STI College Olympians:
Big Finish in the Collegiate National Championship League

STI’s Own
Brand of Excellence

The STI Google
Digital Lifestyle

Be the Next
Budding Entrepreneur

Learning the
Art of Studying
Dear Readers,

If you’re having a hard time coping with your studies and don’t know how to improve your grades, then this is the right time for a big change. In this issue, we featured two of the brightest students who graduated last year. Let’s hear their stories and listen as they give some study pointers for their fellow students. Be inspired also with our dear alumni John Carlo Nova’s story as he shares how he started his own company and the risks he took to make it possible.

However, don’t tire yourself out simply by studying. You should also learn how to balance life and have some fun. This summer, go out and explore a whole new world with your camera. Take pictures and make special memories of your summer vacation. Or, you can enroll yourself in summer classes and make new friends. And if you prefer to make money instead, then join the bandwagon and try online selling!

There are a million things you can do to make your life more meaningful and successful. You just need to be creative and take some calculated risks.

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STI, the largest network of schools in the Philippines, raises the bar in providing equal opportunities in ICT-enhanced learning to Filipino students across the country. Just recently, DepEd Secretary Jesli Lapus together with Adopt-a-School Foundation and STI executives led by Monico V. Jacob and Eusebio H. Tanco formally unveiled the STI Mobile School 2 at the DepEd Complex in Pasig City.

The STI Mobile School 2 is the second installment of STI’s “Driving Education Where IT Matters” campaign. The new Mobile School is equipped with a state-of-the-art computer laboratory with internet access, 27 units of multimedia computers, LCD monitors, sound system, and other top-of-the-line computer equipment.

This project is fueled by the passion and perseverance of STI in finding better means to educate more students with pertinent ICT-enhanced training that will be valuable in pursuing higher education and employment.

The campaign also serves as a ‘helping hand’ to aid public schools in developing more ICT literate teachers who can further share the knowledge to students. Participants of the computer training inside the bus have the option to partake in a free and a more thorough session in the nearest STI schools in the area.

Mr. Jacob says STI is “very proud of the success of the first STI Mobile School.”

Beginning only in March 2007, the first STI Mobile School was already able to visit more than 71 sites in Luzon and trained more than 6,000 students. With the second STI Mobile School, STI will now be able to start its educational caravan in the Visayas and Mindanao region. STI also has expressed their commitment to further add more Mobile Schools to expand its reach in educating the Filipino youth.

For more info on STI mobile School, log on to www.stimobileschool.multiply.com
Christmas is an annual Christian festival commemorating the birth of Jesus. The cold breeze of the yuletide air, colorful Christmas lights, and children singing Christmas carols are the usual sceneries and indicators that it’s already Christmas. This is also the time of giving and sharing all the love and blessings we have for our fellow Filipinos especially those who are less fortunate.

In the celebration of the yuletide season, STI College–Novaliches, in cooperation with its different school organizations and other institutions came up with an outreach program last December 17, 2007 entitled “Pamaskong Regalo para sa mga Batang Kapamilya ng STI College–Novaliches.” The program aimed to give happiness and joy to the project’s beneficiaries, to promote the school’s social responsibilities, and to strengthen the relationship between the STI Alumni Association – Novaliches and the school organizations.

The project’s beneficiaries were the Tahanang Mapagpala, an orphanage for boys, and Tahanang Mapagkalinga, an orphanage for girls. These are organizations supported by the city government of Caloocan City that shelters orphans, street children, and abandoned children.

The faculty members together with all the clubs – STIAA Novaliches Chapter, @rtSTIc.com, ITS, Peer Counseling Group, YPC, CETO, Sports Club, e-FMS, and Math.exe – with their respective Club advisers and officers collected donations from different institutions, alumni, and students. Big donation boxes were placed at every corner of the campus so that students will be reminded of the big project, and that it is now their time to share the blessings they have. Everyday, these big donation boxes are filled with old toys, clothes, and other stuffs. This only shows that STIers really have the heart to help the less fortunate and are very cooperative when they are given the chance. They also collected old recyclable plastic bottles from the students. These plastic bottles in turn were sold to junk shops and the money collected was added to the previously collected donations.

Great efforts and encouragement from all the faculty members and staff motivated the students to give their best in this project. The different clubs have their assigned tasks in preparation for the charitable work. Some were preparing food for the kids; while others were wrapping and segregating the toys and clothes. Harmony and teamwork was seen during the preparation.

Before the program started last December 17, 2007, each kid was given a yellow STI shirt. The group brought little presents for the kids including old clothes, toys, books, and medicines. These stuffs were all donated by the STI students and the whole STI College–Novaliches family. Everyone likewise brought foods for the kids while the Sports Club was left in charge of the parlor games.

It was indeed a tiring day for all of the STIers but seeing the big and genuine smiles on the children’s innocent faces was enough to uplift their spirits. The children presented various dance numbers and a song number entitled “May Bukas Pa”. They were singing and at the same time interpreting their song with actions, which really touched the hearts of the people around. Some were teary-eyed and some were very glad to witness such a heartwarming presentation. At the end of the program, the administrators of the orphanage expressed their gratitude to the whole STI Family. The knowledge that we made the children happy was enough to assuage the thirst, hunger, and sweat that everyone went through in preparing for the said program.

The children’s smiles are the trophy which we will bring back to our school and will always remain in our memories. In our own little way, we have already given so much joy to our fellows. It’s very heartwarming. This kind of activity really shows how it is truly good to “Give than to Receive.”
Everyone has the power to develop oneself. STI only provides vast academic opportunities for the students but it’s up to the students to strive hard and make the best out of these opportunities.

One “super” student from STI College – Caloocan won in the 28th Super Quiz Bee – CAMANAVA Division held last October 20, 2007 at SM Valenzuela City. It was participated by 10 other schools from Caloocan, Malabon, Navotas, and Valenzuela. Jaypee Relleta, a BSCS junior, won 2nd runner-up in the college round with answers to challenging questions ranging from general information to international affairs.

Jaypee is one of the three-man team from Caloocan who won 2nd runner-up in the Tagisan ng Talino 2007 National Level. His coach Brandon Sibbaluca has expressed nothing but praises for this quiet and simple but tough guy from STI College–Caloocan.

ASPIRE AND SUCCEED!
Super STIler won the Super Quiz Bee

By: Anna Falculan, Faculty
STI College–Caloocan

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STI San Jose’s Student Council Shares Blessings to Disabled Children

By: Joshua P. Rarama
STI San Jose

The STI San Jose Supreme Student Council (SSSC) held its annual outreach program for disabled school children enrolled in the Special Education (SPED) program of the San Jose Central School last December 19, 2007.

Before this, the SSSC spearheaded a gift solicitation activity from the STI community which overwhelmed everyone as the gifts unexpectedly poured into the boxes.

The programs also served as an early Christmas Party for the children. Among the activities lined-up for them were: the feeding program, singing contest, fun games, the spelling bee, and the battle of the brains. The group was ably accommodated by the school’s principal Mrs. Floriana B. Sadian and assisted by SPED teacher Mrs. Marina Soliven, STI Career Adviser Mr. Enricao B. Loresco, SSSC Adviser Ms. Nympha M. Floresca, and STI faculty and staff – Mr. Francis Jorge R. Bondoc, Ms. Karenina B. Romualdo, and Mr. Fremjie Villuan.

Lending their big hands to this worthwhile cause are Chowking and CVC Supermarket. They gave various donations ranging from assorted groceries including milk and cereals, paraphernalia for the games, balloons, and many other gifts.

Among the disabled children who attended the program, two students stood out – Samuel, a hearing-impaired boy, who rendered a beautiful song, and Faith, a visually-impaired girl, who recited a poem to the delight of everybody present in the occasion.

The party ended with the awarding of the prizes to all the contest winners and the gift giving which was received with smiles and a lot of “thank you’s” from all the children and parents.

Through its Student Council, STI San Jose was able to send the message across to their fellow people that in spite of the children’s disabilities, they are still loved and very much accepted and appreciated by the society.

STIers in Gold Rush!

STI College–Balagtas swept the gold in the Filipino Cultural Events and Table Tennis Competition in the Bulacan Private Schools Association (BULPRISA) Provincial Meet in San Ildefonso, Bulacan last October 10-12, 2007.

Five students claimed victory in the cultural events: veteran elocutionist Antonio Canullas, a 4th yr. BSCS student, bagged the gold in “Talumpating Handa”; 2nd yr. BSBA coed Daisyrine Dolindo also won gold in “Tula”; Bella Alima of the Education Department added another gold in the pot in “Pagsulat ng Sanaysay”; Jomar Miras, who was adjudged Provincial Champion in PC Operations in the Skills Competition sponsored by TESDA, settled for silver in the Extemporaneous Speaking Competition; and Camille Rose Buenaventura got the 2nd runner-up slot in the Vocal Solo event.

In sports, the Table Tennis Team headed by Coach Joseph Dionisio dominated the Men’s Singles and Doubles category as they emerged champions. Our lone lady wood pusher, Jessica Pagatpatan, also won in the Women’s Chess Competition.

It was a tough tournament for STI as they faced formidable opponents from Baliuag University, Meycauayan Colleges, St. Joseph College, and Dr. Yangas College.

STI College–Balagtas has been actively participating in this tournament for three years now and this is their best showing so far.

Congratulations STIers for a job well done!
STI College–Santa Rosa successfully defended its title by winning the Private School Athletic Association Basketball Championship in the recently concluded tournament held at the Colegio de San Juan de Letran College gym last December 13 – 16, 2007. In addition, STI has completely dominated the tournament by winning all of its games against 11 of the top schools in Laguna including Colegio de San Juan de Letran, Lyceum, Laguna College of Business and Arts, San Pedro College of Business Administration, and Union College among others.

In the championship game, the STI team displayed the heart of a champion playing against the host school Letran and quickly raced to a 20-point lead in the 1st quarter en route to a rousing victory. As such, STI also won the privilege of representing Laguna in the regional competitions and will play against the champion schools of Batangas, Cavite, Rizal, and Quezon to be held in Batangas on February 1 – 3, 2007 this year.

STI College–Santa Rosa also showed excellent performance as they placed 1st runner-up in women’s volleyball, while the Badminton and Table Tennis teams won 2nd and 3rd places respectively.

STI’s Sports Coordinator Mike Fudotan attributes these successes to the sports development program that the school has effectively promoted to all the students. “We see that through sports, we are able to teach the values of discipline and teamwork among the students. Furthermore, the students realize that by hard work and dedication, we can achieve great feats”, he explained.

It has only been the second year since STI joined the league, but the students have already shown their determination and skills in sports as they bring home one glory after the other.

Three students from STI College–Balagtas made a name for themselves and their school as they won 2nd place in the Bulacan Provincial Governments Web Page Design Challenge. The competition was held last November 24, 2007 at the Bulacan Polytechnic College.

STI’s archival ACSAT edged out the BS Information Technology (BSIT) students Abel B. Tobiaso, Niño Rigor M. Litao, and Erickson Buenaflo by only one point. Third place went to the students of University of Regina Carmelli.

The theme for the competition was “Save Biak na Bato.” Students have to make a website that strongly rallies against the quarrying and forest denudation of the said historical site in San Miguel de Mayumo.

In an interview, Coach Jhun F. Castronero explained how they approached the competition, “our strategy was to develop a simple yet operational web page design.”

Other schools who participated were STI College–Malolos, STI College–Sta. Maria, Bulacan State University, and Baliuag University.

Being optimistic was one of the characteristics shown by Hospitality and Restaurant Services (HRS) student Ms. Ria Tecson as she paved her way to the gold medal in the Provincial Skills Competition (Food Processing Category) last September 14, 2007. The competition was held in Technical Education Skills Development Authority’s (TESDA) building in Guiguinto, Bulacan.

It was Ria’s first time to join such a prestigious competition so she was naturally nervous and excited at the same time. Nevertheless, Ria still managed to smile while traveling from Plaridel to Balagtas early in the morning to make her preparations even though she couldn’t help worrying about the competition. She and her coach Ms. Yolly Villarama only had a short amount of time to prepare for it while the other competitors have been practicing for months.

“I prepared and arranged all the necessary equipment and ingredients in my table before the competition started. We were given three hours to finish three recipes. Amidst the competition, I could hear some people say that my hands were obviously shaking and nervousness was written in my face. So I calmed down. I ignored all the distractions afterwards and just continued doing what my coach and I prepared for,” said Ria.

Ria’s positive attitude towards work plus her artistic ideas in cooking, and of course, the undying support from the School Administration were the things that made her bring home the bacon and a buena mano champion for the STI College - Malolos.

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STI College—Malolos
Forges the Way to
Call Center Excellence

We may have heard of the various English Speaking campaigns that are being implemented by a lot of colleges and universities, all for the purpose of improving the English proficiency skills of their students. Here in STI College—Malolos, we have our own style that comes with a practical touch.

The Call Center Fever, as our campaign is called, started last September 2007 under the directions of Ms. Jodie Dionisio, Academic Head. Mechanics include the use of the English language as a medium of instruction and conversation during Mondays and Tuesdays.

Initially, the Speech Advisers are assigned to the different sections/groups. On Wednesdays, the Speech Advisers will endorse two students from their group to undergo the interview session. These students will pick two questions which they will have to answer during their mock job interview sessions. They may ask for their Speech Advisers’ assistance when it comes to grammar and pronunciation; however, the content should be formulated by the interviewees. The interviewees will then be scheduled for “job interviews” with Ms. Jodie where they are required to attend in corporate attire. During the interview, follow-up questions are to be expected. After the Q&A session, the interviewer will critique the student based on the 3 A’s (Answers, Attitude, and Attire). Tips on handling actual job interviews will also be given to assist our graduating students.

So for this semester, on top of our numerous activities, the Call Center Fever will be up once again. Let the fever begin!

STI College—Balagtas
Soars High at 10!

STI College–Balagtas is an institution of humble beginnings. It was first established in 1997 as a Training Center offering Computer Programming Courses under the Technical Education Skills Development Authority (TESDA).

With literally four rooms and 40 computer units to start with, over 300 students ran to its arms in its initial year. A record modestly attributed to the center’s vision and dreams. Slowly, the school spread its wings through the stewardship of Mr. Kerwin C. Kaw and Mrs. Millie S. Kaw, the school’s President and Administrator respectively. Together with loyal pioneers Jessie P. Cagulada, Maricel B. Eugenio, and Feliciano T. Montemayor, they have endured years of trials and transformation.

STI College–Balagtas is now celebrating its 10th year of existence. With its new building, modern facilities, diversified courses (Information Communication Technology, Engineering, Healthcare, Business and Education) and the dictum, “A school where no one is a stranger,” it has now emerged as one of the leaders of the STI Education network.

“TENK U!” – the pledge of returning the blessings to the people who are behind the school’s success started with a medical mission in partnership with the Filipino-Chinese community during the beginning of the school year. The project extended help to over 1,000 patients within the Balagtas area.

Expect more surprises to come as STI College – Balagtas celebrates this epochal moment.

Romnick Pabalate
Brings Home More Glory to STI!

By: Karen Precious La Rosa
Communications & Media Relations Officer, STI HQ.

STI College–Edsa-Crossing’s very own Muay Thai champ Romnick Pabalate once again brought home pride and joy to the Philippines and the whole STI community. Romnick took home the bronze medal during the 2007 Southeast Asian (SEA) Games Men’s 48kg. Light Flyweight Division held in Thailand.

As soon as he got back to the Philippines, Romnick made a courtesy visit to STI HQ to meet with the executives led by CEO & President, Mr. Monico V. Jacob.

Romnick can be remembered to have also bagged the gold medal during the Asian Muay Thai Championships held in India before the SEA Games. He remains to be a diligent student of STI College–Edsa-Crossing.

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This was the winning entry in the 2007 Tagisan ng Talino’s Essay Does It? Competition.

To look at things for what they really are, one has to have a large dose of impartiality and broadmindedness; to hold these two virtues to heart is to uphold the integrity in which unbiased critics are honorably sustained. To speak of a nation’s current state, and to expect it from a member of the youth sector, requires these two – and more.

Hope... will remain intangible for those determined not to seek it.

One can look at the state of the nation with jaded eyes, and see nothing but dissent and narrow-minded partisan thinking on all sides. To see the world through the kaleidoscopic glasses of pessimism and doubt leads to self-destruction. Hope, that elusive flame which uplifts anyone who finds it, will remain intangible for those determined not to seek it. Only those who are willing to put down all pretenses of that so-called “modern sophistication” can finally see past the warped reality we have constructed for ourselves and perceive things for what they really are.

We might say that our nation is a lost cause. We might say that to muster the stupendous effort required to bring about tangible change is effort thrown down the drain. We might say a lot of things that reflect the poor outlook that we have for our country but that is only one side of the coin.

I do not seek to pile prejudice against the institutions that deliver to us the happenings around the country.

The newspapers do their jobs well. They deliver the news as they really are: hard, straight, sometimes compromising and often inflammatory. The people read the news and build their opinions upon them. News – and opinions – that are, sadly, often misconstrued.

Increased rebellious activity. Skyrocketing prices and the wildly conflicting international prices of basic commodities. Politicizing and ‘dignified’ bickering by senators and congressmen. Wasted taxes, the incompetent justice system, the deteriorating quality of laws passed and the inability to enforce and implement them, broken promises and pledges. These are the stuff that news are made of. These are the things that people read everyday, the things that they build their fragile opinions from. The foundation from which the collective national pride and hope are based on what the masses hear, read, and see each day has been evaluated and found wanting. Why, you might ask?

These things make the news because they are exceptional. To read only about the things that are deemed to be far removed from the mundane realities of life is to deliberately see things in their worst light. I do not seek to pile prejudice against the institutions that deliver to us the happenings around the country (and ultimately the world); I only wish to warn against possible risk of formulating your entire outlook based on those things that are considered exceptional, out of the ordinary.

But, as I said before, one cannot formulate a sound opinion based on a few select excerpts. One cannot say, “This is what’s become of our country!” just because we have seen the dark side of things. A mixture of both the good and the bad is required to accurately represent our status, and to ensure that our judgment does not suffer from prejudicial thinking.

They have the same soul, the same ideals, and the same sense of national pride.

We can – and should! – look beyond the extraordinary and see the little acts that still give out that sublime light of hope, no matter how feeble. Those unlettered workers who are constantly besieged by ridicule and contempt from the educated people, yet are the ones who actually build the infrastructures that the latter enjoy; those teachers who slave over low salaries and nonconducive conditions just to instill in the right values and good education in the Filipino children; the professionals who have the guts and determination to leave the country, and brave a new and unfamiliar world just to give their families a better chance for a better future; those great statesmen (not the trapos, or traditional politicians) who work behind the media fanfare, and do not seek to have the spotlight constantly over them yet manage to deliver what they have promised; those lowly government workers who strive hard to operate honestly and to give a semblance of reliability for the entrenched democratic institution that we call our government; heck, even the average, ordinary Filipino who momentarily abstains from the fast flow of modern life to do some random act of kindness. These are the people who constitute the second part of the whole, those who do not get their names in the newspapers and on television. They have the same soul, the same ideals, and the same sense of national pride. They are also one of us, and to leave them out of one’s reckoning is to commit a grave offense.

This is why I wonder why people always insist on upholding this gloomy, decadent perspective of our nation. Is there any good, logical reason why they do this? Do they have this twisted sense of masochistic pleasure which they derive from bemoaning our problem?

This, precisely, is the core of all human suffering; or, to localize it, the core of all Filipino suffering. This sense of passive hopelessness is the parasite that we need to vanquish, to forcefully remove from our society so that we can finally move on and transcend to a new and higher level of socio-political and economic consciousness. They say that empty cans make the loudest noises; hence, those people whose minds have been hollowed out by negative ideals and perverted pleasures that get satisfied from wallowing in other’s despair and misery are most often the harshest critics of our time. They are the ones who persist in looking at the world through the glasses the devil himself has prepared, and the ones who truly, faithfully believe that what they see is the absolute truth. Hopefully, the situation has not deteriorated to the point that most of our impressionable young minds have succumbed to this appalling way of thinking.

In the end, does a mere one-thousand word essay justify the entire width and scope of that majestic thing that we call our country? Of course, the answer is always a resounding “no”. When all things are said and done, a single man’s opinion on what the nation really is today can hardly be called in to represent an entire nation’s outlook. Ultimately, one man cannot substantiate an attitude that requires the entire nation’s input.

Because, when all the vast variables have been accounted for, and all things have been considered at least thrice, only the nation can truly give the genuine state of the nation, and no one else.
The STI Google Digital Lifestyle

I’m sure everyone, if not most, has heard of Google by now. Google is probably one of the most popular names in the internet and has added so many products in recent years that eventually coined the term, “google digital lifestyle.”

By: Jennymarie Dy
Associate Editor

Google recently teamed up with STI to further strengthen their campaign. The partnership includes providing all STI students with personal emails in which their school’s area will be the domain name. The next phase will rely on all the students embracing the Google lifestyle by making it a part of their daily grind. All STI students have already been registered and Google have provided each student with their own email – firstnamelastname@area.sti.edu.

For example:
Student Name: Juan dela Cruz
School: STI College - Balagtas
E-mail Address: juandelacruz@balagtas.sti.edu
Default Password: Juan dela Cruz’s student number

All the students have to do is follow the steps below:

1. Log on to http://mail.google.com/a/schoolarea.sti.edu for your school’s email address page.
2. Then log on your login name and password (if you’re experiencing some problems, ask your school administrator for assistance).
3. Once you have logged in, you can create a new password and get started with your new account.
4. You can start with some of our recommended Google applications: Picasa, YouTube, Blogger, G-Talk, and Start Page.
5. You can also create other integrated applications from other Google products.

With just a few simple steps, you can now have a Google Digital Lifestyle! This lifestyle of an STIer will include emailing friends, creating calendar entries by posting forthcoming events such as exams and other important dates, logging in your personal opinion and thoughts on various matters with your blog, posting your pictures through your own picasa website, getting in touch with your friends real time through G-Talk, sharing documents through Google Docs, sharing YouTube videos, and many more. Here are brief descriptions of some of the special features of Google:

**Google Calendar**

With Google Calendar, sharing events and meetings with others is simple. You can coordinate schedules with people in several ways like, sending out meeting and event invitations, and tracking people’s responses whether or not they use Google Calendar, or create a shared calendar for your organization, team or group that everyone can view and edit.

Google Calendar also lets you add new events to your calendar by just typing a short description of the event in plain language, and then it will figure out what you mean and add the appointment to your agenda right away.

**Google Docs**

What is Google Docs?
It is an application that includes Word documents, Spreadsheets, and PowerPoint presentations. You can easily create basic documents, sort columns, add tables, images, comments, formulas, and more. At the same time, you can also upload your existing files so long as it is in DOC, XLS, ODT, ODS, RTF, CSV, PPT, etc. formats. With this application, editing is now a breeze.

In addition, you can also choose who can access your documents. Just enter the email addresses of the people with whom you want to share your document and send them an invitation. A lot of people can view and make changes in the shared document at the same time. An on-screen chat window for spreadsheets and document revisions will show you exactly who changed what and when.

**Google Notebook**

Planning a trip? With Google Notebook, you can browse, clip, and organize information from across the web in a single online location that’s accessible from any computer. You won’t ever have to leave your browser window. Just add the clippings to your notebook.

Google Notebook is an interactive scratch pad for any visited web pages, offering to collect web findings within the browser window. This personal browser tool permits a user to write notes, and to clip text, images, and links from pages during browsing. These are then saved to an “online” notebook with sharing and collaboration features.

A few years from now, the Google Digital Lifestyle will define every STIer in the community as they try to impress their potential employer with their technology know-how in their resume. So, what are you waiting for? Join us now in cyber space and be part of the STI Google Lifestyle!
Year after year, STI is faced with a monumental task – to make each National Youth Convention (NYC) better than the previous one. With this in mind, STI goes back to its core mission of bringing the best ICT and ICT-enhanced education to their students.

In this year’s 13th NYC theme, STIer: A Brand of Excellence, STI reaffirms their commitment to provide their students with world-class education and produce globally competitive graduates.

Like in the previous years, the group traveled for four months starting last November 29, 2007 and ended last February 8, 2008. They went as far as Baguio, Cebu, Bacolod, Kalibo, General Santos, Cagayan de Oro, and Ormoc before culminating in a 2-day event here in Metro Manila.

Students eagerly went to the different venues to listen to engaging workshops focusing on technology, entrepreneurship, and personality development. They also avidly listened to the underlying message of the NYC theme – for them to stand tall, be confident in their abilities, and be proud of being an STIer!
Learning the Art of Studying

Camille Ruiz has always been an honor student ever since she was in elementary school. When she stepped foot in college, her drive to succeed further intensified and she pushed herself more. Her hard work had paid off. She graduated Magna Cum Laude of batch 2006-2007.

Camille shared that their family’s lack of finances motivated her to excel in college and simply utilize all the blessings and talents that God has given her. Their family used to run a small business as beer and soft drinks dealers. Due to financial problems however, they had to close down their business. But this didn’t deter her from continuing to dream and work towards her goal.

“I’m just like the other students. I’m not a genius. I don’t have a superior IQ. It’s just that I always give my best in everything I do.”

Being a consistent dean’s lister likewise didn’t stop her from enjoying the college life. She balances her life well. When she’s not studying, she spends her time hanging out with her classmates. “I’m just like the other students. I’m not a genius. I don’t have a superior IQ. It’s just that I always give my best in everything I do,” Camille quickly pointed out.

The only difficulty Camille encountered was the constant pressure everyone has on her to always excel, “It’s like you have to be prepared and responsible all the time. Almost everyone looks up to you as their role model.”

Delivering the valedictory speech, however, in front of her instructors and classmates made up for it. “That was the most amazing and memorable thing that happened to me.

Have you ever dreamed of seeing your name get posted on the board and be part of your school’s elite dean’s listers circle? Well then, dream no more. It’s time to take action. You don’t have to be a genius to be able to do so. All you need is discipline and of course, the right motivation.

By: Jennymarie Dy
Associate Editor

Grab your pen and paper, and quickly answer some questions that are sure to tickle your fancy!

1. What are the top 3 must-go places and must-do activities for you this summer?
2. The most daring thing I did last summer was _________.
3. My favorite summer treat (food) is _________.
4. My all-time favorite summer movie is _________.
5. My must-read STIMULI section is _________.

Cover Story
in college,” Camille fondly shared. When asked what her study routine was like, Camille revealed that time management is the key. One should learn the art of balancing their extra-curricular activities with academics. As the saying goes, “A balanced life is a healthy life.” Likewise, whenever Camille learns new things, she usually recites it in her mind before she sleeps or while walking, and always puts whatever she has learned into practice.

She quickly shares how she prepares for exams:

- When you learn something new, remember it and find time to recall them at the end of the day.
- Always jot down important details during class discussions. Be attentive. You may encounter a question that you can’t find on your books or modules so it’s best if you do a little note taking.
- However, don’t just stick to your notes alone. You should also go to the library during your spare time and read other books related to the topic.
- Pray. Studying alone won’t do.

Applying the Lessons in Real Life

Although Dandoneal Mendoza didn’t show any inclinations of being a student leader during his elementary days, all these changed when he reached high school. He was a consistent honor student and also graduated as class Valedictorian.

“I also think that having good scholastic records and graduating with flying colors will help me land a decent job afterwards.”

Dan shared that being an honor student had its perks. He was able to get scholarships grants which tremendously helped his parents. And this motivated him greatly since his parents didn’t have to worry anymore about shelling out a lot of money for his education. “I also think that having good scholastic records and graduating with flying colors will help me land a decent job afterwards,” explained Dan.

Dan described himself as a typical student who studies and hangs out with friends, except for some differences, such as more work loads tend to fall on his shoulders, he almost always gets appointed as leader, and most of his classmates depended on him on certain things.

He also shared that, in all honesty, he didn’t do much studying at home. He simply listened well during lectures so he was able to easily grasp the things their instructor taught them. He was never embarrassed to ask things that he didn’t understand. And, the most important thing was he adopted it in real life. In that way, the lesson usually stayed in his mind.

And whenever there are exams, he just wrote down all the important things – just the words and not the explanations. Then, he’ll try to recite or explain their meanings one by one.

Now that you have read what they have to say, why don’t you give it a try too? As cliché as this may sound, you can certainly do anything so long as you believe in yourself.

And to add spice to your seemingly mundane daily routine, why don’t you bring out your hidden creative writing skills? Share with us your most memorable summer vacation story with your barkada and get your story published. This contest is open to all STI students, and the winning entry will be featured in the following issues of the STIMULI.

Email your answers and stories to stimuli@sthiq.net or send it to the STIMULI Editorial Team at 5/F, Philfirst Bldg., 6764 Ayala Ave., Makati City and see them published in the next issue of the STIMULI!
Each year, more and more start-up IT companies are being set up by the Filipino technopreneurs to meet the increasing demand of both foreign and local industries for information technology services. Among such start-ups is Victa Software Solutions, which was established by John Carlo Nova in Olongapo City in 2006.

After Nova earned a diploma in Cyber Programming in 2002 from STI, he first worked with several IT companies for almost four years, taught in a local computer college, and went freelance for sometime. He then went to pursue a degree in Computer Science from another school in Libis, Quezon City. When he graduated in 2006, he decided to go on his own and put up his own software development company.

Nova, now 25, says that what made him decide to take the entrepreneurship route was an advice given by his namesake, businessman John Gokongwei, Jr. in the latter’s book, The Path of Entrepreneurship. Gokongwei, one of Asia’s foremost rags-to-riches taipans, was hailed by Forbes Magazine as the 34th richest man in Southeast Asia in 2005. “I was so inspired by Mr. Gokongwei’s advice on how you can create value as an entrepreneur and have the opportunity to be your best self as well,” Nova recalls.

Victa Software Solutions, of which Nova is CEO, is made up of a team of highly motivated people coming from various IT backgrounds. Its Vice President for Operations is Marcus Reyes, a 32-year-old Project Manager who introduced service outsourcing and government project contracting to the company. The company has a couple of marketing staff and maintains some IT consultants and a pool of software developers from Comteq College.

Nova’s initial investment for setting up Victa totaled around P100,000. Nova borrowed this amount from his supportive mother to cover costs for office computers, supplies, Internet connection, a phone line, a fax machine, office rent, and the necessary business permits. The incoming projects would soon cover the salary of developers and other staff.

Among Victa’s core competencies are systems development, web development, database management, IT consultancy, and multimedia development.

The company services both small and large businesses alike and prides itself in being able to offer better, more cost-efficient services than those normally provided by the market. “We work harder and aim to do better than our competitors because we know that our success depends on our clients’ success,” Nova says.

Meeting with clients kicks off Nova’s daily routine. Instead of sending staff or emissaries, he makes it a point to meet with the company’s clients personally to discuss their requirements. Only then would he meet with his team back at the office to discuss daily project updates. Very often, the Victa team usually works literally beyond the confines of their office cubicles. Says Nova: “We work while walking around the block, while eating, and even when we are taking a bath. Our thinking never sleeps because people in the industry always need to be creative and imaginative 24/7.”

This, Nova points out, is the kind of commitment that most IT clients expect from their IT solutions provider.

Victa used to focus mainly on doing short-term projects. Eventually, however, the company went into service outsourcing for big government projects and decided to integrate service outsourcing into its own build-own-operate (BOO) business model. BOO is a low-cost strategy wherein a client company outsources an in-house software project to a private contractor. The private contractor then develops the software, initially runs and manages the application, and trains the in-house IT staff of the client company so they can eventually operate the application on their own.

Nova is a hands-on manager who is not averse to performing line functions and even manual tasks himself. “I am involved in almost every aspect of software development – from analysis and engineering through programming,” he says.

Like more young IT businessmen today, Nova and Reyes are supporters of the open-source software movement. “In an open-source community, we can use our collective knowledge to develop even better and more innovative IT solutions for our clients – something that we can’t do with proprietary software.”
How does a team miss six free throws in overtime but still win the game by six points? The STI College Olympians know the answer as they ended their debut performance in the Collegiate National Championship League on a high note and upset the 2006 UAAP Champion University of Santo Tomas Growling Tigers.

Haddi Porto sank a three pointer with 6 seconds remaining in the last quarter to tie the count at 73-all as the Olympians caught up on the Tigers who got shocked with that basket. Porto is no stranger to big games as he carried the Olympians in Game 1 of the NAASCU Championship. In the overtime, Porto started the Olympians’ run of three consecutive three pointers by sinking another triple which was followed by Micutuan and Balneg’s triples as against Jervy Cruz’s lone basket. That gave the Olympians an 82-75 lead that they never relinquished to serve notice to the Philippines that their 77-72 conquest of 2005 UAAP Champion FEU Tamaraws was no fluke.

Beating two big universities known for their superb basketball programs showed that the Olympians indeed belong to the elite class of 2007. This unique group has proven that with perseverance and determination, they can show that they can also beat the best of the UAAP.

The overtime was an all STI show as the Olympians got the ball at least three times in the last two minutes while both teams struggled with their offense after the Olympians’ three triples. The Cinderella finish of the Olympians can be written as one of the biggest turn-arounds in college basketball, a case of David slaying Goliath. Beating FEU and UST in the same tournament shows that the style of play of the Olympians is at par with the best of the UAAP.

Winning 2nd runner-up in the said league is already a welcome achievement for the Olympians as they became the first NAASCU team to rank this high in this prestigious national tournament.
Looking for something to do this summer that is very fulfilling and worthwhile? Why don't you start your small empire through the newest trend in the country today – online selling!

A lot of budding entrepreneurs, resellers, and wholesalers of all ages from students, young professionals to housewives are hooked in this new shopping Mecca.

HOW TO GET STARTED

What do I want to sell?
Foremost, know what you want to sell or produce. Do you know how to make beaded jewelry? Do you know any bag manufacturer willing to give you special rates as a reseller? Can you bake yummy goodies like cakes and cookies?

Know your forte and with that come up with a working capital fit for a budding entrepreneur like you.

Helpful tip: Round up some of your friends so you can cut the cost, labor, and likewise share a very fun and healthy experience that will liven up your friendship! Make sure you choose friends whom you really trust though, to avoid arguments and conflicts that might affect your relationship.

Where will I sell my stuff?
Popular nowadays are online websites, networks, and forums. The nice thing about doing online selling is the fact that you don't have to shell out your savings for rent space.

Most online sellers, especially the beginners, opt to sell via multiply.com, sulit.com.ph, and ebay.ph. Truth is, there are a lot of websites and forums to choose from! You can even create your very own website and avail of free web hosting services in the internet.

Helpful tip: Always be on guard! Although selling online saves a lot of money and time, it is also risky especially with “scammers” on the prowl.

Scammers are considered in the online selling community as fake sellers who will not deliver your items upon payment or fake customers who will order items without paying for it.

It is helpful to check the profile of the buyer/seller and you can also rely other sellers/buyers’ experience since most of them post a scammers list in their blogs to help other sellers.

Where do I begin?
The best way to have your business up and running is to tell all your friends about it! It is also helpful to post announcements in forums and shopping websites like shopcrazy.com or stealthatlook.com.

Helpful tip: It will be a good idea to know about shipping and courier services that will be helpful to your business. While most online sellers choose to set scheduled meet-ups in designated areas to ensure payment and scheduled delivery, some customers may be too far from your location.

If you are within Metro Manila and you have customers that are also within the Metro, try out the services of Xend. For other areas, you can inquire in an LBC or Air 21 station near you.

What if no one buys my stuff online?
This is something that is unavoidable for some sellers, and the key to this is really very simple, have a summer GARAGE SALE!

Set up a small table outside your house and put up small announcements around the block. You can do a roving garage sale too, and ask your friends to host your garage sale. After two or three garage sales, you have better chances of selling all your items and gaining a very extraordinary summer experience shared with your friends!

***

There is no fixed formula in having a successful online business. It really is a matter of chance, hard work, dedication, and a test of your patience. Try out a small venture this summer and once you get the knack of it, you can invest more and more until you’ve created your very own little enterprise!

Just remember that every journey begins with one small step!
Summer classes are often regarded as boring sessions that “un-cool” students attend during their vacation because they do not have friends to spend recreational activities with. But truth be told, taking summer classes are really fun and very educational as well!

Round up your pals and enroll in workshops this summer as a group. This promises a great learning experience and a high possibility of meeting new friends that can extend your barkada!

By: Karen Precious La Rosa
Communications & Media Relations Officer, STI HQ

Summer Satisfaction Guaranteed

No matter what program you take, even if you take it alone or with friends, taking summer workshops will prove to be a very healthy and wealthy experience for you. Take the road to entertainment and learning, inquire today, and rest assured that your summer will be perfectly planned this year.

Performing Arts & Personality Enhancement Programs

Now for the more “dramatic” and well-rounded ones, taking performing arts and personality enhancement courses will definitely give your summer a big boost.

Learn the correct posture, proper etiquette, or go for the stage and learn the art of performing. These programs will set the creative being inside of you free!

No matter what program you take, even if you take it alone or with friends, taking summer workshops will prove to be a very healthy and wealthy experience for you. Take the road to entertainment and learning, inquire today, and rest assured that your summer will be perfectly planned this year.

Baking or Cooking Lessons

The old cliché goes that “the way to a man’s heart is through his stomach,” well, this should be changed i guess to a more appropriate quote – the way to ANYONE’S heart is through the stomach!

Taking baking or cooking lessons is a fun and very functional treat! Imagine giving your mom a cake for Mother’s Day or cooking a great pot roast for your dad’s birthday. It saves a lot of money and the effort adds a lot of advantage for you. Remember, it’s the thought that counts!

You can also eventually turn this experience into a small money-making venture. You can host bake sales, or join bazaars by selling cookies, cakes, and other pastries, even set lunches and meriendas! Turn your hobby into a business and you’ll never go wrong.

Dancing Lessons

Dancing is said to be the expression of the soul. Taking dance classes is fun! Some people take it to lose weight, to learn to be graceful, to meet new friends, or just plainly have fun!

Others though are also known to take dance lessons for future “monetary gains.” Some dance students take all levels of dancing classes to be able to teach dancing to kids in the future.

The fun part of taking dancing classes is choosing which genre fits you. There’s a wide roster of dance summer workshops out there! Go for a more sophisticated ballet class, or a more upbeat hip hop and breakdance sessions, or the very graceful jazz dance. Go extreme and take belly dancing or Flamenco classes!

Swimming Lessons

It is true that it is never too late to learn how to swim or possibly even scuba dive! Taking swimming lessons will help you feel relaxed and composed during cruises or even short ferry rides. No more panicking while imagining the fate of Jack and Rose when good ol’ Titanic sank.

Learning how to swim also broadens your beach experience! Gone will be the days where you just strut down the sands while waving to your friends who are enjoying the cool ocean. Now you can look good in your swimming gear while actually SWIMMING!

Art Classes

The more artistic bunch who loves to draw, paint, color, or do handicrafts will find that there is a lot of science behind the art. Taking art classes will not hinder your creativity, in fact, it will even broaden it.

Learn the right strokes, the correct patterns, and you’ll surely go a long, long way! Making small art trinkets are also good for gift-giving or just sprucing up your household and rooms whenever and however you like.

Sports Clinic

You want to improve on your basketball game and be the next Michael Jordan? Or you want to learn how to serve powerful aces just like tennis superstar Roger Federer? Then enroll yourself in a sports clinic. You can learn other sports too such as volleyball, badminton, bowling, soccer, and more.

This summer, look out for advertisements for the nearest sports clinic and learn while having fun. Who knows, you might be the next basketball star!

Gone are the days where you just sit in a bench while watching your friends play volleyball in the court. Now, you can have fun playing with them!

Special Feature
You don’t have to be a professional photographer or have an expensive camera with lots of equipment to take wonderful photos. All you need is an eye for details and of course, a camera — any kind of camera will do. Here are some tips on how you can improve your photography skills without buying a new camera or equipment:

1. **Hold the camera steady.** It’s good if you have a tripod. If not, then simply brace the camera or your elbows on something solid, such as a chair or table, and hold your breath for a moment when you take the photo.

2. **Make sure the lens is clear of caps, thumbs, straps, and other obstructions.** It’s a simple thing really and very basic too but it can completely ruin a photograph. And sometimes, we do tend to forget and overlook the simplest things.

3. **Learn the limits and features of your camera.** How close a photo can you take without it being blurry? Can it handle motion well? Do you know how to focus? Can you adjust the exposure?

4. **Make the picture tell a story or raise a question.**

5. **Fill the frame with your subject.** Don’t be afraid to get closer to your subject.

6. **Don’t forget to use the Rule of Thirds, where the subject takes up one third of the shot either the left or right.**

7. **Get rid of distracting backgrounds.**

8. **Instead of shooting the object regularly, try an ‘above looking down’ angle.**

9. **Don’t waste time taking pictures of stuff that doesn’t really matter (like, people blowing their nose, etc.) or you might not have any film left when an awesome photo opportunity comes along (unless you have your digital camera). Make sure your pictures are worthwhile. If you’re using a digital camera, download the photos periodically so you will have enough space left.**

10. **Practice.** Especially with digital cameras, there’s no reason not to take several shots of one subject, then delete the ones that didn’t turn out well. As you go on, you will notice what worked well and what did not.

11. **Edit.** This is even easier with digital photos. Adjust the color and brightness so that the shot looks clear and natural. Crop out excess background, leaving only the subject and enough surroundings to give some context. Correct red-eye and other mishaps.

This year, make your summer vacation extra special and memorable by taking great photographs of the people you meet, the things you’ll do, and places you’ll visit with your family and friends!

By: Jennymarie Dy
Associate Editor
Now that you know the basics, why don’t you also try out other photography techniques to take even more amazing photos?

Do you ever look up at the sky, a towering office building, or an expansive landscape and wish your photos could capture everything you can see with your eyes? You can do this by creating a panography – taking dozens of photos of a scene and assembling images that represent what your eyes see. Here’s how:

1. Go out into the world and find something interesting to shoot. Pick your point of view, making sure you can see everything you want to shoot without moving from your position.

2. Manually set the white balance, focus, f-stop, and shutter speed on your camera. This ensures that your photos aren’t all differently exposed. If you want your panography to consist of many individual photos, zoom in a bit. If it’s your first try, you may want to zoom out so you’ll have fewer shots to assemble.

3. Point and shoot. Don’t move from your position, but do move your lens in all directions. Try fitting your camera to different angles to soften the straight panorama look. Keep in mind that the more your shots overlap, the easier it will be to assemble your panography later.

4. Make sure you cover every spot with at least one picture. We tend to only photograph the interesting spots, like lines and busy areas, and oftentimes forget to get the plain areas. Leave a shot out and you’ll be left with a hole in your final piece with no way to fill it!

5. Unload your camera and, using Photoshop, resize your photographs (try width or height of 800 pixels). It’s tedious to do this manually for each photo; so to expedite the process, record the resizing and saving of one photo as a new Photoshop Action. Then go to File > Automate > Batch to select the new action and apply it to your entire folder of panography photos. This is also where you can select photomerge and have Photoshop do all the work.

6. Create a fairly large new RGB canvas to work on. If it turns out the canvas is too small, you can always add some space later (Image > Canvas). Copy the new 800px versions of your images into your canvas – 5 to 10 images at a time ought to be manageable.

7. Set the opacity of each photo to about 50%. Using the Transform function (Ctrl/Apple+T), start rotating each photo to fit the ones next to it. Be careful to make sure you’re rotating (you should see a curved arrow tool when you’re near a corner) and not skewing the photographs. Now go photo by photo and assemble your panography like a puzzle. It will take a while to get it right, so be sure to save your work as you go along.

8. When you’re finished assembling the photos together, make final color, contrast, and levels adjustments. Go to the layer palette and add a new adjustment layer of any kind by clicking the round black/white symbol.

9. To share your panography or post it online, just combine all the layers (Shift+Ctrl/Apple+E), and resize your image. Be sure to save this file separately instead of overwriting the original, which you’ll want to keep in case you want to make changes later.

So, go out and take lots of good pictures to remind you of a wonderful summer vacation you just had!

Source: http://www.wikihow.com

STI, the largest network of schools in the Philippines, recently held the ground breaking ceremonies of the STI Academic Center at Bonifacio, Global City last January 17, 2008.

Led by STI President and CEO Monico V. Jacob and STI Executive Committee Chairman Eusebio H. Tanco, STI officials and students were present at the site during the formal ceremonies.

Jacob expresses that this new facility of STI “is the perfect emblem of our 25th anniversary as a pioneering educational institution.” He goes on to say that, “STI is honored to be able to educate thousands of well-rounded students with the best quality of ICT-enhanced learning in a world-class education establishment.”

The STI Academic Center is a 2,632-square-meter property leased to STI by the Bases Conversion Development Authority (BCDA) for 25 years. The eight-story STI Academic Center will house a research and development center, amphitheater, state-of-the-art gymnasium, and highly advanced information technology, healthcare, business, and hotel and restaurant management facilities for students.
Ang Wakas
Ni: Jed Revirts, Alumni
STI Tacurong
Di lamang pala ako
ang siyang umiyak
Pati din pala puno
at mga bulaklak
Pati ang kalangitan
ay nakikiramin
Hatid ay kaunting ulan
lungkot ang kasabay.
Sa kasawiang dulot
nitong pagmamahal
Di maalis ang lungkot
tila isang hangal
Kahit anong pilit
di makakaalpas
Sa languyan ng pait
na siyang dinadanas.
Bakit naniniwala
gayong sinasaktan?
Sadyang napakatanga
sadyang talunan
Sa saliw nitong tugtog
di mapapaindak
Parang 'sang batang tulog
di alam ang balak.
Puso'y tila 'sang bato
walang maramdaman
Tinulak na palayo
pilit lumalaban
Sana nga ay magising
sa katotohanan
Di na maihahambing
ngayo't nakaraan.
Bakit kasi ganito
puno ng pag-asa
Gayong ika'y malayo
kahit sa tabi na?
Di na magiging akin
magpakailan man
Pag-ibig pipigilin
aking bibitawan.
Di masasaktang muli
sa'yong mga bisig
Pagkat ito na ang huli
masasambil ng bibig
Paalam, paalam na
di na mangangarap
Nais ko ng sumaya
sa'king hinaharap.

feeling lonely
By: Jovannie B. Mondaya, 2nd Yr. DIT
STI Tagum
I had a strange dream the other night.
A friend and I were sitting in a park
under the shade of very large tree.
It was a beautiful sunny day.
My friend, sitting on the edge of the tree's shadow,
feeling the full impact of the sun.
So I moved over, allowing him more room in the shade.
But he didn't move.
He stayed where he was.
After keeping a distance for a while, he got up and left.
No reason given, no goodbye offered.
If you’re in college and majoring in Psych,
you’re probably already analyzing my dream.
I don’t think there’s too much to it—
although I did wake up feeling lonely.
Loneliness is when you check the mailbox each day
but find only supermarket ads.
Loneliness is when the only emails in your inbox
are those free magazine subscriptions,
or when the news anchor is the first person
who has looked you in the face all day.
Loneliness is when the only phone call you receive
all week is from a telemarketer.
But loneliness is often the result of a great personal loss.
In our loneliness we may feel
that even GOD is keeping his distance but He isn’t.
He cares.
"A father to the fatherless, a defender of widows,
is GOD in his most holy dwelling.
GOD sets the lonely in Families"
Fifteen Minutes
By: Denmark C. Agrade, BSCS
STI College – Caloocan

Fifteen minutes may be nothing to anyone
Fifteen minutes, its here then gone,
Maybe for you it’ll be just a snap
But for me fifteen minutes seems longer than that

It was mid-noon in a cold day of December
Eleven forty-five as I can remember,
Examination day, and I was at the library
When I saw you down the stairs with such grace and beauty

You saw your friend beside me and you started waving
All I remember saying was “Oh my God, She’s coming”,
I saw my pal in front of me winking with delight
I think he’s signaling me to go for it, and fight
You came and sat between me and your friend
All I could hope was for that moment not to end,
You said “Hey snob!” while tugging my hair
But all I did was smile like I really don’t care

Deep inside my head, I could hear some voices
Telling me what to say or suggesting some poses,
It’s agonizing and hard to keep myself together
With you inches away my heart just kept beating faster
The time, eleven fifty and still I pretended not to care
And yet all I think about is your hand, gliding through my hair,
I imagined we were at the park, sitting on the grass
And soon I am going to see you again...

Soon...
By: Catherine Kate Alvarez, DIT
STI College – Batangas

tonight seems so cold
and the sky is so velvet
that it overshadowed the stars...
the wind hums its dreary melody
as it whispers upon the ears of this soul
who found itself sailing in the sea
of unfathomed longing for her one great love...
maelstrom strikes and hardly tries
to lead me into giving up...
but this piece of metal I wear ‘round my finger
reminds me of him and told my heart to forbear
for tonight the crescent promises a new day
and soon I am going to see you again...
can you hear this soul singing?
now the clock strikes two in the morning
I can hardly sleep and I’m stranded into thinking
Heaven knows it’s only you who I’m missing...

tonight has been a long journey
for my mind, my heart and my soul...
warily of giving up and forbearing,
both hardly vie for victory
foolish am I to think
that those couple of days seemed like a thousand years
and a week to be like eternity
but starting tonight...
giving up would be the last thing I would do...
and never will...
for I am keeping the words you’ve said
not as a promise for they ought to be broken, they said
rather be the sweetest words I’ve ever heard
words that would last and will never fade...

when I saw you down the stairs with such grace and beauty
You saw your friend beside me and you started waving
All I remember saying was “Oh my God, She’s coming”,
I saw my pal in front of me winking with delight
I think he’s signaling me to go for it, and fight
You came and sat between me and your friend
All I could hope was for that moment not to end,
You said “Hey snob!” while tugging my hair
But all I did was smile like I really don’t care

Deep inside my head, I could hear some voices
Telling me what to say or suggesting some poses,
It’s agonizing and hard to keep myself together
With you inches away my heart just kept beating faster
The time, eleven fifty and still I pretended not to care
And yet all I think about is your hand, gliding through my hair,
I imagined we were at the park, sitting on the grass
And soon I am going to see you again...

Gayong batid sa sarili pawang katotohanan,
Pilit ikinukubli ng ang sakit ay mabawasan,
O! bakit kay pait itong yaring kapalaran?
Na tanging nais lubos na nasayahan.

Kasiyahang buhat sa pag-ibig,
Subalit tinututulan ng sandaigdig,
O! sadyang kay saklap itong katayuan,
Panambitan ko’y di naman pinakikinggan.

Kailan ma’y di saklaw ng katalinuhan ang tunay na kaagadhan,
Tulad na lamang ng kabuthian ng kalooban,
O di kaya ang higit sa lahahay at nilalaman ng iyong mapagmahal subalit madalas masakatan na kaibuturan.

Sadyang malawak ang saklaw ng kaalamang Subalit mas malalim ang saklaw ng kalooban,
Kaya kaylanman’a’y di maarak nitong payak na Balintataw itong hinagpis ng kalooban.
By: Karen Precious La Rosa  
Communications & Media Relations Officer, STI HQ

SHARON SCHOLARS
STI took part in the Christmas special of ABS-CBN 2’s talk show, Sharon. With celebrity guest Angel Locsin as sponsor, STI visited the Children’s Rehabilitation Center in Quezon City to provide five any-four-year-course Gift of Knowledge certificates to the deserving scholars.

WISH KO LANG SCHOLARS
The year-ender and Christmas episode of the well-watched public affairs show of GMA 7, Wish Ko Lang, was made more special with the Gift of Knowledge certificates handed over to the Luzon and Visayas case studies of the show.
STI College – Parañaque granted eight Gift of Knowledge certificates for any two-year-course to the Yuzon family comprised of Vanessa (17 years old), Wilma (15), Mario (14), Wilbert (13), Monica (10), Maricar (6), Mike John Paul (4), and Wilfredo (2).
STI College – Lahug, on the other hand, granted the wishes of Aireen and Geoffel Abusama with any-four-year-course Gift of Knowledge certificates.

SWEET LIFE SCHOLARS
Life became sweeter indeed for Rebecca Marfil when host and birthday celebrator Lucy Torres-Gomez, together with co-host and STI Alumni Wilma Doesnt approached STI to grant a P50,000-scholarship from STI College – Lipa. Rebecca’s daughter, Bernadeth, is already set to enroll soon.

NAGMAMAHAL KAPAMILYA SCHOLAR
In a very moving final episode of ABS-CBN 2’s “Nagmamahal Kapamilya,” STI came across Lovely Pascual.
Lovely is an intelligent high school student in Mandaluyong Science High School. They are living at the back of the correctional where her mother is detained. Every time she and her siblings have nothing else to eat, their mom throws a plastic bag filled with food from her inmates.
A very deserving scholar, STI College – EDSA-Crossing granted Lovely Pascual a Gift of Knowledge of any-four-year-course while STI HQ provided her with a computer showcase.

PROJECT CITIZEN WINNERS
STI partnered with The Philippine Center for Civic Education and Democracy and the University of Asia and the Pacific’s Institute of Political Economy in their activity supported by the US-based Center for Civic Education dubbed as “Project Citizen Philippines 2007.”
Project Citizen is an inter-high school competition encouraging students from 30 Metro Manila schools to apply their conceptual understanding of democracy to specific and practical issues.
Navotas High School bagged the Best in Showcase award and the 20 members of the team, composed mostly of third year high school students, were each awarded with P5,000 worth of scholarship certificates for any course.

BE BENCH MODEL SEARCH WINNERS
In celebration of the 20 years of Bench in the industry, the reality television show Be Bench Model Search was formed. Winners Regine Angeles and Carlo Guevarra are now part of the Bench family and they also each took home a scholarship from STI.
Dr. Loon may be crazy, but he’s completely logical. Can you take his strange findings to their ultimate conclusion?

The Loopy Logic of Dr. Loon

Who Thinks Jay Leno is Funny?

Dr. Loon has discovered the following:
1. A unicorn may fly or eat brussels sprouts, but not both.
2. All flying unicorns think Jay Leno is funny.
3. All non-flying unicorns listen to National Public Radio.
4. Only someone who eats brussels sprouts would think Jay Leno is funny.
5. Everyone who listens to National Public Radio either thinks Jay Leno is funny, or has the ability to fly, or both.
6. Nobody who eats brussels sprouts, but can’t fly, thinks Jay Leno is funny.

Which of these conclusions logically follows from the good doctor’s findings?

- Nobody thinks Jay Leno is funny.
- Nobody eats brussels sprouts.
- Nobody listens to National Public Radio.
- No unicorns exist.
- None of the above.

Does Every Rose Have Its Thorn?

Dr. Loon has discovered the following:
1. Nothing that has its thorn could be anything other than a rose.
2. Nothing that has its dawn could be anything other than a rose.
3. Nothing that sings a sad, sad song could be anything other than a cowboy.
4. Everything that lacks its dawn and doesn’t sing a sad, sad song is a rose.
5. Every night lacking its thorn sings a sad, sad song.
6. No cowboy lacking its dawn has its thorn.
7. No rose that doesn’t sing a sad, sad song has its dawn.
8. No rose that is not also a night is a cowboy.

Which of these conclusions logically follows from the good doctor’s findings?
- Every rose has its thorn.
- Every night has its dawn.
- Every cowboy sings a sad, sad song.
- All of the above.
- None of the above.

Source: http://www.puzzlesmonster.com/logic/
STI
STUDENT
OF THE YEAR
2008

THE NOMINEE MUST BE:
- A bonafide graduating student of a CHED or TESDA program
- Has at least 75% of the total curriculum units in any STI school
- Has had no failing grade in any course or module throughout his residency at STI
  - Has a Grade Weighted Average (GWA) of at least 1.50
  - Has not been involved in any disciplinary case during his stay at STI

Visit your Academic Head’s Office for details.

SEND IN YOUR NOMINEES NOW!

Winners will be awarded during the STI Network Graduation