



# UNIVERSITY of the CORDILLERAS

'All-In' for Learners and Learning

## Judiciary, Industry and State Luminaries Send Off the Class of 2013



### **Justice Marvic F. Leonen**

*Associate Justice  
Philippine Supreme Court*

Go forth, rebuild this world. Give us hope. Serve the people.

Justice Marvic F. Leonen focused the exultant graduates of Batch 2013 to this lofty mission. Speaking at the 67th Commencement Exercises of the University of the Cordilleras last May 9, the first genuine Baguio boy to the appointed to the Supreme Court exhorted his townmates to keep in mind the simplest rules of life: Do not cheat. Do not lie, Do not fail to build character.

Justice Leonen was known for his feisty crusade to expose judicial plagiarism. While being dean of the UP Law School, he and his entire faculty once bore the brunt of the ire of the Supreme Court, which demanded that he apologize for the embarrassment suffered by the High Tribunal because of his exposé. Standing his ground, he drew widespread support from the legal community and earned for himself the vindicating honor of ultimately being appointed to sit in the same Supreme Court that once tried to sanction him. He has never ceased to preach the virtues of professionalism and integrity since.

To the Law, Accountancy, Hospitality and Tourism Management, and Business Administration graduates, he reemphasized the same message. They have attained their degrees at a stiff price, he reminded them. Their parents exhausted their resources seeing them through school. Their school holds the banner high maintaining its storied place in various fields of academic excellence. Their society daily pays the cost of vesting upon them cultural dignity and self-identity.

In exchange, they cannot fail or come up short. As they go through life, they must not fear to ask probing questions, and live through the answers that they discover. This they must do not for themselves but for the holy grail of all professional exploits: to serve the people.

His message was received with raving applause from the graduates and their parents. The message rang true because of the high integrity of the messenger.



### **Engr. Norberto A. Viera**

*President and Managing Director  
Texas Instrument Philippines, Inc.*

Engr. Norberto Viera, the only Filipino President and Managing Director of Texas Instruments (TI), in his address to the 2013 graduates on May 10, encouraged the new professionals in the fields of Nursing, Engineering and Architecture, and Information Technology and Computer Sciences to have the right attitude as their foundation in building their own careers.

Through the challenges and hurdles TI has faced since its establishment in Baguio in 1976, Engr. Viera shared to the graduates the importance of perseverance, dedication and attitude; distinct and inherent qualities that make Filipinos the best workers.

"Get the best practice and improve on it," he adds setting the pioneering 585 employees of TI Baguio as an example. In spite of the many difficulties experi-

enced by TI Philippines; from the political instability during the People Power Revolution in 1986, to the 1990 Earthquake that cut the city short of water and power supply; and even the 1991 Mt. Pinatubo eruption that closed airports and hampered shipments, these 585 employees rallied to prove to the TI Corporate Center in Dallas, Texas that building a factory in the Philippines, particularly in Baguio City promises a good future.

TI is the world's largest supplier of Mixed Signal and Analog Integrated Circuit Products and has factories worldwide, including one in Loakan, Baguio City and another in Clark, Pampanga.

"The foundation is extremely important, that is why in TI we have this saying, 'Hire for attitude. It is all about attitude. It is all about values'."



### **Amb. Harry K. Thomas, Jr.**

*United States Ambassador to the Philippines*

United States Ambassador Harry K. Thomas, Jr. graced the commencement of the Colleges of Arts and Sciences, Teacher Education, Criminal Justice Education and the Graduate School in the afternoon of May 10, urging the graduates to do volunteer work and find ways to give back to their community, "whether it is to their family, to friends, or to the country" citing the Peace Corps and its volunteer Julia Campbell as the epitome of public service.

"The Peace Corps works in close cooperation

with local communities, with people such as yourselves to try to better this country, and Julia Campbell was one of those volunteers. She was dedicated to serve in the community, and Julia's life and works set an example for all of us. So let us honor her by finding different ways to volunteer in our own communities," Amb. Thomas said.

Quoting the famous US President John F. Kennedy in his inaugural speech, the Ambassador challenged the graduates and everyone in attendance: "Ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country."

# 67th Commencement Exercises

