

## Editor's Notes

Some articles in this issue of the Journal tread into relatively unexplored but quite important concerns of study in Public Administration.

Foremost among these relatively unprobed realms of study is the executive branch of government. Based largely on the empirical data derived from an organization and management study of the Office of the President conducted by the UP College of Public Administration in 1987, Romeo B. Ocampo writes on "The President's Roles, Activities, and Private Office (1986-87): Patterns of Practice and Management Principles." Described here are the President's manifold roles, time budget and the organization and management of his/her Office.

The judiciary which is said to be the third branch of government is explored in the article written by Eduardo Q. Cabreros, Jr. entitled "An Overview of the Policymaking Role, Functions and Processes of the Judiciary." He contends that in the process of performing its regular function of executing legal decisions in resolving legal controversies, the judiciary also makes policies and often gets to implement such policies too.

Mobilizing people participation through community organizations has long been a focal point of government efforts. Towards this end, Perla E. Legaspi seeks answers as to what factors account for the viability and effectiveness of community organizations. Based on a survey of six credit cooperatives in the province of Pangasinan, she asserts in her article "The Genesis, Viability and Effectiveness of Community Organizations: The Case of Pangasinan Credit Cooperatives" that the manner by which a cooperative is formed--whether the impetus in organizing the cooperative comes from the government or nongovernment sector--determines to a large extent their future success.

It is a widely held belief that the use of the Management Information System (MIS) is one way of improving the management of projects in Third World countries. The exposition of Kenneth F. Smith entitled "Prerequisites for a Successful Project Management Information System" sketches the varied possibilities of applying MIS in a number of development projects and summarizes the wide-ranging perceptions of users and observers regarding its utility in promoting better project management.

Finally, Joaquin L. Gonzalez III argues in a review of the book *Politics, Position, and Power: From the Positive to the Regulatory State* by Seidman and Gilmour that the problems saddling reorganization efforts in the US and the Philippines are fundamentally alike.