Wizard 2026, the 2nd LibRally, and the 1st LIS Hackathon.**

Leading the strategy sessions was Dr. Joseph M. Yap, PATLS President, alongside board members who brought their collective expertise and vision to the planning table:

- Dr. Romel U. Rellon, Vice President
- Mark Anthony A. Santos, Secretary
- Annacel B. Delima, Auditor
- Dridge Paul A. Reyes, Ex-Officio

Board members Priscilla S. Laurente (Treasurer) and Diane D. Bumatang (Public Relations Officer) were unable to attend the in-person workshop due to prior official work commitments, but sent their full support for the term's strategic direction.

With the strategic framework established, PATLS is set to launch a dynamic year of professional development, student competitions, and research dissemination. Official announcements, event registration guidelines, and call-for-papers will be released through PATLS communication channels in the coming weeks.

A New Era for PATLS: Executive Board Relaunches Official Website and Revives Historic Newsletter

A milestone chapter begins for the Philippine Association of Teachers of Library and Information Science (PATLS). In an ambitious move to strengthen connectivity, accessibility, and scholarship, the PATLS Executive Board has officially unveiled the association's relaunched website alongside the revival of the PATLS Newsletter.

Together, these digital channels re-establish a vital bridge for Library and Information Science (LIS) educators, researchers, and institutions across the nation.

Since its founding, PATLS has continually sought meaningful ways to unite LIS professionals. A major milestone in this journey took place in October 1976 with the publication of PATLS Newsletter, No. 1. Over the decades, the publication served as an invaluable record of academic growth, institutional milestones, and professional camaraderie.

While publication gaps occurred over time, the spirit of sharing knowledge never faded. Today, that legacy is restored and modernized to meet the needs of the 21st-century academic community.

This revitalized dual-launch marks a renewed commitment to institutional sustainability. The current Executive Board has spearheaded these initiatives

to ensure PATLS maintains a permanent, reliable presence for generations of educators to come.

GET INVOLVED!

A digital network is only as strong as the community behind it!

We invite all PATLS members, faculty, and partner institutions to **explore the new website**, download the latest issue of the newsletter, and contribute content for upcoming publications.

Visit the New Website:
<https://patls.org/>

Submit Your Articles & News!

We are actively accepting research highlights, institutional news, and faculty updates for our next newsletter issue.



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