

ROLL OF ATENEO LAW JOURNAL
Faculty Advisers

1951 - 54
1954 - 56
1956 - 59
1959 - 63
1973 - 68
1970 - 71
1974 - 81
1981 -

Jesus de Veyra
Jeremias U. Montemayor
Amelito R. Mutuc
Federico B. Moreno
Rodolfo U. Jimenez
Reynaldo G. Geronimo
Hector L. Hofileña
Exequiel B. Javier

A TRADITION OF EXCELLENCE*

by: Antonio M. Bernardo

Honorable Chief Justice Claudio Teehankee, Dean Eduardo delos Angeles, Atty. Exequiel Javier, our most respected past faculty advisers and past editors-in-chief, members of the faculty, fellow staffers of the Ateneo Law Journal and the Ateneo Law Bulletin, friends, ladies and gentlemen.

In September, 1951, Fr. James J. McMahon, Rector of Ateneo de Manila, wrote the following message which was published in the first issue of the Ateneo Law Journal, and I quote:

"I am pleased to put a foreword to Number 1, Volume 1 of our LAW QUARTERLY. It is the sign that our College of Law is coming of age, and is intent on being an influential force in the formation of legal opinion in our country.

Its dress is modest as the debut is simple. Most things of permanent value begin so. But backed by the driving energy of Fr. Bello, Regent, and depending unashamedly on its loyal and talented corps of professors and students, we feel that it will soon be a coveted periodical, solid, progressive, radical in the first meaning of that word, but above all, Catholic to the core."

There can be no better time than today to recount these almost prophetic words. For the Ateneo College of Law, (as we celebrate its golden anniversary this year) has indeed come of age and has become an influential force in the formation of legal opinion in our country. The Ateneo Law Journal has become a coveted, solid and progressive publication. It has come a long way from its modest and simple debut 35 years ago, and this is because of the driving energy, the indomitable spirit, the endless patience, the boundless creativity and the firm resolve of the loyal and talented corps of professors and students who have nurtured and treasured the Journal for the past 35 years.

It is but fitting, therefore, that we honor today the men and women who have brought the Ateneo Law Journal to where it is today. We honor the faculty advisers whose wise counsel have kept the Journal in the right direction. We honor the editors-in-chief who have steered the Journal through its difficult course.

Today, the Ateneo Law Journal is not just another publication; it is a tradition of excellence — a tradition that our honorees have cultivated and strengthened over the years. With our induction today, I and the rest of the present editorial staff, are not just accepting a responsibility; we are accepting a challenge to uphold this tradition of excellence. Our only hope is that we will prove worthy of the honor and privilege of having been given the opportunity to carry on this tradition.

*Speech delivered by Antonio M. Bernardo, Editor-in-Chief of the Ateneo Law Journal, 1986-87, on the occasion of the 35th Anniversary Celebration of the Ateneo Law Journal and the Induction of the editorial staff of Ateneo Law Journal and Ateneo Law Bulletin held on September 20, 1986 at the Ateneo College of Law Auditorium.