

Republic of the Philippines  
Congress of the Philippines  
**Senate**

Manila City

Fourteenth Congress

First Regular Session



RESOLUTION No. 29

RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE 2007 TEN  
OUTSTANDING WOMEN IN THE NATION'S  
SERVICE (TOWNS) AWARDEES

WHEREAS, this year's Ten Outstanding Women in Nation's Service (TOWNS) awardees are four (4) scientists, three (3) educators, two (2) journalists and a business executive;

WHEREAS, this year's TOWNS awards, which are handed out only once every three years, started off with 71 nominees until it was narrowed down to 10 deserving women after successfully undergoing rigorous interviews conducted by the judges led by Chief Justice Reynato Puno, an innovation introduced this year by the new sponsor, Metrobank Foundation;

WHEREAS, the awardees are:

1. Ma. Corazon A. de Ungria, (science);
2. Alyssa M. Peleo-Alampay, (science);
3. Eva Maria C. Cutiongco-de la Paz, (medicine);
4. Hilly Ann Maria Roa-Quiaoit, (environmental conservation);
5. Dina S. Ocampo, (education);
6. Catherine P. Vistro-Yu, (education);
7. Glecyr Cruz Atienza, (arts and culture);
8. Alexandra "Sandy" Prieto Romualdez, (print journalism);
9. Maria A. Ressa, (broadcast journalism); and
10. Elizabeth H. Lee (business);

WHEREAS, Ungria is a biology honors graduate from Macquarie University of Australia (1993) and holds a doctorate degree in molecular microbiology from the University of New South Wales (1999). She has headed the University of the Philippines' DNA Analysis Lab since 1999. DNA analysis is a fairly recent science useful in pinning down suspects in rape, murder and other crimes, tracing wayward parents, and making a database of the genes of the Filipino race;

WHEREAS, Alampay gave up her green card to make a name in the Philippines as a geologist, earth scientist and professor of geological sciences at UP, where she finished geology in 1981 and earned her master's degree in geology in 1990. She has a Ph.D. in earth science at the University of California San Diego (1997). She has studied million-year-old fossils of elephants in Antipolo, microfossils at Scripps and global warming;

WHEREAS, De la Paz is a cum laude biology graduate of the University of the Philippines and a doctor from the same university. She is the assistant director of the UP Institute of Human Genetics and a professor at the College of Medicine. She is one of only five medical geneticists in the Philippines. Her Molecular Genetics Lab runs diagnosis of genetic conditions affecting humans, genetic disorders and breast cancer;

WHEREAS, Quiaoit finished marine biology, cum laude, at Ateneo de Cagayan, masters in marine science at University of the Philippines. Also, a doctorate degree holder in natural sciences, magna cum laude, at the University of Bremen, Germany. She is a director of McKeough Marine Center, Xavier University and Kinaadman Research Center, Xavier University where she is also an assistant professor in biology. She discovered a new specie of giant clams known as the "mother of giant clams," found only in the Red Sea;

WHEREAS, Ocampo is an expert on dyslexia and reading education. She has an elementary education degree and cum laude from the University of the Philippines, MA in reading education also in UP and a doctorate degree in psychology from the University of Surrey. Children and young adults

benefit from her advocacy, especially for language and literacy competence;

WHEREAS, Yu, a graduate of Ateneo in 1984, is a mathematician, with a master's and doctorate degrees in math education which she earned at the University of Georgia. She is a math professor at Ateneo;

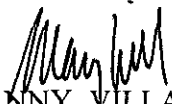
WHEREAS, Atienza has a bachelor's degree, master's and a doctorate degrees in literature, all from UP, with theater as her passion;

WHEREAS, Romualdez is president and CEO of the Philippine Daily Inquirer, while Maria Ressa is the Senior Vice President for news and current affairs of ABS-CBN. Under Romualdez, PDI became a much-improved daily newspaper, a little less emotional, and focusing more on the good news and good deeds of people; while Ressa brought to ABS-CBN a decade of international experience from CNN, and a global perspective to local news;


WHEREAS, finally, Beth Lee, magna cum laude from the California State University and a holder of master's degree also in CSU and Executive Vice President of the Universal Motors Corporation. The Awards Committee says she restored the confidence of the auto industry, which resulted in new and additional investments because of her successful campaign against smuggled used vehicles. In effect, she helped save the local auto industry, a P98-billion business from collapse: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved, as it is hereby resolved by the Senate of the Philippines, To commend the 2007 Ten Outstanding Women in the Nation's Service (TOWNS) for their unwavering devotion and love of country and service to the Filipino people.*

Adopted,

  
MANNY VILLAR  
President of the Senate

This Resolution was adopted by the Senate on November 6, 2007.

  
EMMA LIRIO REYES  
Secretary of the Senate