

Peer Advisers' Testimonials

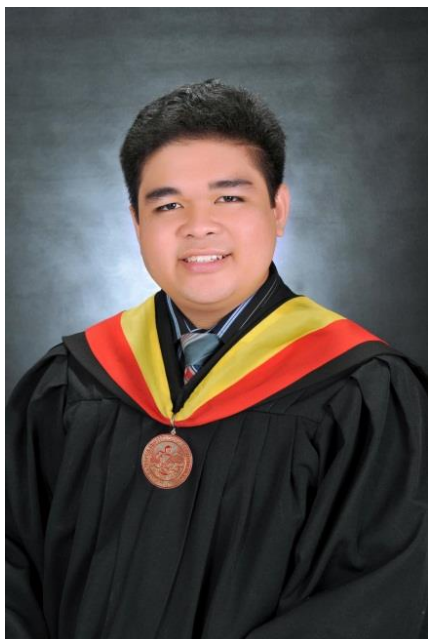
Ramon Lapitan

Before I became an adviser I was an advisee, I needed help in my Mechanics class so I sought the help of the Center for Student Advising. They were kind enough to assign me to an adviser who helped me solve tougher problems in the class. The adviser went at the pace that I wanted to go in, even though he already knew how to solve the problem, he did not spoon feed it to me and let me figure it out on my own. This led to a better understanding of the topic.

I've always loved teaching, and with my experience with the center, I decided to also apply to become an adviser. I passed the exam and became an academic adviser. Being able to teach helped build interpersonal skills. Since I was always interacting with other people, I learned how to better relate with the advisee and approach the topic from their point of view. Moreover since problems can be solved using different methods, I used the method most familiar to the advisee while also introducing methods that they may also want to use as alternatives and as a way to verify their answers. A secondary benefit of being an academic adviser is that in the many iterations of problems that one will teach, new techniques, problems and approaches will be learned from either other advisers or from advisees themselves who've solved the problem. Lastly is that the center provides an environment for learning where everyone is equal and all are given the chance to share their knowledge.

Ramon S. Lapitan
Technical Business Analyst
OpenText GXS Philippines

Malaya Matsuura



What has CSA done for me?

As a process engineer in the semiconductor industry, it is our duty to provide quality products with the lowest cost, and the best of service. The Center for Student Advising was able to teach me these principles since this center provides quality products and services through its process of selecting only the finest peer advisers that Mapua has to offer, and the lowest cost since, after all, the services provided by the center is free for the students. ☺

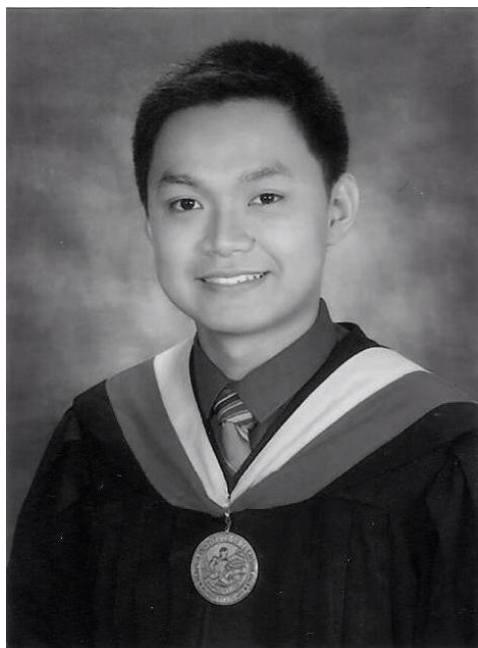
Malaya T. Matsuura
Process Engineer
Amkor Technology Philippines

Jeanne Dizon

CSA was one of those whom have helped me to become who I am today. Not only as a student whom have seek helped in her academic problems; But also as a peer adviser who had learned that one of the effective way of learning is sharing what you know. Within 5 years of staying at CSA, the center has taught me to be humble in asking when I don't understand something and it has also taught me to be generous in sharing whatever I know and whatever I have. Those two are few of my take-home now that I am working already.

I am forever grateful for all the help that the center provided me. I hope that the center will continue to help the students not only academic level but more importantly on holistic level.

Jeanne Lerrie Ann B. Dizon

John Brian Ignacio

College is truly different from the corporate world in which I am living in now. It is way different that many aspects that you will learn in school cannot be applied but due to a very rigorous experience I had in college, I can say that it shaped me to become as malleable as I can in the office world. The CSA shaped me into a great person that I am now in work. My experience in CSA became a micro-training in my perspective. It boosted not only my learnings but it also molded by interpersonal abilities, increased my self-confidence, and improved my ethical treatment to others which are hard to develop and maintain when you are already working. Furthermore, it ignited the spark of leadership skills I have now and of course, it helped a lot. Also, I think without my experience in CSA, I wouldn't be as open-minded and understanding of my co-workers today.

John Brian B. Ignacio
Software Engineer
Accenture

Nervin Meregildo

I might have not felt the fulfillment of seeing the happy faces from the students who passed their courses and whom I have shared my knowledge to. I would've had a failing grade. I would've failed the Electronics Engineering licensure exam on my first take. I might not have been where I am now – enjoying the field I'm in and having a smile while writing this. Being a Peer Adviser changed my life. It helped me grow with the right mix of experience, practice, learning and friendship. It's the best opportunity that opened my eyes - I was more capable than what I thought.

Nervin C. Meregildo
Software Engineer
Accenture

Juneil Fernandez

Confidence, patience and commitment are some of the values I learned through rendering a 3-year service as a peer adviser of Mapua CSA. Studying in Mapua is already a big challenge but joining Mapua CSA gives more thrill. Why? because time has always been a vital need of being a mapuan and using some of it in teaching other students for free is really dignifying. Indeed, as I work nowadays, I can really say that the values I learned in joining CSA are still within my blood. I can proudly say that at the age of 21, I can already deal with the different imported and local suppliers of our company with full of confidence, enthusiasm and patience.

Juneil A. Fernandez
Material Quality Inspector
Unilever Philippines

Noel Sinsioco

CSA in my College Life

I never thought that I will become a part of CSA when I entered Mapua. On my first year in this institute, I'm just an ordinary student that is serious in studying but having a hard time to adjust in college life. As it goes by, nothing is new and everything seems to be the same. Until there's a day, finally, that makes my college life a colorful one.

Just before my second year, I've encourage to become part of CSA as a Peer Adviser. I'm little bit surprised at first that Peer Advisers who teaches and mentors their co-students were all volunteers. Giving their time and services for free without expecting in return. That time, I'm not aware what will be the impact as I joined this organization, however I gave it a try.

As I became part of CSA as a Peer Adviser, there were lot of things had changed. This became my second home. This center guides me to develop my skills and my personality through its activities to help students like me. Through CSA, it also helps me to adjust academically with the aid of other peer advisers and develop my self-confidence and communication skills through teaching and mentoring. Most importantly, as I've become the president of the CSA peer advisers council for two years, I learned to become a leader. A leader that guide the advisers not only to become better students but also to guide them what they need to develop; and also to help the center to grow bigger. I'm very thankful that I've gain new friends and found my second family in this center.

As I graduated from this institute, I'm still living with the values I learned from the center. Even now that I'm currently working, I used to employ the skills and leadership I develop before. I'm proud to be part of this great CSA organization in Mapua.

Noel A. Sinsioco
Analog Devices Philippines Incorporated
Test Developer Engineer

Yej Jumaquio



“Beginning is always the hardest”. This is the quote that defined my first years in Mapua as a student with a program ECE. I can still remember when there are a lot of my upperclassmen would tell how hard it is to survive a term in Mapua and there were also some that encourages me and helped me in understanding topics that are vague and I was not able to understand easily. This is where my relationship with Center Of student Advising penetrated. I can still remember my first experience in seeking help in peer advising and that is Trigonometry (Math12) . I am the one that encourages my classmates that we should seek help to those who knew these things better than us. At that time we really cannot understand the topic and we are so lucky that when we first try to seek help it was Kuya Rimson Junio who helped us. Who is now a topnotcher Engineer!! I was so amaze on how he was able to teach the topic very well that it exceeds the teaching of my professor for a reason that I really understood it! Since then when we do not understand the topic we will seek peer advising and I saw that there were a lot of peer advisers that are very good in teaching the lessons. I am very thankful for the Center of Student Advising because it helped throughout my Math courses and I am happy to say that I didn't fail any of it with the help of the peer advising and the LORD. In line with this I was inspired that they are really willing to help those who are in need even though there is no salary. And they really gave up their time to anyone knowing that in Mapua every second counts. I really want to be a peer adviser because I want to help others also just like how they helped me. Luckily, there was a declared qualifying exam and our organization need some representatives and I think it was really GOD's will because it is the same term of Physics Exit Examination and I was able to review some topics about it. I didn't expect to pass the exam but I am very happy that I was able to. Now I have an additional family in Mapua where our aim is to help those students in a way that they will really learn the concepts and hopefully we can help them survive every single term. This is also a big help to me because I am able to refresh every past lessons and I will able to use it in my future courses and exams.

Yej Niko G. Jumaquio
BS Electronics Engineering

Matt Catiltil

What I love on this community is that you get to learn different things from different individuals and you share that learning as well to your peers. It expands the things I learn and enhances my teaching skills. Being a part of the Center for Student Advising is a privilege for me because it is a family who cares on how you perform or teach, helping you solve problems you don't know, encouraging each other to be optimist, and really do care for you and defend you to anyone who tries to insult this family. I am truly blessed to be a part of this family.

John Matthew C. Catiltil
BS Civil Engineering

Angelo Gozo

At first, the thought of having the Center for Student Advising (CSA) is just fine such that many students have a rough time in coping or adapting to the fast pace that MAPUA Institute of Technology has. But as days passed by in my first year life, I saw my classmates, who have a problem in Mathematics, went to the center and improved, as I see it. So my first thought in CSA went away and made another thought of it being a good help for students.

I made up my mind and headed upstairs to W501 to try this thing called "peer advising". I asked one problem and they answered it – detailed, I must say. There's nothing more I can say. So when the school year is about to end, the center posted a list of students who are highly qualified to be peer advisers and fortunately, I saw my name on the list. There are second thoughts and I wondered why. But the thought of going there and taking the exam would be a lot relieving than to stay off ground.

I passed. I'm a peer adviser in Mathematics and I can tell that this advising is not just for students who are being advised but also to the advisers who are helped in maintaining their knowledge in fundamental courses and have the least amount of time to recapitulate them. As a peer adviser, I can say that this peer advising is a part of my passion and I think that what I'm doing is to share my knowledge onto the pinnacle of my will and to gain knowledge as time dictates it to happen.

Angelo D. Gozo
BS Electronics Engineering

Raymond Marzo

First time po akong nagpaturo sa CSA nung may incoming quiz kami sa Math 14. At nasakto po na si Engr. Noel Sinsioco yung adviser ko nun. Sobrang kabado po ako nung kasi di ko alam kung ano sasabihin. Tinuro po niya sa akin yung five topics in three hours...and guess what, ang galling ni kuya! Naturo niya nang maayos sa akin yun. And as far as I can remember, naka-98 ako sa quiz ko. Then napaisip ako, bakit ang galing nila magturo? Kaparehas ko lang naman silang student. Dun ko na-realize na with experience, matututunan mo ang ismag subject at sineshare lang nila yung natututunan nila. So I've decided to become a CSA adviser. Sa umpisa, nakakakaba. Iniisip ko, matuturo ko kaya yung lesson nang maayos? Then nung narry ko, parang ang gaan sa pakiramdam na natuto ang mga tinuturuan mo. Sobrang saya lang talagang tumulong sa iba. At sobra akong thankful sa CSA kasi natuto akong ma-budget ang oras ko. Ganun din, natuto akong magpakumbaba as a student and maging leader as adviser. Sa academics ko, sobrang helpful din siya. Dahil sa mga batcmates ko na ang mamaw. Hahahaha! At thankful din ako sa award na natanggap ko. Ito yung pinaka-proof ma hinding hindi ko iiwan ang CSA kahit maglilo man ako ng ilang term. Maka-graduate man ako sa Mapua, tatanawin kong utang na loob sa CSA yung mga experiences ko dito."

Raymond C. Marzo
BS Electrical Engineering

Edward James L. Justimbaste

When I started going to Mapúa, I thought everything would be easy but this turned out to be wrong. I had difficulties adapting to the fast paced learning in Mapúa. It came to a point where I basically wanted to just get the term over with and accept any failing grades that may come. In the midst of all confusion I found my refuge as I was strolling my way across the halls of Mapúa. They call it "CSA, Center for Student Advising." At first I was very skeptical, but I later realized how helpful they were and how they were helping me to not only to pass my subjects but also to excel. It was not long before I myself became a Peer Adviser. I mean that's what it's all about

right? Making a difference, one student at a time.

Edward James L. Justimbaste
BS Computer Science

Averian V. Jamias

CSA taught me that you should never let opportunities pass you by. As a student of Mapua I have to admit I did have tough times because we only have three months to finish our requirements and we don't have enough time to rest. For others being a peer adviser is hard but for me I saw it as an opportunity to meet new people and it could be my stepping stone for greater opportunities. I never thought that CSA would give me more than what I could contribute for the center and I am truly grateful for I wouldn't be where I am now if it wasn't for them. Successful people are forged in fire and it is a privilege for us to light the flame.

Averian V. Jamias
BS Computer Science

Niko Arellano

CSA has taught me one thing: knowledge of a person is not only nurtured by studying, but also by teaching and sharing it with others. I can say that I became more confident of all the learning's that I have acquired right now ever since CSA has given me the opportunity to become a peer adviser. Teaching other students became my assurance of whether I have learned or not. CSA has defined more of myself because not only did it helped me developed my intellectual self but also my social and emotional self. It was CSA that assisted me in reaching my goals and achievements and my stay in Mapua more convenient and worthwhile.

Niko Arellano
BS Computer Science