

**Ateneo Communications Technology Management Association – ACTM Wired E-Magazine
Decada: ACTM's 10-Year Anniversary Feature Article**

Word Count: 513 words

Writer: Victoria Vizcarra

And here you thought you'd seen the last of those corsages.

In keeping with ACTM's ten-year anniversary, last December 14 Ateneo's Association for Communications Technology Management celebrated a decade's worth of hard work and innovation since the organization's inception with *Decada*, a homecoming ball that's part-reunion, part-fundraiser and all around The Prom Like You Always Imagined. And with hosts Jay Abastillas and Daz Ng on the mic, the program went off without a hitch.

As if donning their finest threads to relive the highlights of High School wasn't reason enough to attend, ACTMers past and present alike did so knowing it was for a good cause. Part of the proceeds are allotted specifically for the benefit of ComTech's student-scholars, serving as proof that ACTM functions go hand-in-hand with ulterior motives.

It was a night that called for glamour and elegance, an avenue to bring both ACTM's alumni and current roster together in a collective bash to honor ComTech's ten-year anniversary. Held in the prestigious Manila Polo Club, the Turf Room was sporting decor of elaborate tablespreads, yellow balloons and posh fittings that had *Decada's* Prom theme down to a T. The venue in itself roused long-dormant memories of what is arguably one of the most meaningful milestones in one's life, sans the awkward phase.

There was plenty more that attendees could look forward to besides fine dining and the slow dance. Early into the evening, course director Mr. Aly Yap dispensed a touching opening speech, albeit one he had to read out loud from his cellphone. Our own Migs Escueta graced the event with a special performance, sharing a stage which also featured ACTM's homegrown talents AC Salvador and Jordan Bautista, whose rendition of Rhianna's 'Hate That I Love You' immediately set the mood for romance. The timing for which couldn't have been better, being that this was closely followed by several rounds on the dance floor.

Even the girls who went stag had the floor turned over to them during the Dating Game. Led by Cholo Atienza and Tim Jimenea, the staple 'searcher' Bo Salva had his pick of the available 'searchees', narrowing the available girls down by way of question and answer. While the hosts quizzed Bo on his ideal girl, those who didn't fit the description were cut. When it was down to the final four, it was the girls' turn to be interrogated by Bo, for him to cut two more himself. The final task involved some real hands-on work: giving Bo a back massage, to which winner Clarisse Co emerged the better masseuse! But nobody walked away empty-handed; all the contestants received gift certificates from Gloria Jeans Coffee, leaving Bo and Clarisse to spend the rest of *Decada* together.

And in case all that still couldn't loosen some tongues, *Decada* was not without a contingency plan of sorts: every table was fitted with its own Awkward Box, in which questions written on slips of paper could spark a conversation for you. Though judging from the laughter and chatter that flooded the room that night, they were hardly necessary.