



Adventist University of the Philippines Plans New Music Facility

Adventist University of the Philippines, formerly Philippine Union College, has launched a campaign to build a new music center. Heidi Cerna, coordinator of fund raising, spent ten weeks from mid-March through May of this year visiting in the U.S. and soliciting donations for the project.

The proposed facility will consist of a cluster of buildings that include studios, classrooms, practice and

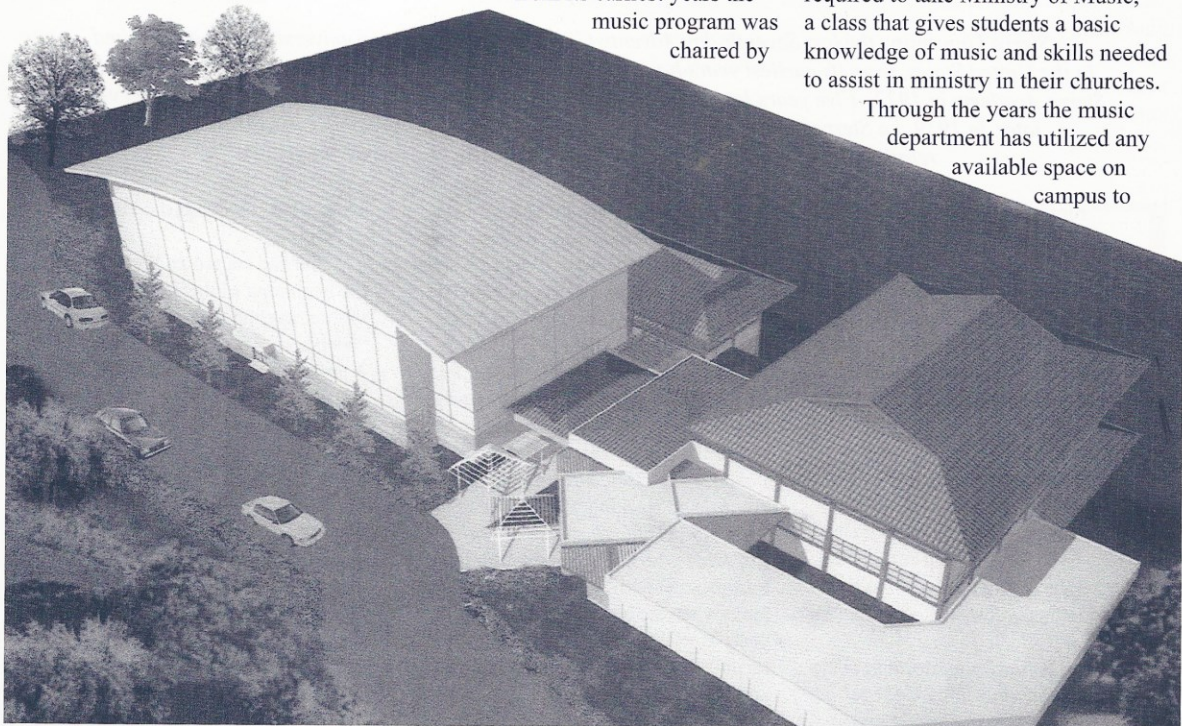
rehearsal rooms, and a performance hall. Total cost of the project is estimated to be \$1,000,000. It will be done in four phases as funding is available.

AUP began its existence as an academy in 1917. It adopted its present name in 1996. This past year it had a college and university enrollment of over 3,700, 35 of whom were music majors. These majors came from six other Asian countries besides the Philippines. Although from its earliest years the music program was chaired by

American missionaries, it has in recent years been chaired by nationals. Evelyn Ronquillo is presently chair of a program that includes three full-time and nine adjunct teachers.

From the beginning, the department has contributed greatly to school and church programs throughout the country. In its efforts to equip its students for evangelism and ministry through music, AUP offers lessons and ensembles along with appropriate classes to all students and to the community. All college students are required to take Ministry of Music, a class that gives students a basic knowledge of music and skills needed to assist in ministry in their churches.

Through the years the music department has utilized any available space on campus to





house its offices and classrooms. They are now located in the gymnasium, sharing the building with the physical education department. Despite these apparent limitations, the department offers undergraduate degrees in music education and performance and, starting this past year, graduate study in music education.

The music program has gained recognition through its award-winning participation in

national competitions. It is known throughout the Philippines for its seminars on church music and in the local community for its many outreach activities.

The building of the music facility is viewed as central to the university and department's vision for music at AUP. They want to provide an appropriate facility for a projected increase in music majors, to develop a stronger band and orchestra program, and to establish a strong College of

Music and an Institute of Sacred Music that will have far-reaching influence in the work there and in other countries.

