

## FOREWORD

The **Philippine Political Science Journal** is pleased to offer a variety of articles on a theme that has been the center of concern and controversy among scholars and students of the discipline since antiquity, namely power and authority. Though the contributors to this double issue wrote their pieces for various occasions and purposes, they all dwell on the configurations of power and authority—their rationale, uses and consequences.

Five articles deal with the Philippine polity; two of which highlight economic and political change in Mindanao. One examines the country's development policies and United States development assistance from 1972 to 1980 and analyzes their consequences on national decision-making, the direction of economic development and the Philippine image as an independent sovereign state in international relations. Another essay evaluates the representative institutions in the Philippine Constitution vis-a-vis the realities of popular sovereignty under martial law administration. A third article traces the historical and constitutional basis of the power of judicial review by the courts and relates this to the twin necessities of judicial activism and judicial self-restraint in the context of the separation of powers and system of checks and balances in the Philippine political system. A fourth piece reviews the achievements of national development programs for Mindanao and points to opportunities for greater private sector participation in the area's progress. A fifth contribution examines the historical necessity and logic of the establishment of Regional Autonomous Government in Southern Philippines and the corollary changes and adjustments that must be made in central-local government relations to make regional government effective.

One article undertakes a retrospective analysis of two episodes on the Vietnam War to gain some insights into the decision-making process that took place within the Executive Branch of the US government. Undoubtedly, Philippine scholars and decision-makers alike will find this a thought-provoking case study in the light of present needs for national decision-making. The remaining work reviews a recent book, **Issues in Global Politics** and should spur readers to keep up with the burgeoning literature in political science.

In sum, this issue covers the major areas of political science and should convince the reader that the discipline marches on, undaunted by adversity. We invite your reactions, and, of course, your continuing support through your subscriptions. Only thus can we insure the quality and regularity of the **Journal**.

The Editor