

Meet MAA Founding President Engr. Mauricio de Vera Jr.



Engr. Mauricio de Vera Jr, graduated from Mapua Institute of Technology on April 1977 with a degree of BS Mining Engineering.

He started his career in engineering just before his graduation – working as Operations Manager in Explosive Engineers from 1976 to 1981.

He obtained his Board of Mining Engineering certificate on January 1980. He continued his engineering career in the Philippines, working for other engineering companies from 1981 till 1987.

Engr. Mao is married to Dr Teofista De Vera nee Reyes and they have two children, Charles and Stephanie.

In 1987, his family moved to Australia and settled in Metro Sydney NSW. Currently, he and his wife are residing in Woodcroft NSW.

In his new adopted country, work opportunities led him to government service instead of continuing his engineering career. It is his exposure to government service that made him interested in being involved in the community. He started doing volunteer work for the community.

In 2008, he joined community organisations and was subsequently elected as one of the directors of the peak body of the Filipino community organisations in New South Wales, Philippine Community Council.

It is also in 2008 that he, together with fifteen other Mapua alumni, thought of creating the Mapua Alumni Australia (MAA) to foster camaraderie among alumni in Australia and Pacific, support the Alma Mater, promote responsible community service. Mao was elected the charter president and became the founding president of MAA.

As president, the first project he started is the participation of MAA to the Woodcroft festival. The objectives are two-fold, in putting up a stall in this festival, MAA will have social presence and at the same time raise funds by selling pre-loved items, all donations from members. The Woodcroft Festival project remains a regular annual event of MAA for the last 10 years!

It was in 2011 when he attended MapuaWorld (the bi-yearly global reunion/conference of Mapua alumni) in Canada that he was able to successfully represent MAA to bid for hosting MapuaWorld by MAA in Sydney for 2015. MAA won the bid to host MapuaWorld for 2015.

MapuaWorld 2015 was chaired by Randy Tangonan, the MAA President for 2011 and Mao was the treasurer of the MAA MW team. MapuaWorld 2015 became one of the most successful MW events – in attendance, quality and content.

Since MAA inception, he has been actively involved as either one of the officers or board directors till 2016 and in the last 3 years actively participating and supporting all MAA projects.

Mao's community involvement extended to another organisation – the Philippine Australian Medical Association (PAMA). He became a very active mission coordinator on its Philippine medical missions from 2010 until now.

His community work in Australia for the last 10 years is recognised with him receiving awards, recognitions and citations.

In the 10th anniversary of MAA celebrated last 24 Nov 2018, he was awarded the Leadership award recognising his vision to establish MAA and as its founding president. He also received recognition awards from Philippine Community Council – PCC NSW and Philippine Australian Medical Association - PAMA for his valuable community service.

Mapua Alumni Australia is fortunate to have a founding president who provided this organisation with a good roadmap on how it will place in the alumni community and the Filipino Australian community.

Thank you, Engineer Mao De Vera!

