



Mapua Alumni Association Of San Diego

School Founded in 1925 by 1st Registered Filipino Architect

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THE MAPUA Institute of Technology was founded on Jan. 25, 1925 by Don Tomas Mapua, the first registered Filipino architect who "envisioned an educational institution that shall emphasize the importance of science and technology and create an impact on the economy and the quality of life of the Filipino." He was one of the first Filipino scholars sent by the government to the US during the American regime. He finished high school at Boone's Preparatory School in Berkeley, California, and graduated from Cornell University in 1911 with a degree in Architecture.

Aware that many Filipinos were deprived of the opportunity to study because they had to work during the day, he opened a non-sectarian night school for working students in a rented commercial building on Carriedo Street in Quiapo, Manila. The school initially started with 80 students enrolled in civil engineering and architecture handled by a faculty of 12 professors. Three years later, the school offered high school to give students a better foundation for technical studies in college. By 1940, five more degree programs were added-mining engineering, chemical engineering, chemistry, mechanical engineering and electrical engineering.

After the liberation of Manila, Mapua, which was ravaged by the war, resumed operations at a new site on the northern portion of the block bounded by Doroteo Jose, Avenida Rizal, Claro M. Recto, Miserecordia Street (now Tomas Mapua Street). The school compound was divided into two quadrangles that separated the college and the high school divisions.

In the late '50s, the institute acquired a property in Intramuros to house its architecture and upper engineering degree programs. Its general engineering programs and the high school department remained at the Doroteo Jose compound.

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Continuation – School Founded in 1925 by 1st Registered Filipino Architect

When Don Tomas died on Dec. 22, 1965, his only son Oscar B. Mapua took over the reins of the school. With the expansion of its facilities, the Intramuros complex took in the entire collegiate department in 1973. More degree programs were also introduced like industrial engineering, industrial design and computer engineering.

Enters Yuchengco

On March 17, 1988, Oscar B. Mapua passed away and his son, architect Oscar Jr., took over the presidency.

In December 1999, the ownership of Mapua was acquired 100 percent by a business conglomerate headed by Ambassador Alfonso T. Yuchengco through a company now known as iPeople Inc. for about a billion pesos.

Ambassador Alfonso T. Yuchengco is a diplomat, philanthropist, business and civic leader and acknowledged by his rivals as a leader in Philippine insurance, banking, investments, construction, mining, power, oil exploration, real estate, telecommunications, agribusiness, manufacturing and trading. In 1992, he was honored as "Management Man of the Year" by the Management Association of the Philippines (MAP). His businesses include Rizal Commercial Banking Corp., MICO Equities, Great Pacific Life Holdings, Pan Malayan Management and Investment Corp., among others.

Aside from its schools in Intramuros and Doroteo Jose Street in Manila, Mapua opened in April 2002 its Makati campus in the former Rizal Commercial Banking Corp. building, located between Metropolitan and Gil Puyat Avenues. The campus now houses its Information and Technology Center and its schools of nursing, accountancy and business administration.

15,000 students

According to its webpage, Mapua at present offers 28 courses and six graduate programs. It has 15,000 students in the college level and claims to be the biggest engineering school in the Philippines, which accounts for about 8 percent of engineering graduates every year. The institute also runs a pre-engineering high school with a population of about 1,800 students.

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