

Dear Alumni- Volunteers,

Impossible. Uncharted waters. Mahirap yan. Sakit ng ulo. Ataque de corazon!. Before I mailed the proposal for this phone campaign to Iman Lat last August, I talked to my friends and some alumni who have been involved with UPMASA for many years. They all said the plan was ok BUT the problem was the volunteers. How are you going to recruit and train them from the boondocks of Missouri? I answered, of course, by phone, letter and e-mail. There was the usual assumption that doctors are very busy people and will not be and cannot be successful solicitors for a phone campaign. Who else but people like us, I reasoned, understand better the needs of our alma mater and the PGH? Who else but die-hards like us can plea for our cause? I even got a warning from my friend Carrie Zavalla that this may become a one-man project and I may end up calling all 1850 UPMASA alumni myself. I got cold feet, kept quiet for two months, almost backed out, and told Iman Lat, our UPMASA president, next year na lang, hoping he'd sit out his term and forget about it.

I grossly underestimated the alumni sentiment.

Our total pledges are \$65,875; almost half has been collected. If you include our one big donation of \$30,000, which I am very optimistic will come through, that puts the total at \$95,875. Not quite a hundred grand, but close. It is just too good to be true. Now comes the hard part of collecting...Dr. Dalope, are you there?

Special thanks to those who have made this campaign a success: Drs. Tony Donesa, Ban Daut, Offie Madrid, Ed Dujon, Ching Maileg, Toni Capino, Imelda Bernardo, Cecil Bautista, Grace Duque, Dido Feliciano, Carrie & Boy Agustines, Gemma Indolos, Guia Palma, Chelle Jose, Grace Duque, Manny Dalope, Nerita Ulep and DV Del Valle.

Here we are, valiant souls, with the phone campaign behind us. Give yourselves a pat in the back for a job well done. Thank you for taking the risk with me and my crazy ideas. This was an adventure in uncharted territory. Maybe we'll all sail this ship again. Let's just hope it is not the Titanic!

Maraming Salamat sa Inyong Lahat,

Conchita de Castro Redmon
Springfield, Missouri
February 27, 1998

**Nothing
is impossible
to a
valiant heart.**