

CLOSING REMARKS

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This Conference was all that we had hoped for. All the views were expressed with refreshing candor, at times even getting excited and exciting. The fruitful interchange of ideas and viewpoints, the lively interest displayed in areas of national and regional concern, and the alacrity with which you responded to our call for active participation not only in affairs of government but also in the endeavor of making political science a discipline that is vibrant and alive — all these made for a very gratifying experience that was the “First Northern and Central Regional Conference” of the Philippine Political Science Association.

No less memorable, I’m sure, was the atmosphere that was provided to us in the course of our discussions by the City of Baguio. On this I’m sure my colleagues will agree with me, especially those who yielded to the enticements of such attractions as “the Fireplace” and other distractions which gave us the opportunity to display other talents aside from being interested in political science and political studies.

Now I know why PPSA decided to go regional. How glad I am that PPSA decided to do so, and I hope that everybody shares my sentiments. Not only does it embody our desire to bring the concerns of the PPSA to our colleagues who are not Manila-based, but it also provides the forum or the avenue through which our colleagues outside Manila can get in touch with us so that together we can fully make of the discipline a truly engaging preoccupation.

I promised myself I shall give the shortest of closing remarks, and I’m living up to that. But not without expressing our deepest appreciation to those who made this conference possible: the conference organizers; the conference chairman and vice-chairman; to Dean Sophie Catbagan; to all the participants without whom this conference would not have been possible; to all the support staff, including the kitchen support; and to all those who made the stay a very pleasant experience, not least the provisions for bed and board.

Again, I say, thank you very much. We’ll keep in touch — in the name of political science!