



Office of the President

Ateneo de Zamboanga University

The Jesuit University in Western Mindanao, Philippines
Since 1912

In Consortium with:
Ateneo de Davao University
Xavier University - Ateneo de Cagayan

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UNIVERSITY MEMORANDUM

MEMO NO. : Memo 25-26:49
DATE : May 25, 2026
TO : The AdZU Community
SUBJECT : **Updates from the May 23, 2026 Annual Corporation and Board Meetings**

I am sharing several key updates from the **Annual Meeting of the Corporation and the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees** held on **May 23, 2026**. These meetings focused on governance continuity, institutional strengthening, and strategic stewardship as we prepare for S.Y. 2026–2027.

Governance and Leadership Matters

The Board of Trustees approved the re-election of the University President for another three-year term beginning June 1, 2026 until May 31, 2029. The Board also elected the officers of Ateneo de Zamboanga University for the term beginning June 1, 2026.

In addition, the Corporation confirmed the re-election of several Trustees for another term beginning June 1, 2026 until May 31, 2029 and elected one new lay Trustee following the discernment and recommendation process of the University Awards and Board Membership Committee.

Separate memoranda will be issued regarding the re-election of the University President, the election of Board officers, the re-election of Trustees for the 2026–2029 term, and the election of the new lay Trustee.

Appointment to the Board of Advisors

The Board of Trustees appointed **Mr. Joaquin Gregorio P. Cortez** to the Board of Advisors for the term June 1, 2026 to May 31, 2028.

Mr. Cortez previously served as Trustee from 2017 to 2026 and has made significant contributions to the governance and development of the University. His appointment to the Board of Advisors allows the University to continue benefiting from his institutional knowledge, experience, and counsel.

Approval of Amendments to the University By-Laws

The Members of the Corporation approved amendments to the Ateneo de Zamboanga University By-Laws to strengthen institutional governance and align University governance structures with current practices, the Revised Corporation Code, and accreditation expectations.

The approved amendments include provisions relating to:

- qualifications and terms of Trustees;
- alignment of the governance calendar with the University's academic and fiscal cycle;
- remote and hybrid meetings;
- compensation provisions for officers and employees;
- formal recognition of Board Committees; and
- the institutionalization of a Board of Advisors.

The amendments were intended to modernize the University's governance framework, strengthen Board competency and accountability, support governance continuity and succession planning, institutionalize governance committee structures, and align the By-Laws with contemporary nonprofit governance practices and the governance expectations identified during the PCNC accreditation process.

Reconstitution of Board Committees

The Board formally adopted the Charters of the following Board Committees and appointed their respective Committee Chairs:

- Audit and Risk Management Committee – **Atty. Laisa M. Alamia**
- Finance and Investment Committee – **Engr. Ibrahim M. Nuño**
- Advancement and Campus Development Committee – **Ms. Ruth Yu Owen**
- Educational Mission and Identity Committee – **Ms. Silvie Jasmin Agravante-Bandiola**
- University Awards and Board Membership Committee – **Dr. Anton Mari H. Lim**

These committees are intended to strengthen governance oversight, accountability, strategic guidance, and institutional stewardship.

Financial and Governance Matters

The Corporation ratified the University's Audited Financial Statements for Fiscal Years ending May 31, 2025 and May 31, 2024, as audited by SGV & Co. The Corporation also approved the re-appointment of SGV & Co. as the University's Independent External Auditor for School Year 2025–2026.

Likewise, the Corporation reaffirmed that all University income and revenues shall continue to be utilized exclusively for educational and mission-related purposes.

Modification of the Approved Budget for S.Y. 2026–2027

In light of prevailing economic conditions and financial uncertainties, the Board authorized the Administration to revise and recalibrate the approved S.Y. 2026–2027 Budget. In particular, the Board authorized the Administration to review, defer, adjust, reprioritize, or phase the implementation of selected expenditures, programs, capital projects, and operational initiatives as may be necessary to maintain the financial sustainability and operational stability of the University.

The Board emphasized the importance of prudent financial stewardship, strategic prioritization, and institutional sustainability while ensuring that the University continues to fulfill its educational mission and core commitments.

University President's Annual Report

During the Annual Corporation Meeting, the University President delivered the Annual Report highlighting major accomplishments, developments, and institutional initiatives of the University. The Corporation and Board formally noted and accepted the Report as part of the University's governance and accountability processes.

The Annual Report, entitled **Viaje: Ateneo de Zamboanga University Annual Report – S.Y. 2025–2026**, may be accessed through the following link:

[Viaje: Ateneo de Zamboanga University Annual Report – SY 2025–2026](#)

A video version of the President's Annual Report is likewise available through the following link:

[Viaje: AdZU President's Report – SY 2025–2026 \(Video\)](#)

We thank the Members of the Corporation and the Board of Trustees for their continued guidance, generosity, and steadfast commitment to the mission of Ateneo de Zamboanga University.

As we prepare for a new school year, may we continue working together with prudence, hope, and fidelity to our mission of forming persons for and with others.

Pro Deo et Patria.

(ORIGINAL SIGNED)

Fr. Ernard M. Andal, SJ
University President