

SOCIAL SCIENCE INFORMATION

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Editorial

This issue of the *PSSC Social Science Information* features an article by Prof. Luis Teodoro, Director of the Center for Media Freedom and Responsibility, on the Data Privacy Act and the Cybercrime Prevention Act. Prof. Teodoro reviews the provisions of the newly enacted laws, zeroing on provisions that inhibit free expression and hinder government transparency. He also looks into the swift passage of the two laws on one hand, and the failure of the 15th Congress to enact the Freedom of Information bill on the other.

This issue likewise contains reflective pieces contributed by five professional social science associations that are celebrating their milestone years. These include the Philippine National Historical Society which is making its 70th year of foundation; the Philippine Statistical Association which is celebrating its 60th anniversary; and, the Philippine Political Science Association, Psychological Association of the Philippines, and the Philippine Economic Society which are all observing their 50th year in 2012.

Finally, the issue provides information on PSSC's upcoming events as well as newly-released journals and graduate researches that are available at PSSC's Frank X. Lynch, SJ Library.

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Feature Article

FREE EXPRESSION AND THE CYBER CRIME PREVENTION ACT

by Luis V. Teodoro

The first media advocacy group to react to President Benigno Aquino III's signing into law in August and September 2012 of the Data Privacy Act (RA 10173) and the Cybercrime Prevention Act of 2012 (RA 10175), respectively, was the Center for Media Freedom and Responsibility (CMFR). CMFR is a non-government media freedom defense and advocacy group that, among other activities, tracks, evaluates and reports both old (print and broadcast) and new media (Internet news sites, blogs and social media) performance.

On 18 September 2012, CMFR issued a statement declaring that the bills' passage through Congress and Mr. Aquino's signing both "suggest how restrictive rather than expansive is the mindset of the country's legislators and of Mr. Aquino himself when it comes to enshrining in the law those principles—accountability and transparency, press freedom and free expression, etc.—to which he has repeatedly declared he is committed." (CMFR, 2012)

The CMFR statement (written in behalf of that organization by this author as CMFR Deputy Director) noted that:

RA 10173 and 10175 breezed through both houses of Congress within months after they had been introduced in 2011, and apparently were in no danger of being vetoed once they reached Mr. Aquino's desk.

The Data Privacy Act (RA10173), among other provisions, penalizes those in government who release information of a personal nature, which seems a reasonable enough restriction in behalf of the right to privacy—until one recalls that information on the personal lives of government officials often has a bearing on their performance as public servants accountable to the citizenry and is, therefore, among the legitimate concerns of the news media.

On the other hand, the statement continued,

The Cybercrime Prevention Act... incorporates the 82-year old libel law in the Revised Penal Code (RPC) in including libel among the crimes that may be committed through the use of computers. Under the provisions of the RPC on libel, the penalty for violators is imprisonment of six months for every count of libel committed.

Libel as a criminal offense has been used by past administrations as well as local officials today to harass and intimidate journalists. The outstanding example of its use against journalists was the filing by Jose Miguel 'Mike' Arroyo of 11 libel suits against 46 journalists during the disputed presidency of his wife Gloria Macapagal Arroyo. And yet Congress has through the decades ignored the demand from journalists and human rights groups for the decriminalization of libel.

Compare the speed with which RA 10173 and RA 10175 were passed—in both instances with only perfunctory public hearings—with the difficulties Congress is having with passing a Freedom of Information Act (FOI), and with Mr. Aquino's by now obvious aversion to it.

And yet certain honorable members of Congress have not been miserly with their lip service to the alleged need for an FOI. As for Mr. Aquino, since he became President, he has stopped talking about the need for one, after pledging during the 2010 campaign for the Presidency that he was all for it in behalf of transparency and as a means of insuring government accountability. The bottom line, apparently, is that neither Congress nor Mr. Aquino wants an FOI act passed, period.

The passage of the Cybercrime Prevention Act also suggests, among other possibilities, that both Congress and Mr. Aquino have chosen to ignore the 2011 declaration of the United Nations Human Rights Committee (UNHRC) that the Philippine libel law is excessive because it penalizes violators with imprisonment, contrary to the human rights protocols to which the Philippines is a signatory, and therefore must at least be reviewed towards decriminalizing libel. Either that, or the authors of the bills, and Mr. Aquino himself, are unfamiliar with both the UNHRC declaration, as well as with the long-standing demand to decriminalize libel in order to put an end to the use of the libel law to intimidate and silence journalists. Apparently, there is little hope that libel will ever be decriminalized. RA 10175 having in effect further strengthened it by widening its application.

RA 10175, cautioned CMFR, "is the first law affecting communication through cyberspace that has been passed in this country since the eCommerce Act of 2000. Prior to its passage, the Philippines had been distinguished among its Asian neighbors for the absence of regulatory legislation affecting the Internet. It can signal the opening of the floodgates of Internet regulation that will affect Filipino Netizens, given the restrictive mindset of the country's leaders. It is a distinct possibility to which journalists and bloggers, ordinary citizen and anyone committed to free expression through whatever medium, should be alert, and must be prepared to combat."

As is evident in the CMFR statement, and the subsequent filing of 14 petitions contesting the constitutionality of RA 10175 (NUJP 2012; Pinlac, 2012), much of the press and media community's post-2010 expectations of the press and media community critical of the Arroyo administration's antagonism to free expression and press freedom had not been realized during the Aquino III administration (CMFR, 2011).

The passage and signing into law of RA 10173 and 10175 occurred in the context of a continuing and so far failed decades-old campaign for a Freedom of Information Act (PCIJ, 2013), and against the continuing killing of journalists (CMFR, 2011).

The United Nations has held that access to government-held information is the necessary condition for transparency in governance and for empowering the citizenry to hold its elected officials to account (UNESCO, 2012). It is equally crucial to freedom of expression (FOE), the exercise of that right being premised on citizen's possession of accurate and meaningful information.

Freedom of Information (FOI) is as important as the exercise of press freedom. Without reliable information on the government they are tasked to monitor, journalists cannot discharge their "fourth estate" duties in a democracy.

The UN points out that access to information is a human right. Only when armed with reliable information can human beings take control of the social and natural environments that define their existence and realize the freedom essential to being human.

These truths notwithstanding, the 15th Philippine Congress went on recess without discussing the FOI bill in the plenary. The bill, which includes provisions drawn from the third Malacañang version as well as those other versions filed by other congressmen, did manage to pass the House Public Information Committee despite the foot-dragging of the Committee chair and the obvious attempts of congressmen opposed to it to stall it for as long as possible. But it never reached the plenary body for discussion from where it would have otherwise gone to the bicameral committee where it would have been reconciled with the version the Senate had already passed.

In contrast, RA 10175, the first version of which (SBN 2796) was introduced only on 3 May 2011 in the Senate, took less than two years to pass both Houses and to be signed by the President.

The inclusion of criminal libel is one of the most problematic provisions of the Act. Its Chapter II, “Punishable Acts” (Gov. Ph, 2012) has a long list of acts punishable under its provisions:

(A) Offenses against the confidentiality, integrity and availability of computer data and systems:

- (1) **Illegal Access.** — The access to the whole or any part of a computer system without right.
- (2) **Illegal Interception.** — The interception made by technical means without right of any non-public transmission of computer data to, from, or within a computer system including electromagnetic emissions from a computer system carrying such computer data.
- (3) **Data Interference.** — The intentional or reckless alteration, damaging, deletion or deterioration of computer data, electronic document, or electronic data message, without right, including the introduction or transmission of viruses.
- (4) **System Interference.** — The intentional alteration or reckless hindering or interference with the functioning of a computer or computer network by inputting, transmitting, damaging, deleting, deteriorating, altering or suppressing computer data or program, electronic document, or electronic data message, without right or authority, including the introduction or transmission of viruses.
- (5) **Misuse of Devices.**
 - (i) The use, production, sale, procurement, importation, distribution, or otherwise making available, without right, of:
 - (aa) A device, including a computer program, designed or adapted primarily for the purpose of committing any of the offenses under this Act; or
 - (bb) A computer password, access code, or similar data by which

the whole or any part of a computer system is capable of being accessed with intent that it be used for the purpose of committing any of the offenses under this Act.

- (ii) The possession of an item referred to in paragraphs 5(i)(aa) or (bb) above with intent to use said devices for the purpose of committing any of the offenses under this section.

(6) **Cyber-squatting.** — The acquisition of a domain name over the internet in bad faith to profit, mislead, destroy reputation, and deprive others from registering the same, if such a domain name is:

- (i) Similar, identical, or confusingly similar to an existing trademark registered with the appropriate government agency at the time of the domain name registration;
- (ii) Identical or in any way similar with the name of a person other than the registrant, in case of a personal name; and
- (iii) Acquired without right or with intellectual property interests in it.

(B) **Computer-related Offenses:**

- (1) **Computer-related Forgery.** —
 - (i) The input, alteration, or deletion of any computer data without right resulting in inauthentic data with the intent that it be considered or acted upon for legal purposes as if it were authentic, regardless whether or not the data is directly readable and intelligible; or
 - (ii) The act of knowingly using computer data which is the product of computer-related forgery as defined herein, for the purpose of perpetuating a fraudulent or dishonest design.
- (2) **Computer-related Fraud.** — The unauthorized input, alteration, or deletion of computer data or program

or interference in the functioning of a computer system, causing damage thereby with fraudulent intent...

- (3) Computer-related Identity Theft. — The intentional acquisition, use, misuse, transfer, possession, alteration or deletion of identifying information belonging to another, whether natural or juridical, without right: Provided, That if no damage has yet been caused, the penalty impossible shall be one (1) degree lower.

(C) Content-related Offenses:

- (1) Cybersex. — The willful engagement, maintenance, control, or operation, directly or indirectly, of any lascivious exhibition of sexual organs or sexual activity, with the aid of a computer system, for favor or consideration.
- (2) Child Pornography. — The unlawful or prohibited acts defined and punishable by Republic Act No. 9775 or the Anti-Child Pornography Act of 2009, committed through a computer system: Provided, That the penalty to be imposed shall be (1) one degree higher than that provided for in Republic Act No. 9775.

Directed at crimes committed via the Net, at first glance, the Act seems to penalize offenses only individuals who use cyber-technology for the dissemination, reception, and discussion of information, opinion, and analysis could commit. But among other offenses like child pornography, cyber bullying, prostitution via the Net, video voyeurism and cyber sex, the Act includes libel among criminal acts that may be committed online through the simple expedient of declaring libel, as defined by Article 353 of the Revised Penal Code, part of the Act.

Because no specific penalty is mentioned for online libel, Section 8 of the Act, which declares that the penalties prescribed for crimes in the Revised Penal Code shall be imposed one degree higher. Libel committed online, lawyer and UP law Professor Harry Roque, among others, has pointed out, could be penalized with 12 years of imprisonment (NY Times, 2012). What's worse is that it grants the Department of Justice the power to determine what acts over the Internet are prima facie evidence of

criminal activity, and empowers it to take down the offending material, thus subjecting alleged offenders to restrictions without trial or even a hearing.

Some critics have argued (Pinlac, 2012) that an individual already facing libel charges for a newspaper article could also be charged under RA 10175 if the article were uploaded online, quoted by bloggers and social media users, or even sent via email, since the Act declares that defamation "committed through a computer system or any other similar means that may be devised in the future" is punishable with imprisonment.

That eventuality would violate the protection against double jeopardy and would constitute a formidable barrier to free expression via the new media (the Internet) as well as the old (print and broadcasting). Similarly, critics fear that those who share or "like" a post in Facebook, Twitter or other social media sites could also be sued for libel.

Consequently, a petition against the Act (Pinlac, 2012)—signed by 20 organizations and 253 individuals—was filed on October 3, when RA 19175 was supposed to take effect.

The petition argues that RA 19175 established a regime of "cyber authoritarianism" and "undermines all the fundamental guarantees of freedom and liberties that many have given their lives and many still give their lives' work to vindicate, restore and defend." The petitioner-organizations include, among others, the CMFR, the Philippine Center for Investigative Journalism, the Center for Community Journalism and Development, the Philippine Center for Photojournalism, the Cebu Citizens Press Council, and the online publications *Bulatlat*, *PinoyWeekly*, and *MindaNews*.

The law, argues the petition, "restricts the rights and freedoms of netizens and impacts adversely on an entire generation's way of living, studying, understanding, and relating."

But despite the Act's provisions restrictive of free expression, during a September 24, 2011 round-table conference among lawyers, print and broadcast journalists, bloggers, and online news site executives and reporters, one blogger was ardently supportive of the Act, declaring that it was about time it was passed, given, she said, the unchecked spread of malicious and false information, the use of insulting language, unflattering video clips and other practices proliferating over the Web.

As problematic as the Cybercrime Prevention Act is, there is nevertheless more than ample room for improvement in the conduct of some bloggers and social media users over the Internet, while there is no arguing the need to curb criminal acts such as identity theft, child prostitution, human trafficking, etc.

Illustrative of the need for improvement is an August 2, 2011 incident (CMFR, 2011) in which a University of the Philippines student drove into a flooded street in Quezon City. The episode earned law student Christopher Lao a You Tube segment uploaded by a TV viewer based on a GMA7 video in which he is heard asking why nobody warned him about how deep the flood was. Lao and even UP became the target of abusive comments, name calling, and personal attacks over some blogs, Twitter, Facebook, and other social media sites, prompting CMFR, when asked to comment on it, to observe that it wasn't so much a problem of news media ethics as of online, especially social media, abuse.

Those citizens who disseminate information, opinion, and analyses over the Web, and who discuss them with other Netizens—in short, those citizens who essentially perform the tasks of what's increasingly (and mistakenly) being referred to as “traditional” (meaning via print and broadcast media) journalism—have been taken to task, for, among others, lese majeste as in Thailand (Asiaobserver, 2012).

Bloggers and social media users have also been sued by both private individuals and public figures in other countries. In December 2011, a blogger was sued for defamation in the United States for an online post that relied on an anonymous source of information. The judge ruled that the blogger was not a journalist, which put her beyond the protection of laws, including a shield law under the terms of which a journalist cannot be compelled to reveal his or her sources, covering journalists (Reuters, 2011).

In another case in July 2012, two bloggers were sued by the officials of a town in the US state of New York who claimed that their reputations had been damaged by false information disseminated in the blogs of the defendants (Guardian, 2011). The likelihood is that the Philippine Act will encourage such suits in this country, particularly for libel—which, if Prof. Roque is right, could earn those convicted penalties of as much as 12 years in prison.

The Constitutional challenge against the Act by civil libertarian and journalists' groups will hopefully be resolved within this lifetime. But citizen journalists—a category that includes bloggers and social media users who use their sites and Twitter and Facebook to disseminate information and to discuss issues of public concern—need not wait for it, though not out of fear of prosecution and imprisonment, but for the sake of protecting and enhancing the empowering and democratizing character of citizen journalism.

Bloggers, social media users, and other Netizens, who are essentially doing journalistic work by disseminating and discussing information, opinion, and analyses in the public sphere through the new communication technologies, are divided over the adoption of a common protocol that can be the basis for a self-regulatory regime online.

But given the rapid developments in both the old and new media environments, as well as in the technology itself, the crafting and adoption of such a protocol, which is already in place in some bloggers' communities (Cyberjournalist, 2012), is something that could enhance the challenge to such attempts at Netizen accountability as RA 10175 by demonstrating that citizen journalists can regulate themselves.

Crucial to such a protocol is the basic imperative of assuring the integrity of the information disseminated via the Net. Practitioners need to check their “facts” before posting a report online, for example. There is also a need to contextualize—in most cases, simply providing the background to a story being reported—as well as to provide space for divergent views. These are among the standards at the heart of the ethical codes of traditional journalism summed up in truth telling as a value.

This is not to imply that traditional journalism is somehow superior to citizen journalism—its conservatism, commercial focus, and conflict of interest created by an ownership system in which huge corporations with political interests are dominant in fact makes it so much the lesser—but to suggest that citizen journalists do not have to reinvent the wheel, given the rapid developments in technology as well as the vast complexity of society and the world that has to be accurately and completely explained through, among others, citizen journalism.

Citizen journalism does not have to be at odds with “traditional journalism,” the infirmities of which honest and skilled practitioners are trying to address through self-regulation, discipline, adherence to truth telling and its fundamentals, and by challenging conventional ways of thinking and ideological and political bias. “Traditional journalists” need not fear citizen journalism, and citizen journalists need not be defensive about what they’re doing. Both are after all doing the same thing, and among the indications of this is the former’s invasion of cyber space and the latter’s forays into print and broadcasting. Both being in the business of providing information, analyses, and opinion, they are not as different as, unfortunately, some have made them out to be. In the best practice of both is explaining the world, changing, and even helping win it made more possible today than at any other time in memory.

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Members' News



70 Years of the PHILIPPINE NATIONAL HISTORICAL SOCIETY

by Bernardita R. Churchill

The Philippine National Historical Society (PNHS) is today's oldest voluntary professional organization devoted to the study and research in Philippine history. Originally called the Philippine Historical Society, it was officially organized on 2 February 1941 when its constitution and by-laws were approved. While this was the first organization of historians in the country, there were other similar groups that actually preceded it—like the Asociación Histórica de Filipinas, founded by Felipe G. Calderon in 1905, and the Sociedad Histórico-Geográfica de Filipinas, founded in 1916 or 1917 by a group led by a Filipinist named Carlos A. Sobral. Both groups went defunct after just a few years although they managed to publish some issues of the *Revista Histórica de Filipinas* and *Boletín*, respectively.

Brief History of the Philippine National Historical Society (1941-2012)

The Philippine National Historical Society traces its beginnings to the History Club at the Philippine Women's University (PWU), which was organized by Eulogio B. Rodriguez sometime in the late 1920s when he was a history teacher in the same institution and concurrently serving as Assistant Director of the National Library. The PWU History Club published a quarterly called *The Historical Review*, which fostered historical scholarship during the pre-war period.

In 1941, Rodriguez and Eufronio M. Alip transformed the student history club into the Philippine Historical Society, now an organization beyond a mere student history club. The charter members included a veritable “Who’s Who” in Filipino intellectual life at that time. Among them were Antonio K. Abad, Elias M. Ataviado, Evergisto Bazaco, O.P., Conrado Benitez, Manuel I. Carreon, Horacio V. de la Costa, S.J., Jose Lopez del Castillo, Gabriel F. Fabella, Leandro H. Fernandez, Tomas S. Fonacier, Mariano del Prado Goyena, Maximo M. Kalaw, Pura Villanueva Kalaw, Leoncio Rizal Lopez, Paz Policarpio-Mendez, Camilo Osias, Jose Villa Panganiban, William C. Repetti, S.J., Walter Robb, Miguel Selga, S.J., Benito T. Soliven, Leopoldo B. Uichanco, Jaime C. de Veyra, Gregorio Yabes, Nicolas Zafra, and Gregorio F. Zaide.

The Society, according to its constitution and by-laws, aimed to “encourage and undertake the study of Philippine history.” To this day, this remains the fundamental aim of PNHS as it seeks to catalyze nationwide interest in and appreciation of history as the bedrock of Filipino national identity. The *Historical Review*, with its first issue in July 1941, became the Journal of the Philippine Historical Society.

Eulogio B. Rodriguez served as president of the Society at the time of its founding and throughout the years of the Second World War.

Eufonio M. Alip succeeded him around 1946, and served as the Society's president until his demise in 1976, during which time Marcelino A. Foronda, Jr. took over. In 1965, the Philippine Historical Society changed its name to Philippine National Historical Society. In the same year, the Society approved *The Journal of History* as the new name of its official publication.

The Society aggressively contributed towards setting the pace and agenda of historical research in the Philippines during the incumbency of Foronda, under whose leadership the Society effected a major intellectual shift in the agenda of Filipino historians away from what Resil B. Mojares, a distinguished lifetime member of PNHS, describes as "classical colonial scholarship," towards studies depicting the grassroots of Filipino culture and the life histories of individual Filipino communities in the regions.

This shift was concretized by PNHS in its First National Conference on Local and National History held at Xavier University in Cagayan de Oro City in 1978. Such a shift in intellectual focus has led to more research by historians on various aspects of provincial/regional history, which revised age-old stereotypes and perceptions regarding the Filipinos and their history and culture. Almost every year in October since 1978, the traditional annual national conference on local and national history is convened by the Philippine National Historical Society. The focus on local history was continued under the presidency of Leslie E. Bauzon from 1983-1994. In these conferences, papers were presented not only on history but also on other disciplines, such as archaeology, heritage studies, literature, anthropology, and other aspects of Philippine studies. Upon his appointment as Visiting Professor at Tsukuba University in Japan, Dr. Bauzon turned over the presidency of PNHS in February 1994 to Bernardita R. Churchill, former Chairman of the Department of History of UP Diliman. Dr. Bauzon was thereby designated as PNHS president emeritus. Under the term of the current president, Bernardita R. Churchill, the PNHS has continued its focus on multi-disciplinary/interdisciplinary studies in local history (provincial/regional), looking especially at cultural communities and regions that have not received much attention in historical research.

The diversity and comprehensiveness of the program of activities of PNHS merited from the Philippine Social Science Council (PSSC) an

Institutional/Disciplinary Award in 1993 as one of the two best member-associations of the Philippine Social Science Council (PSSC), of which the PNHS is a Charter Member. When then PNHS president, Leslie E. Bauzon, was Chairman of the PSSC Executive Board from January to December 1983, from 1991 to 1993, he served as Chairman of the PSSC Governing Council. The PNHS was once again awarded as one of the two Outstanding Regular Members "for its faithful and timely compliance with all PSSC membership requirements for the past five years" at the PSSC General Assembly on 16 February 2013. On the same occasion, the first Virginia A. Miralao Excellence in Research Award was given to Marco Stephan B. Lagman, PNHS Board Member, for his article entitled "Agricultural and Urban Land as Property and Resources in Nineteenth Century Pampanga," published in the *Journal of History* (January-December 2012).

PNHS Publications

The official PNHS publication, the *Journal of History*, is issued annually and features selected papers from the annual national conferences, refereed by a Philippine Editorial Advisory Board and an International Editorial Advisory Board. The *Journal of History* is available electronically in the Philippine E-Journals (www.ejournals.ph). The *PNHS Newsletter* has been published since 1995, and is now in its 13th volume. The PNHS started a monograph series with the publication of *In Search of Historical Truth*, edited by Leslie E. Bauzon. The other monographs are the following: *The Story of a Province – Surigao Across the Years* by Fernando A. Almeda, Jr. (1993); *Land of Hope, Land of Want – A Socioeconomic History of Negros, 1571-1985* by Violeta Lopez Gonzaga (1994); and *The Revolution in the Provinces*, edited by Bernardita Reyes Churchill (Centennial Volume, 1999); *Batis ng Kasaysayan 2011 – The Movement for Independence of the Philippines (1896-1898)*; *Calendar of Documents in the Archives of the Cuerpo de Vigilancia de Manila, National Commission for Culture and the Arts*, edited by Bernardita Reyes Churchill, Eden Manalo Gripaldo, and Digna Balangue Apilado (2011); and Teodoro A. Agoncillo's *Vignettes of Philippine History* (2012). PNHS also contributed the section on the discipline of history in Volume II of the *Philippine Encyclopedia of Social Sciences* entitled "History and Current Situation of the Discipline of History in

the Philippines”, published by the Philippine Social Science Council in 1993. This article was revised and updated, and was published in the *Philippine Social Sciences: Capacities, Directions, and Challenges*, edited by Virginia A. Miralao and Joanne B. Agbisit (2012).

Selected papers from two conferences have also been published in the Journal of History. “Selected Papers of the 9th National Conference on Local and National History” (Butuan City, 8-12 November 1988) was published in the volume *In Search of Historical Truth*, edited by Leslie E. Bauzon, and co-published with Heritage Publishing House (1992). Papers from the 12th National Conference on Local and National History held at MSU-Marawi (22-24 October 1991) were published in the issue, “The Shaping of Philippine History: Focus on Mindanao,” in the *Mindanao Journal* (MSU-Marawi: XIX:1-2, July-December 1992).

The Philippine National Historical Society has also co-published monographs with the National Commission on Culture and the Arts-Committee on Historical Research (which sponsored its annual conferences from 1995-1998 and also from 2002-2008), the Manila Studies Association, Inc., and the National Historical Institute (now the National Historical Commission of the Philippines), such as *Manila: Selected Papers of the Annual Conferences of the Manila Studies Association, 1989-1993*, edited by Bernardita Reyes Churchill (1994); *Determining the Truth, The Story of Andres Bonifacio, (Being Critiques of and Commentaries on Inventing a Hero)*, *The Posthumous Re-creation of Andres Bonifacio*, edited by Bernardita Reyes Churchill (1997, 1998); *A History of the Philippines*, by Samuel K. Tan (1998); and *Centennial Papers on The Katipunan and the Revolution*, edited by Bernardita Reyes Churchill and Francis A. Gealogo (Centennial Volume, 1999).

During the Centennial of the Declaration of Independence in 1998, PNHS, with the assistance and sponsorship of the National Centennial Commission and the National Historical Institute, under then Chairman and Executive Director Samuel K. Tan, conducted 16 regional seminar-workshops on oral and local history on the theme “History from the People” (“Kasaysayan Mula Sa Banyan”), thus continuing its tradition of advancing the frontiers of historical research in local history in the context of national history. The proceedings of the 16 seminars have been published in 16 volumes, four of which were edited by Digna Balangue Apilado, Bernardita

Reyes Churchill, Eden Manalo Gripaldo, and Violeta S. Ignacio. These seminar-workshops were held in Vigan, (Ilocos Sur), Tuguegarao (Cagayan), Muñoz (Nueva Ecija), Los Baños (Laguna), Naga (Camarines Sur), Miag-ao (Iloilo), Dumaguete (Negros Oriental), Dapitan (Zamboanga del Norte), Calapan (Mindoro Oriental), General Santos (South Cotabato), Cotabato City (Maguindanao), Bago City (Negros Occidental), Surigao City (Surigao del Norte), Koronadal (South Cotabato), and Bangued (Abra).

On 30 April 1999, PNHS received the Gawad Sentenaryo from the National Centennial Commission “Bilang pagkilala at pasasalamat sa mahalagang pakikiisa nito sa layunin at adhikain ng Komisyon upang maisakatuparan ang matagumpay na Pagdiriwang ng Sentenaryo ng Kasarinlan ng Pilipinas noong ika-12 ng Hunyo, 1998.”

National Conferences and Fora

PNHS is proud of its tradition—begun in 1978—of holding national conferences on local and national history. These conferences are held all over the archipelago in an effort to bring to teachers and students of history the most recent researches on local and national history and related disciplines, not only by national historians, but, more especially, also by local historians. In Luzon up to Kabikolan, nine national conferences have been held – in UP Diliman (1984), Ateneo de Naga (1990 and 2000), Ateneo de Manila (1996), UP Baguio (1999), Cavite State University (2004), Mariano Marcos State University, Batac, Ilocos Norte (2005), again in UP Baguio, and Ifugao State College of Agriculture and Forestry (ISCAF) in Banaue, Ifugao (2008), and Holy Angel University in Angeles City, Pampanga (2011).

In the Visayas, 10 conferences have been convened – at Silliman University, Dumaguete City (1979, 2001 and 2012); at the Negros Occidental Historical Commission in Bacolod City (1980); San Carlos University in Cebu City (1981); UP Cebu (2002); Palawan State University in Puerto Princesa (1994); Leyte Normal University in Tacloban City (1998 and 2006); and Holy Name University, Tagbilaran, Bohol (2009).

PNHS has convened the most number of national conferences in Mindanao and Sulu—fourteen altogether—hosted by the following institutions: Xavier University in Cagayan de Oro

(1978); Mindanao State University-Iligan Institute of Technology (1982); Surigao City Historical Commission in Surigao City (1985); Mindanao State University-General Santos City (1987, 1989, and 2010); Butuan City Historical Commission (1988); Mindanao State University-Marawi (1991); Mindanao State University-Bongao, Tawi-Tawi (1992); University of Southern Mindanao in Kabacan, North Cotabato (1993); Western Mindanao State University in Zamboanga City (1995); Mindanao State University-Jolo (1997); Surigaonon Heritage Center, Surigao City (2003); Tangub Historical Commission in Tangub City, Misamis Occidental; and Mindanao State University-General Santos in South Cotabato. The 2013 PNHS Conference was held at Liceo de Cagayan University in Cagayan de Oro.

In each of these conferences, it is usual to have a conference theme in order to draw attention to the region where the conference is to be held. For instance, the following themes were chosen for the various conferences: “Local Traditions and National History,” in Tawi-Tawi; “Focus on Maguindanao Studies,” in Kabacan; “Focus on Palawan Studies,” in Puerto Princesa; “The Lumad, the Bangsa Moro and the Christian Filipino: Documentary History of the Philippines,” in Zamboanga; “The Muslim Filipinos in Philippine History,” in Jolo; “The Unknown and Unsung Heroes of the Revolution: A Centennial Tribute,” in Tacloban; “History and the New Millennium: Northern Luzon in Perspective,” in Baguio; “The Millenarian Movements, Historical and Contemporary: Perspectives for the New Millennium,” in Naga; “A Century of Education in the Philippines,” in Dumaguete; “Towards a National History of the Philippines: Local History in the Context of National History,” in Cebu City; “Cultural History of the Philippines, Ethnohistory of Mindanao and Sulu,” in Surigao City; “Focus on Cavite and Beyond: Local History in the Context of National History,” in Indang, Cavite; “Focus on Northern Luzon: Local History in the Context of National History,” in Batac, Ilocos Norte; “Revisiting Visayan Historiography, Revisioning Philippine Historiography,” in Tacloban, Leyte; and “Focus on Mindanao and Sulu” in Tangub City, Misamis Occidental; “Philippine Ethnohistories: The Luzon Cordillera and Beyond,” in Banaue, Ifugao; “Towards a National History: Local History in the Context of National History,” in Tagbilaran, Bohol; and

“Towards a National History: Mindanao and Sulu Local History in the Context of National History,” in General Santos.

The 34th National Conference on National and Local History will be held at Liceo de Cagayan University, Cagayan de Oro City, on 24–26 October 2013.

PNHS celebrated its 70th founding anniversary with a commemorative conference at Holy Angel University in Angeles City, Pampanga, on 20–22 October 2011, with the theme “Celebrating 70 Years of the PNHS: Looking Back and Looking Forward—Historical Antecedents and Future Prospects in National and Local History.” The opening session of the conference presented papers on local historiography, including an overview of the state of history and historical studies in the Philippines, and separate papers on the historiographies of the Cordillera, of the Visayas, and of Mindanao and Sulu. Selected papers from this conference were published in the commemorative issue of the *Journal of History* 2012. The year 2011 also commemorated the Sesquicentennial (150th) Birth Anniversary of National Hero Jose Rizal and launched the *Journal of History Rizal Sesquicentennial Issue* (2012). The final commemorative issue of “Philippine Historiography and the Practice of History” was published last year. These commemorative issues reprinted selected articles from the *Journal of History* from 1941, when the first volume was published.

Aside from the annual national conferences held since 1978, the PNHS Board, since 2001, has also been holding a series of informal fora on Philippine history and historiography, and topics of relevance to the discipline of history. In a more intimate setting, a small and select group of academics/scholars discusses issues in history and historiography, and explores new avenues of research on a variety of topics in related social science disciplines and in the humanities. To date, 32 such fora have been held in the home of the PNHS president in UP Village.

The Annual National Conference of PNHS is the flagship project of the National Commission for Culture and the Arts—Committee on Historical Research, where the society is an accredited historical organization. PNHS is also accredited to the National Historical Commission of the Philippines (formerly the National Historical Institute),

where its president sits in the Technical Working Committee, which is tasked with organizing national holidays and other historical events. PNHS has also undertaken projects with the UNESCO Memory of the World Philippines Committee, where PNHS sat as the history discipline representative. Among the projects completed for the Memory of the World-Philippines Committee are: "Preliminary Inventory of Philippine Intangible Cultural Heritage" (2008), and the successful inscription of the Presidential Papers of Manuel L. Quezon to the UNESCO Memory of the World Register (2011, upon the nomination of the PNHS president). PNHS also has linkage with the Commission on Higher Education–Technical Committee for History, where its president sits as chair, and represents the discipline of history in the CHED Technical Panel on the Social Sciences and Communication. The other linkages of PNHS are with the following: Manila Studies Association, Inc., and Philippine Studies Association, Inc., where the PNHS president serves as president of both organizations; Philippine Studies Group (PSG) of the Southeast Asia Council (SEAC), Association for Asian Studies (AAS-Ann Arbor, Michigan), where the PNHS president sits in the Advisory Board; ICOPHIL Council (Council for International Philippine Studies Conferences), where the PNHS president currently sits as chair. The 10th ICOPHIL Conference is expected to be held in the Philippines in 2016. PSSC served as secretariat for PSA conferences (1985, 1986, 2003) and ICOPHIL conferences (1989, 2000, 2008), when they were held at the Philippine Social Science Center in Quezon City.

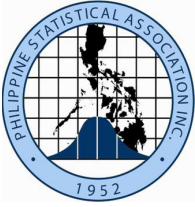
The Philippine National History had a simple mission and vision when it was founded in 1941—to study and record the country's past so that historical experience and memory would enable its people to live a meaningful life and plan for a glorious future for the nation. Thus, it saw that the task of the historian is to write history and expand the frontiers of historical knowledge in all its various aspects – political, socio-economic, cultural, intellectual, aesthetic. The initial focus of Filipino historians was on national history, as the country needed an anchor for its national identity after the

colonial experience under Spain, the United States, and Japan. Eventually, the Filipino historians turned to a more realistic view of Filipino history, which would go beyond the national—centered on Manila, the seat of politics and culture—to the periphery—the regions beyond Manila—to the provinces and towns where the bulk of the Filipinos lived. Hence, the growth of local history studies, multi-disciplinary and inter-disciplinary in perspective and methodology, to portray the mosaic of Philippine cultural communities that comprised the nation.

The Philippine National Historical Society has compiled a large body of historical literature. It is probably timely that, in the near future, it should review and assess the output of PNHS conferences (and the whole range of historical literature on the Philippines found in the Philippines and abroad) for the following purposes: (1) to establish and clarify new data and theoretical concepts; (2) to provide the occasion for a high level of academic discourse in an atmosphere of collegiality and mutual respect (in view of the varying perspectives and methodologies advanced by other groups of historians and practitioners of historical research); and (3) to look into the theoretical foundations for future research agenda. There is much that needs to be done in historical research.

The Philippine National Historical Society, as a Charter Member of the Philippine Social Science Council, will remain an active partner in the growth of PSSC, the lead social science organization in the country. The linkages which PSSC has established within the social science communities in the Philippines and abroad are crucial in providing Filipino social scientists with the instrumentalities to make meaningful contributions to their respective disciplines and to the social sciences in general.

[Portions of this article were written by Leslie E. Bauzon and published in the *Philippine Encyclopedia of the Social Sciences*, Vol. II (Quezon City: Philippine Social Science Council, 1993).]



The PSA Through Six Decades

by Philippine Statistical Association, Inc.

On 8 December 1951, ten professionals from the business sector and the academe met in Manila to deliberate on how statistics could be an instrument for enhancing human welfare. As they were all members of the American Statistical Association, it was most natural for them to conceive of organizing the Philippine Statistical Association on 22 December 1951 with seven additional members.

The first meeting of the Board of Directors took place a week later at the residence of Professor Cesar M. Lorenzo on 394 P. Guevara Avenue, San Juan, Rizal. They were guided by the following objectives: (1) to foster in the broadest manner statistics and its applications; (2) to promote unity and effectiveness of effort among all concerned with statistical problems; and (3) to increase the contribution of statistics to human welfare.

Membership in the PSA

The Association saw growth in its membership with 107 new individual members, of which 100 are regular members and seven as life members. There were two new institutional members. By the end of December 2012, PSAI has, on record, 825 individual members and 60 institutional members.

PSA individual membership is composed of: 197 regular members, 393 life members, and 235 members belonging to the eight regional chapters (regions 1, 2, 4-A Calabarzon, 6, 7, 10, 11 and SOCCSKSARGEN). Of the 60 institutional members, 22 are government institutions, 15 are from the private sector, and 23 are from the academe which come either from the government or private sector. Three student affiliate organizations include 131 students from two affiliate organizations based at the UP School of Statistics, and one from the Rizal Technological University.

Milestones

The 1950s

In June 1952, PSA published the first issue of its official scientific journal, *The Philippine Statistician*, now with ISSN 2094-0343, and on 24 September 1952, the Philippine Statistical Association, Inc. (PSAI) was registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) with registration number 7126. In the same year, the Executive Order creating the Statistical Advisory Board (SAB), the first high-level policy-making body, was drafted and passed into law two years later. The following year, PSA worked for the approval and implementation of Supplementary Agreement

Session of the UN Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East (ECAFE) Conference of Asian Statisticians in Manila. PSA also started awarding the PSA Exequiel S. Sevilla Scholarship Grant in Statistics to deserving students in the UP Statistical Center. The circulation of the *PSA Newsletter*—in mimeographed form—was started in 1974. This newsletter is currently known as *PSA Editions*, with ISSN 0031-7810. The Outstanding Service Awards were given to their first recipients—Professor Cesar M. Lorenzo and Dr. Enrique Virata—for their significant contributions to PSA in particular, and

No. 17 under the United Nations Technical Assistance Program, which led to the creation of the UP Statistical Training Center (UP STC)—that provides training for statistical manpower in government—on 23 September 1953. The UP STC later became a degree-granting institution under the name UP Statistical Center (UPSC), and has since evolved into what is now known as the UP School of Statistics (UPSS) in the UP Diliman Campus. Through the effort of PSA, the First Statistics Week was proclaimed from 9 to 15 January 1954 – the forerunner of national proclamations celebrating statistics consciousness weeks (1955, 1963, and 1972), in order to raise awareness on the need for a sound system of data production and utilization. Finally, on 1 January 1956, PSA initiated the passage of Republic Act No. 997 as amended by RA 1241, and pushed for the establishment of the Office of Statistical Coordination and Standards (OSCAS) under the National Economic Council (NEC), for an effective coordination and direction of all statistical activities in government. Ensuing government reorganizations saw OSCAS evolve into what would be the Statistical Coordination Office (SCO), now known as the National Statistical Coordination Board (NSCB).

In the 1960s

PSA led the observance of Statistics Consciousness Week from 23 to 28 September 1963. It conducted research projects under the National Science Development Board, and is best remembered for the *Handbook of Current Researches in the Philippines: 1964 and 1965*, and the *Survey of Scientific and Technological Manpower* in 1966. It started conducting research fora, and made PSA's presence more visible in the regions—with the creation of PSA chapters—and in the international community, notably the International Statistical Institute.

In the 1970s

On 8 October 1971, PSA obtained tax exemption as a non-stock, non-profit professional organization from then Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR). The following year saw the issuance of Proclamation No. 1086 declaring 17-23 July 1972 as National Statistics Week, during which month also, on 14-27 July 1972, PSA hosted the 11th

to the statistics profession in general. The same recognition would later be awarded to other eminent members and professionals for their outstanding contributions and undying commitment to the statistics profession, especially to PSA and what it stands for. Before the decade ended, it played a key role as a professional association when the Philippine Government hosted in Manila the 42nd Session of the International Statistical Institute in 1979.

In the 1980s

During this time, PSA became an affiliate member of the International Statistical Institute (ISI), Voorburg, Netherlands. It further earned the trust and respect of other international institutions, namely, the UN Development Programme (UNDP) and United States Agency for International Development (USAID), which provided funding assistance to its nationwide projects. From having a part-time staff, PSA came to employ a full-time secretariat on regular status. Later on, PSA obtained permanent quarters at the Philippine Social Science Center (PSSCenter).

In the 90s

PSA worked with the National Statistical Coordination Board to facilitate the proclamation of the month of October of every year as the National Statistics Month (NSM). Proclamation No. 647 was signed by President Corazon C. Aquino on 20 September 1990. With the National Statistics Office, PSA launched the First Philippine Statistics Quiz in 1992. It also contributed to the *Philippine Encyclopedia of the Social Sciences* (Statistics), published by the Philippine Social Science Council in 1993. This period also saw the need to craft and ratify an Amended Articles of Incorporation and By Laws, which was later on submitted to and approved by SEC on 5 September 1995.

In the 2000

A year-long commemoration of PSA's 50th Founding Anniversary (Golden Jubilee Year) from 24 September 2001 to 24 September 2002 was observed. Improvement of statistical literacy by reviewing statistics textbooks used at the college level, holding fora and public discussions to ward off misuse of statistics, conducting nationwide training of teachers of Basic Statistics at the tertiary level, in

cooperation with Statistical Research and Training Center and grant from Commission on Higher Education, has been PSA's contribution to quality education.

In cooperation with Marketing and Opinion Research Society (MORES), it advocated with the media the promotion of the right use of statistics, with special focus on interpretation of opinion poll surveys. It also saw in 2008 the crafting and ratification of the Code of Ethics for Statisticians and the launching of the PSA website, sponsored by Dr. Isidoro David. PSA facilitated the documentation, dissemination, and preservation of microdata of major censuses and surveys by the Bureau of Agricultural Statistics, the Bureau of Labor and Employment Statistics, and the National Statistics Office according to international standards and practices. This enabled the three major statistical agencies (MSAs) to adopt the tools and techniques of the International Household Survey Network, which led to the launching of the respective National Data Archive (NADA) of the MSAs (2009-2010). This was undertaken in partnership with the Accelerated Data Program/Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)/PARIS 21. As for the annual conferences, PSA began bringing them outside Metro Manila: in 2008, in Los Baños, Laguna, Region 4-A (in cooperation with UP INSTAT), in 2011, in Iloilo City, Region 6 (with the Department of Tourism as co-organizer), in 2012, in Davao City, Region 11 (with the Department of Agriculture and the National Statistics Office as co-organizers).

PSA hosted and spearheaded, in behalf of the Philippine Statistical System, the local observance of the United Nations 1st World Statistics Day Forum, dubbed "20.10.2010," with the theme "Improving Awareness and Trust in Government Statistics: Users' and Producers' Perspectives."

PSA facilitated the renovation of PSA quarters in preparation for the 60th Founding

Anniversary. The renovation was made possible through the generous sponsorship of a former PSA board member.

Finally, PSA made available training modules to non-members and foreign participants, who learned of the short courses through the PSA website.

60th Founding Anniversary Year (2012)

On 24 September 2012, PSA celebrated its 60th founding anniversary with a modest dinner and a simple program with PSA members and guests. Indeed, PSA has reason to celebrate when it obtained accreditation for The Philippine Statistician from the Commission on Higher Education (September 2012).

With PSA's next goal of an international accreditation, it applied The Philippine Statistician (TPS) with the Institute for Scientific Information (ISI), Thomson Reuters, USA.

During its 2012 Annual Conference in Davao City, PSA launched the Best Paper Competition, and before the year ended, it held its General Assembly and Annual Christmas Party with the highest number of attendees on 7 December 2012.

At 60, PSA was finally able to lay the groundwork towards eventual adoption of a process for certification and accreditation of practitioners in the statistics discipline by initiating focused group discussions.

Through 60 years, the PSA leadership has been faithful to the vision set by its founding fathers, that of promoting the growth and development of the statistics profession (now heralded worldwide as Data Scientists), use of sound statistical science to improve the welfare of Filipinos and the entire humanity, development of PSA as a nationally and globally recognized society of practitioners in statistics and allied fields, and continuing dynamism with the changing times and emerging technologies.



Celebrating 50 Years of the **PHILIPPINE POLITICAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION**

by Teresa E. Tadem

The Philippine Political Science Association (PPSA) was incorporated on 5 December 1962. Based on its revised by-laws, the purpose of the Association is to promote the advancement of political science as a formal discipline in the Philippines and elsewhere. Developing formal links with professional and scholarly organizations that help make political science more viable is a priority commitment of the Association.

More specifically, the Association endeavors to: (1) help develop the discipline of political science and its links with other academic disciplines; (2) promote the professional growth of teachers, researchers, and other academics directly involved in the study of political issues and related concerns; (3) conduct conferences and meetings for discussing issues relating to the formal study and the substantive practice of politics in the Philippines and other countries; and (4) publish an Association journal, books, monographs and other scholarly materials dealing with politics and governance.

The PPSA is a non-stock, non-profit, non-partisan, and non-sectarian organization. Among the incorporators of the PPSA include eminent political scientists such as the late University of the Philippines (UP) Political Science Professors Emeritus Remigio E. Agpalo, who is also its founding father, and Emerciana Y. Arcellana. Those who have served as PPSA president were the following: Remigio E. Agpalo, Loretta Makasiar-Sicat, Carolina G. Hernandez, Carmencita T. Aguilar, Malaya C. Ronas, Jorge V. Tigno, Maria Ela L. Atienza, and Ronald D. Holmes. Its current president is Teresa S. Encarnacion Tadem. With the exception of Holmes, all the PPSA Presidents were/are from the University of the Philippines.

Membership

PPSA membership is open to all individuals who subscribe to the PPSA's aims. There are three classes of members in the Association. These include 1) Lifetime Members: These members include the following: a) those who signed the Articles of incorporation of the Philippine Political Science Association in 1962 (Charter Members); b) those who paid for lifetime membership prior to 1999 (per the provisions of the original Charter of the Association); and c) past presidents of the Association; 2) Regular Members: These members are professionals who are subsequently invited to join and finally elected to membership in the Association after 1962 and who are current in paying the annual membership fees; and 3) Associate Members: These are members who are non-professionals, especially students or other persons who are keenly interested in political science or any of its related fields, who have applied for and are elected to membership for a specific period and upon payment of the required fees.

In 2012, PPSA renewed its SEC registration for the next 50 years.

Milestones in the PPSA

PPSA, through its activities in general and its annual conferences in particular, has continuously and critically engaged fellow academics (not only in political science but also in the other social science disciplines), policymakers, nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), and social movement players, as well as public intellectuals, on topics touching on day-to-day political realities at the local, regional, and international arenas. One of its many strengths is that it is multidisciplinary in its approaches as well as in its engagements.

Among the major milestones of PPSA are its conferences and the publication of its scholarly journal, the Philippine Political Science Journal.

PPSA conferences

The major highlight of the Association's activity is its annual conferences. The PPSA conference generally draws the participation of around 100 to 150 participants.

In 1978, PPSA embarked on its first regional conferences. These conferences carried the following themes: "Political Integration and Nation-Building: Focus on Southern Philippines" (Maguindanao Royal Hotel, Cotabato City/7-8 March 1978); "Development, Politics: Philippine Perspectives" (University of San Agustin, Iloilo City/11-12 March 1978); "National Development and Regional Priorities" (Baguio City/21-22 July 1978); and, "Politics for Development: Processes & Strategies" (University of the Philippines, Diliman/21-22 October 1978).

PPSA's first national conference was held in 1995 in Lingayen, Pangasinan. This was followed by its 1997 national conference with the theme "Furthering Democratization and Development through Elections" on May 8-9 at the Philippine Social Science Council (PSSC) Auditorium. Present were several "presidentiables," including Vice President Joseph Estrada, Speaker of the House Jose de Venecia, and Senator Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, who provided detailed preview of their respective priority programs. The two other national conferences and their respective themes included the following: "The Diversity of Politics and the Complexities of Democratization" (8-9 November 2002) with University of the Philippines President Francisco Nemenzo as keynote speaker, and "Strengthening Society, the State and the Discipline," (23-25 October 2003) with Reynaldo C. Ileto, Professor of Southeast Asian Studies at The National University of Singapore, as keynote speaker.

PPSA decided to convert its annual conferences into international conferences, beginning in 2004. Below are the themes and details of PPSA international conferences :

- "Is the Liberal Moment Over?," 23-24 October 2004, College of Saint Benilde International Conference Center of DLSU-Manila,

with Keynote Speaker Professor Benedict Triakervliet of the Australian National University.

- "Bringing the People Back In," 21-22 October 2005, MetroCentre Hotel, Tabilaran City, Bohol, with the Philippine Social Science Council and the Ateneo de Zamboanga as co-sponsors. The Keynote Speaker was former University of the Philippines President Jose V. Abueva.
- "Alternatives," 27-28 October 2006, Ateneo de Zamboanga University, Zamboanga City, with The Asia Foundation, the City Government of Zamboanga, PSSC and Ateneo de Zamboanga University as co-sponsors. The Keynote Speaker was Antonio J. Ledesma, SJ.
- "Rethinking Representation," 2-3 April 2007, Intercontinental Hotel, Makati City, with the Konrad Adenauer Stiftung as co-sponsor. The Keynote Speaker was UP Professor of Political Science Felipe Miranda.
- "National-formation, State-building and Political Science in the Philippines: Looking Back, Probing Inwards," 11-12 April 2008, Bethel Guest House, Dumaguete City, Negros Oriental, in partnership with PSSC and hosted by Silliman University, with support of Gov. Emilio Macias & the Provincial Government of Negros Oriental. The Keynote Speaker was Carolina G. Hernandez, Professor for Political Science, University of the Philippines, Diliman.
- "Reimagining the Nation-State: Consensus and Conflict on Sovereignty and Autonomy," 3-4 April 2009, Family Country Hotel and Convention Center, General Santos City, with The Asia Foundation, PSSC, and the Mindanao State University as co-sponsors. The Keynote Speaker was Fr. Eliseo "Jun" Mercado, OMB.
- "Transition," 8-10 April 2010, University of the Philippines College Baguio, with The Asia Foundation, PSSC, and UP Diliman as co-sponsors. The Keynote Speaker was Temario Rivera, Professor of International Relations at the International Christian University, Tokyo, Japan.
- "Democracy Contested: Progress, Reversal, Defects, and Prospects," 29-30 April 2011, University of St. La Salle, Bacolod City, Negros Occidental, co-sponsored by PSSC.

The Keynote Speaker was Paul Hutchcroft, Professor of Political Science, The Australian National University.

- Celebrating 50 Years of the Philippine Political Science Association. "Building on the Past, Reflecting on the Present, and Charting Future Directions in Studies on Philippine Politics," with Friedriech Naumann Stiftung, the PSSC, and The Asia Foundation as co-sponsors. The Keynote Speaker was Professor Emeritus of Political Science David Wurfel, York University.

The Philippine Political Science Journal

The *Philippine Political Science Journal* (PPSJ), which is the journal of the Association, was first published in 1979 through a grant from the National Science & Technology Authority through the Philippine Political Science Council (PSSC). In 2000, the PPSJ, under its new editor-in-chief, Dr. Temario Rivera, was successfully released on time for the past two years. The editorial board was also enlarged to include well-known Filipino political scientists and acknowledged experts on Filipino politics.

The other milestone years of the PPSJ are the following: 2002, when the PPSJ became a refereed journal; 2007, when the PPSJ underwent the three-year evaluation process of Thomson Scientific for possible ISI-certification; 2009, when first ISI-indexed issue of PPSJ was launched; 2010, when the PPSJ's 2nd issue was released after ISI-certification is conferred Category A accreditation, the highest accreditation given by CHED; and, 2012, when PPSJ was co-published by Routledge of the Taylor & Francis Group.

Citations and Awards

PPSA has received the following awards:

- 2004 Plaque of Recognition from PSSC in recognition of the full compliance of PPSA with PSSC membership requirements;
- 2012 A Special Citation to the Philippine Political Science Association for the listing of the Philippine Political Science Journal in the ISI Social Sciences Citation Index was presented by PSSC during its general assembly in March; and

- 2013 "Outstanding Regular Member Award" was given to PPSA by PSSC during its general assembly in February for its faithful and timely compliance with all PSSC membership requirements for the past five years.

Publications

Through the years, PPSA also produced the following publications: 1) *Government and Politics: Structures and Processes*, 1991; 2) *Democratization: Philippine Perspectives*, published by the University of the Philippines Press, 1997; 3) *Politics and Governance Training Modules*, 1999.

Other Activities

In 2006, PPSA launched its new website & electronic discussion group: <http://www.philpolsci.net> (website) and <http://www.groups.yahoo.com/group/philpolsci> (discussion forum).

Through the years, the Association has also embarked on the following series of activities: 1) held symposia and lecture-discussions on burning issues; 2) conducted training and outreach programs on the teaching of political science; 3) acted as a conduit for institutions to come together, such as in 1988 when it performed this role for the House of Representatives, The Asia Foundation, the Rotary Club International, & the Kapisanan ng mga Brodkaster sa Pilipinas; participated in international organizations, such as the International Federation of Social Sciences (IFSSO), in 1997; 4) provided assistance to national associations, such as the National Academy of Science and Technology, in 1998; and 5) co-sponsored conferences with international associations, such as the International Political Association's Study Group 17's Workshop on "Socialism, Capitalism & Democracy."

The PPSA's 50th anniversary on 5 December 2012 thus celebrated all the achievements and milestones it has pursued through its five decades of existence. But more importantly, it continues to recognize that there are more challenges ahead for the Association to confront in the next 50 years of its existence.



PES Marks 50th Year with Back to Back Conferences

by Alvin P. Ang

In the midst of encouraging local economic performance and the difficult global economic environment being faced by the Philippines in 2012, the Philippine Economic Society (PES) embarked on a theme that focused on how to push the country towards a sustainable growth trajectory. This is crucial as decades of economic policy making have been unable to sustain reduction in poverty and increase in employment. This is the same challenge facing the current administration of Pres. Aquino and his predecessors.

In addition, the current economic environment came at the time that PES is about to celebrate its 50th founding anniversary. It is timely then, that PES adopted the theme: “The PES at 50: Retrospectives and Prospectives.” The objective was to look back and recall how PES participated in broader economic policy making and in the development of the Economics profession then and now. A key objective was also to find out what were the conditions that led to the founding of PES in 1962. Meanwhile, as regards broader economic policy making in the past five decades, PES hopes to draw lessons to guide current policymaking to achieve sustained economic growth that has eluded the country till now. Prominent policy makers, most of whom were former presidents of PES, were invited to give their thoughts on this issue.

The conference was held at the Philippine International Convention Center (PICC) on 27 November 2012. It brought together economists and policy makers from the academe, private sector, government, and non-government organizations to discuss development issues facing the country. An estimated 400 participants attended the sessions. Many of the participants were encouraged by the line-up of the plenary sessions, which focused on bringing back former cabinet secretaries and policy makers. They were given a first-person account of the challenges that faced economic policy in the past, such as the oil price shocks, high interest rates, and the international debt crisis.

The program included three main plenary sessions and six (6) parallel panel sessions. The first plenary session focused on the founding of PES and the early years of its foundation. The speakers included the 2nd President of PES, Amado Castro; the 3rd President, Benito Legarda; and the 5th President, Placido Mapa, Jr. Dr. Castro spoke about the conditions that led to the formation of PES and the desire to professionalize the Economics profession. Dr. Legarda interconnected theory and practice of Economics during the early years, while Dr. Mapa closed the morning plenary with a discussion on the precursor of the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA)–Program Implementation Agency and the Philippine Economic Staff.

The second plenary session focused on the role of PES in direct policy making. Former Prime Minister Cesar Virata and Dr. Gerardo Sicat spoke about their experiences during the Marcos Administration. Former PM Cesar Virata reminded us that economics cannot ignore the political sphere, and reminisced on the difficulties of pushing more market-oriented economic policies through nationalistic law-making bodies that tended to be protectionist. Indeed, this had ramifications on market reforms in trade and tariffs. Dr. Gerardo Sicat reminded us how important infrastructure was in sustaining growth, and how it was infrastructure which is one outstanding aspect of the Marcos years. He also stressed the importance of the country's economic managers' being able to talk directly to one another so as to better coordinate policy. He thought also that this was one positive aspect of the Marcos years. Dr. Jesus Estanislao talked about the role of reforms during the Corazon Aquino term, and Dr. Cielito Habito expounded on the continuation of reforms during the Ramos Administration. Former Finance Secretary Jesus Estanislao noted that economists generally agree on the benefits of free trade, but pushing through reforms to freer markets often encounters political opposition. As PM Virata observed, many of our politicians are businessmen as well and may have interests to protect. Former NEDA Secretary Cielito Habito spoke about how a focused leadership helped remove internal barriers to domestic trade during the administration of President Ramos.

The third and closing plenary session, meanwhile, provided the background of current efforts by the Aquino Administration through the Socio-Economic Planning Secretary and former PES President Arsenio Balisacan. This was followed by the crisp analysis of the Philippine Development Failure by former UP School of Economics Dean and National Scientist Dr. Raul V. Fabella. Both Dr. Fabella and Secretary Balisacan cautioned on the current service sector's centric structure of the economy. Dr. Fabella argues that manufacturing tends to create more employment than the services sector, and thus may merit assistance. Yet this recalls the import substitution debates of previous decades, when the country arguably pursued a more activist industrial policy.

During lunch, Presidential adviser on the environment Sec. Nereus Acosta was invited to talk on climate change and the environment, and the economic impact and cost of a degraded environment on the economy.

Aside from the plenary sessions, there were parallel sessions that touched on human capital development, mining taxation, technology and infrastructure, industrial policy, and economics education. Among the most attended was the session on mining taxation, where four presenters led by IMF Resident Representative Shanaka Peiris spoke on the fiscal regimes for mining and petroleum; Tristan Canare of the Asian Institute of Management (AIM) presented their research on revenue sharing scheme for mining; Artemio Disini of the Chamber of Mines gave the perspective of the mining industry to the reforms; and Donna Gasgonia of the Mines and Geoscience Bureau discussed transparency in mining taxation. The session was ably moderated by Dean Ramon Clarete of the UP School of Economics.

The parallel session on industrial policy also elicited a number of audience with ADB economist Dr. Norio Usui and BSP Monetary Board member Felipe Medalla calling for a more vibrant manufacturing sector. Board Member Dr. Jose Camacho organized the parallel session on Economics Education. This session focused on the future of education in the country by looking at the cost efficiency of State Universities and Colleges (SUCs) and finding reasons why boys underperformed in schools vis-à-vis girls. The session on Technology and Power gave specific recommendations on the power issues in Mindanao and the public transportation system in Metro Manila. The session on human capital investments was chaired by PES Board Secretary Aleli Kraft and dealt with issues on demographic transitions, family and human capital accumulation. Finally, the regular student paper sessions organized by the Junior Philippine Economic Society (JPES) through its president, Christine Olimpes, provided opportunities to highlight the best student papers from De La Salle University, UP School of Economics, and UP Los Baños.

The Annual Meeting drew over 400 participants, both members and non-members, representing a broad sector of society: academe (including students), business professionals, government, and NGOs. Many participants are significant thought leaders in business and society, or occupy positions in their institutions, from both private and public sectors, that can influence decision making. Some journalists, both local and international, were also present during the event and they interviewed some of the speakers and reported on some of the parallel sessions. Likewise, many students and their teachers were present during the event. Not all who attended were economics students and teachers, which validate the importance of the topics discussed.

Also part of the 50th Anniversary of PES was the holding of the Conference of the Federation of ASEAN Economic Association (FAEA). This Conference is the 37th meeting and the Philippines was hosting it again after six (6) years. PES, as the country's representative organization for Economics, had the task of organizing the conference. As the host organization, PES recommended the theme

“Towards Inclusive ASEAN Economic Growth.”

This is primarily in support of the forthcoming ASEAN integration in 2015. The Conference was spread over two days immediately after the PES Annual Meeting. Among the key speakers were Dr. Charles Horioka of Osaka University, who spoke on the Saving Rates in Asia; Jayant Menon of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and World Bank Economist Rogier van den Brink, who spoke on narrowing the development divide in ASEAN. On the second day, Shanaka Peiris of the IMF gave the plenary address, and presentations were given by Deputy BSP Gov. Diwa Guinigundo, Eli Remolona of the Bank for International Settlements, and Pres. Hans Sicat of the Philippine Stock Exchange. A total of 10 parallel sessions dealing on topics like small and medium enterprises (SMEs), financial and capital markets, food security and environment, competition and social protection were spread over those two days. About 30 paper presenters and 100 local participants were involved in engaging discussions throughout the conference.



PAP Celebrates 50th Year

by Ma. Regina M. Hechanova

Our Roots

On 11 November 1962, six Filipino psychologists met at the Selecta Restaurant along C.M. Recto Avenue. They were Dr. Agustin Alonzo, Dr. Alfredo Lagmay, and Dr. Sinforoso Padilla from UP, Fr. Jaime Bulatao from Ateneo de Manila University, Dr. Jesus Perpinan from Far Eastern University, and Dr. Mariano Obias, head of Personnel at Caltex. On that day, the Psychological Association of the Philippines (PAP) was born. Five decades hence, what began as a handful now number thousand.

Our Wings

PAP was founded to ensure the quality of psychological education and services in the country. It held its first conference in 1964 and has since held one every year. In 1995, PAP co-hosted its first international conference in partnership with the International Council of Psychologists. PAP also became a founding member of the ASEAN Regional Union of Psychological Societies (ARUPS) and has co-hosted other international conferences.

In 1968, the first issue of the *Philippine Journal of Psychology* was published. The journal is now published bi-annually and features an international board of advisers.

National recognition of Psychology as a science came when Dr. Alfredo Lagmay was included among the first batch of Filipino Scientists who were elected into the National Academy of Science and Technology (NAST). This was followed by the recognition of many psychologists as Outstanding Young Scientist, National Social Scientist, and Ten Outstanding Women in the Nation's Service, among others.

Twenty years after its foundation, PAP introduced a bill in the Batasang Pambansa that would require practicing psychologists to be licensed. However, it would take two more decades

before its efforts at quality assurance would come to fruition. And finally, on 16 March 2010, the Psychology Bill RA 10029 was passed into law.

A Golden Year

This year, PAP celebrated its 50th anniversary. The activities of the organization revolved around the theme "Strengthening the Discipline, Serving the Nation."

Strengthening the Discipline

In order to strengthen the discipline, the organization focused its attention on capability building and quality assurance. As part of its efforts at capability building, the various divisions sponsored Continuing Professional Education workshops, including: Test Development and Adaptation (Educational Psychology), Cognitive and Behavioral Techniques in Emotion Management (Clinical, Counseling, Assessment), Conducting Child Custody Evaluation (Clinical, Counseling, Assessment), Issues and Trends in Assessing Adolescents (Developmental, Assessment), Developing Instruments for Research in Educational Psychology (Educational Psychology), Strategic Training and Development (IO Psychology), Qualitative Analysis using Open Source Tools (Social Psychology), Principles and Practices of Service, Learning in Psychology (Teaching Psychology).

PAP continued to implement its certification program for Clinical, Counseling, Developmental, Social, Educational and IO Psychologists. Moreover, PAP assisted the Professional Regulatory Commission in drafting and communicating the Implementing Rules and Regulations of the RA 10029 or the Psychology Law.

The anniversary year was also celebrated during PAP's Annual Convention in Cebu City in 16-18 August 2011. Dr. Patricia Licuanan, social psychologist and chairperson of the Commission

on Higher Education, gave the keynote address. The plenary speakers included Dr. Allan BI Bernardo, who talked about strengthening research, Dr. Lota Teh, who talked about strengthening teaching, and Dr. Sylvia Claudio, who talked about strengthening practice. PAP awarded 10 travel grants of P5000 each to selected members from under-represented areas who presented papers in the PAP National Convention. The 2012 convention in Iloilo was the biggest PAP convention with about 1100 scholars and practitioners in attendance.

As part of its anniversary celebration, PAP published the book *50 years of the Psychological Association of the Philippines: Milestones, Inspiration and Aspiration*. The book features the history of PAP and psychology in the Philippines. It presents write-ups of 50 psychologists who have built the discipline and have been recognized for their efforts. It ends with the aspirations of psychologists for the future.

Serving the Nation

In celebration of its golden anniversary, PAP demonstrated its commitment to nation building by strengthening its public advocacy work. PAP partnered with Interaksyon (the news and information portal of TV5) and came up with monthly columns that aimed to educate the public on different psychological topics. Sixteen columns were published in 2012 and covered a variety of topics that were salient to current events. In the aftermath of Typhoon Sendong, the following articles were released: Coping with trauma, Helping children cope, Helping survivors deal with loss and grief. For the olympics, the following research-based articles came out: What makes a champion, Student athletes, Spirituality among student athletes. Other articles included: Coping with prolonged unemployment, Saving the environment, Dealing with learning disabilities, Bullying: of victims, bullies and bystanders, Coping with loneliness overseas, Analyzing the RH Bill debate, PTSD and violence, Understanding violence, Juvenile justice, and Gender identity.

PAP also came out with three public statements in 2012, including a statement of support for the Ordinance Prohibiting Sexual Discrimination in Cebu City and a position paper against the amendment of the Juvenile Justice and Welfare Act, which lowers the age of criminal responsibility from

15 to 12 years old. PAP also read this statement in a forum on the topic conducted by the Commission on Human Rights in November 2012.

To celebrate its founding on 11 November 1962, PAP held Mission Month. During this period, psychologists donated their services and ran a variety of workshops for free. In partnership with the Department of Education, psychologists ran a series of seminar-workshops for public school teachers in Manila on Caring, Protecting, and Valuing Diversity among Students. Featured in these workshops were topics on positive discipline, anger management, dealing with bullying in schools, diagnosing children with special needs, and counseling students with gender issues. The Assessment Division gave a workshop to psychologists of the National Center for Mental Health on assessment techniques. The Teaching Psychology Division offered a workshop for psychology teachers on statistics. The Industrial-Organizational Division partnered with the Ateneo Center for Education Development to run strategic planning workshops for selected schools in Quezon City. Psychologists from other parts of the Philippines likewise ran workshops in Bukidnon, Zamboanga City, Davao, Baguio, and in partnership with institutions such as the Department of Social Welfare and Development, Zamboanga City Jail, Tahanang Walang Hagdan, among others. In the aftermath of Typhoon Pablo, PAP raised funds to support psychologists based in the Ateneo de Davao Center for Psychological Extension and Research Services in providing psychosocial support for the victims of the typhoon.

The Future Yet to Be

Even as it celebrated the past, the PAP board also recognized the need to keep moving forward. Thus, after consulting its members, the PAP board and division officers drafted a new vision and mission and strategic plan. With its new stated vision, "PAP is an internationally recognized leader in Psychology in Southeast Asia," PAP's strategic plan articulates its commitment to achieving eight key result areas: professional development, quality assurance, research and publications, international participation, public awareness and advocacy, partnerships and extension, inclusive growth and organization development.

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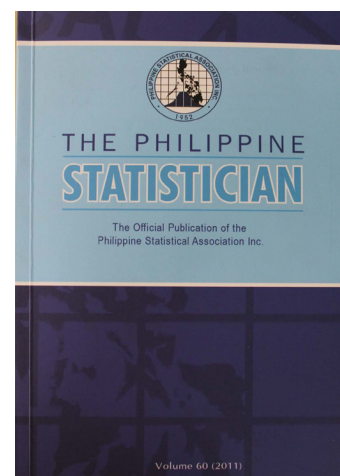
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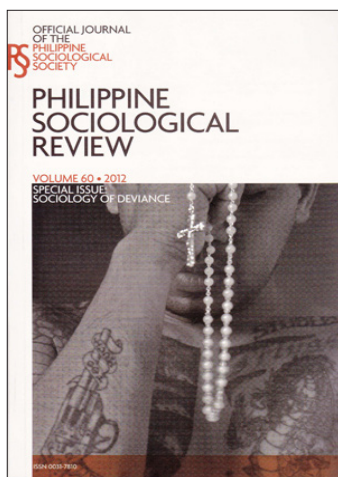
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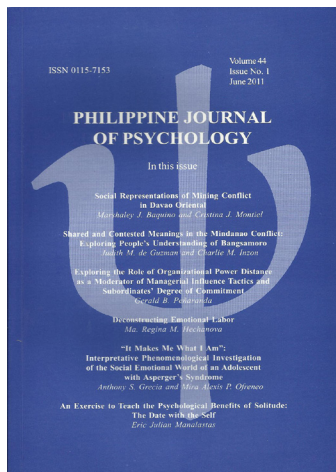
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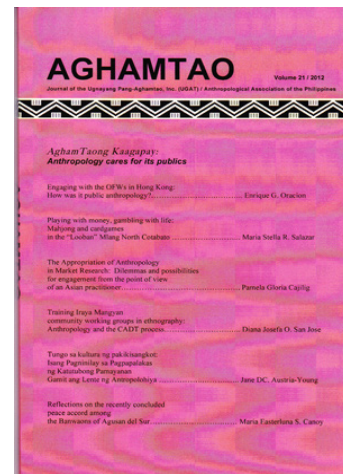
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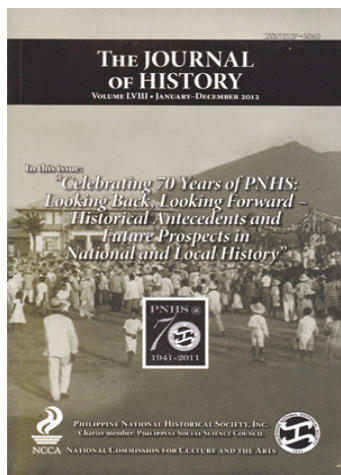
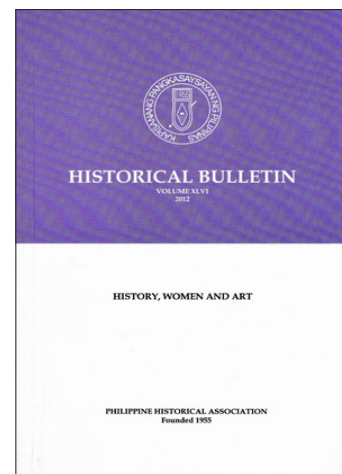
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PSSC/RAP-FUNDED THESES AND DISSERTATIONS

Exploring Risks, Health Risks and Health Insurance: The Case of San Antonio Health Maintenance Organization (SAHMO) as a Community-based Health Insurance Scheme

Rizza Kaye C. Cases (MA Sociology)

The qualitative study focuses on health risks that households encounter within the context of a community-based health insurance scheme. In this case, health insurance is one strategy that households have used in connection to the other available options in dealing with health-related risks.

While health risks have considerable impact on vulnerable households and individuals, this research examines health risks vis-à-vis other risks that the households experienced and think will experience. It further explores the link between representations and valuations towards health-related risk events and other risk events that households and individuals encounter.

The paper argues that health risk as well as health insurance do not exist as separate entities as people encounter and experience them. It examines the various strategies that households and individuals consider and use to manage risks they face in their everyday lives. These are then tied to understanding the factors that enable (or constrain) people to enroll and to continue their membership in a health insurance system in general, and in a community-based health insurance scheme in particular.

The overarching thesis of this research is that notions of risks, health, and health insurance are defined, interpreted and acted upon within particular local contexts and specificities of individuals.

The Socio-moral World of the Filipino Catholics in Brussels, Belgium

Hector Guazon (PhD Anthropology)

Building in researches pertaining to Filipino religiosity and morality, Filipino practice of Roman Catholicism in transnational setting, and anthropology of Roman Catholicism, my study attempts to understand the ways in which Filipino Catholics' practice of Roman Catholicism and concomitant resources have taken various trajectories in the moral lives of the Filipino migrants in the lights of varying cultural and social situations in Brussels, Belgium where they are embedded. With this, the study seeks to contribute to the discussions and debates on the anthropology of Roman Catholicism and morality. On top of rendering Roman Catholicism with particular cultural logic, the study attempts to understand the ways Filipino Catholics in Brussels engage Roman Catholicism in their actions and interactions that take place within their local moral world. For the Filipino Catholics in Brussels, Belgium, the local world is composed of a web of functionaries of the Belgian state, the Roman Catholic chaplaincy, their fellow Filipino migrants, as well as their Filipino relations in the Philippines. Within this local world, the Overseas Filipino Workers' (OFW) greatest stakes that center on residency, care, intimacy, and religious practices, are shaped and regenerated. While they are preoccupied with and direct their serious undertakings to achieve these stakes, the moral precepts they negotiate with also come to the fore. Although these moral precepts maybe influenced by Roman Catholicism, the paper argues that they are undoubtedly socially and culturally distinct and, as played out by Filipinos as Overseas Filipino Workers in Brussels, Belgium, they are particular.

**The Moderating Effects of Teacher's
Self-efficacy on the Relationship of Job
Satisfaction to Teacher's Autonomy,
Perceived Collective Efficacy, and
Supervisory Support**

Josefina C. Ochoa (PhD Educational Psychology)

Self-determination theory posits that job satisfaction is predicted by personal and social factors that serve as resources in the workplace (Deci, et al., 2001). Teachers need to feel autonomous, competent and related. These needs are fulfilled from perceiving teacher's autonomy, collective efficacy and supervisory support. As these needs are fulfilled, job satisfaction may result. Teachers as cognizing individuals rely on their belief in their capability to manage tasks and regulate the impact of personal and social factors in their workload, personal and social spheres of teaching. Social cognitive theory puts in self-efficacy at the center of a model whereby predictors influence an outcome. This study corroborated the model that teacher's efficacy dimensions moderate the relationship of job satisfaction and autonomy, perceived collective efficacy and supervisory support. Utilizing scales measuring each of the five variables among 639 teachers in a hierarchical regression analyses, the study found that teacher's autonomy, perceived collective efficacy and supervisory support predicted workload, personal and social job satisfaction. Furthermore, teachers' efficacies in overcoming challenges and in gaining other's trust and appreciation (Caprara, et al., 2003) moderated between supervisory support and workload, personal and social job satisfaction. Specifically, supervisory support enhanced personal and social job satisfaction among highly efficacious teachers in overcoming challenges and among the less efficacious teachers in gaining other's trust and appreciation. In contrast, supervisory support worsened workload job satisfaction among the highly efficacious teachers in gaining other's trust and appreciation.

**Pedro Kipte and the Pulahanes in Masbate,
1898-1902**

Renato N. Pelorina (PhD History)

The writing on Masbate's history, particularly during the revolutionary period, is long overdue. Masbate is not well represented in local history written by both Bicol and Visayan local historians. The study is on Pedro Kipte and the Pulahanes in Masbate during the revolutionary period with particular focus from 1898 to 1902. Like the Katipuneros, the Pulahanes in Masbate have their share in the collective Filipino people's struggle for freedom from colonialism.

The study specifically examines: first, how geography played a significant role in the birth and development of Pulahan movement in Masbate; second, how the Pulahanes viewed and responded to the Tagalog revolutionary forces from Luzon who organized the revolutionary government in the island; third, how the Pulahanes viewed, fought, and resisted the American expeditionary forces when the latter arrived from Luzon to occupy Masbate. The study used the historical method. It is primarily based on archival materials, published memoirs, and oral interviews. Field work was conducted in the different places in Masbate especially those towns and barrios where the descendants of Pedro Kipte are still living at present. Fieldwork interview was conducted for about two months, from November to December 2009.

The study concludes that the Pulahanes emerged in Masbate because of the exploitative political and economic conditions under the Spanish colonial government. Under the leadership of the legendary and largely forgotten Visayan fighter Pedro Kipte, the Pulahanes had their own initiative in fighting against colonialism and successfully ended Spanish colonialism in Masbate. The Pulahanes are the true liberators of Masbateños from foreign yoke. This being so, they should be considered heroes during the revolutionary period in Masbate.

Beyond the Hold of Death: The Issues and Concerns of Women Formerly on Death Row in the Philippines

Diana Therese M. Veloso (PhD Sociology)

The ethnographic study examines the life histories and persisting concerns of women who once received the death sentence in the Philippines. The research examines the circumstances that led to these women's incarceration and sentencing, and the consequences thereof for their families, particularly their children. This study also looks into the impact of the June 2006 abolition of capital punishment on their situation.

The research methods for this project included participant observation with former death row inmates in the Correctional Institution for Women (CIW) and the Correctional Institution for Women-Mindanao (CIW-Mindanao). The researcher also conducted in-depth interviews with 27 women formerly on death row, nine members of their families, and eight corrections staff. Finally, the researcher engaged in document analysis of prison and dormitory rules and regulation, articles and reports on the death penalty and incarcerated women in the Philippines, and other pertinent sources.

The majority of inmate-respondents were incarcerated for kidnapping and drug-related offenses. A smaller proportion of women were incarcerated for such crimes as: parricide (killing their husbands), murder, car theft with murder, and arson with homicide. Only 10 women pleaded guilty; of this, two women charged with parricide claimed that they had killed their husbands in self-defense or in response to their in-laws' abuse of their children. The remainder claimed that they had been implicated in the offenses of their husbands, partners, relatives, and/or acquaintances, or framed by more players in the drug trade, drug users negotiating a lighter sentence, law enforcement agents, and members of organized crime syndicates. The majority also reported police brutality upon their arrest.

When asked about their time of death row, the majority of the women recalled their fear and outrage when they were sentenced to death, especially those who insisted in their innocence, and their inability to eat, sleep, and concentrate shortly after their transfer from jail to prison. The women largely acknowledged the moral support of their fellow death row inmates. Others recounted the stigma they faced as death row inmates.

All the women mentioned the sense of relief and hope they felt upon the abolition of capital punishment. The women's sentences have since been commuted to life imprisonment without parole. The only exceptions are those whose sentences were commuted to regular life imprisonment terms before the abolition of the death penalty. There is a great deal of confusion among the women as regards the terms of their new sentence, in that many assume that they are automatically eligible for parole.

To date, no sociological studies on women formerly on death row, let alone women inmates, have been conducted in the Philippines, thereby reinforcing their invisibility. This research intends to make women formerly on death row visible and to advocate for continued reforms in the criminal justice system on their behalf.

This ethnographic study examines the life histories and persisting concerns of women who once received the death sentence in the Philippines. This research examines the circumstances that led to these.

Council News

20th AASSREC Biennial General Conference to be hosted by PSSC

The Philippine Social Science Council is set to host the 20th Association of Asian Social Science Research Councils (AASSREC) Biennial General Conference on 4-6 April 2013 in Cebu City. Themed “Ageing in Asia-Pacific: Balancing the State and the Family,” the conference aims to examine the role and responsibilities of the state and the family in providing care for and improving the wellbeing, usefulness, and participation of the elderly.

The theme of the conference was chosen by the member-Councils of AASSREC during the Business Meeting in Manado, Indonesia in October 2011. To flesh out the details of the theme and discuss logistics for the conference, the AASSREC Executive Council composed of Dr. Isabel Martin (President), Dr. Aswatini Raharto of the Indonesian Institute of Sciences (2nd Vice President) and Dr. John Beaton, met on 21-22 January 2012 in Cebu City.

All 16 member-Councils of AASSREC are expected to present country papers on the theme. These include the Academy of the Social Sciences in Australia, Social Science Research Council of Bangladesh, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, Indian Council of Social Science Research, Indonesian Institute of Sciences, Iranian Sociological Association, Science Council of Japan, Korean Social Science Research Council, Korean Association of Social Scientists of DPR Korea, Malaysian Social Science Association, National Science Foundation of Sri Lanka, National Research Council of Thailand, Philippine Social Science Council, Vietnamese Academy of Social Sciences, The Royal Society of New Zealand, and Academia Sinica-Taiwan. The conference is likewise expected to draw scholars engaged in elderly/ageing research and demographic transition studies; program implementers and service providers catering to the elderly; and policymakers and other professionals interested in the topic of ageing and its societal impact.

PSSC to convene the Seventh National Social Science Congress

The Philippine Social Science Council is holding the Seventh National Social Science Congress (NSSC VII) on 7-9 May 2008 at the Philippine Social Science Center, Commonwealth Ave., in Quezon City. With the theme “Generations,” NSSC VII aims to capture the continuities and changes that have transpired in Philippine society across generations.

Over 60 social science faculty members, researchers and practitioners will present papers exploring the various dimensions of the conference theme, including the demographic transitions over the years and emerging issues affecting contemporary population, political mobilization across time, changing notions and use of space, varied language use, and the rise of internet and social media generation.

Prof. Randolph David, Emeritus Professor of the University of the Philippines and concurrent Commissioner of the UNESCO National Commission of the Philippines, is set to deliver the keynote speech at the opening rites. Leading Filipino social scientists, who had served as Chairs of PSSC, will be featured in two special plenary sessions. Demographer and national scientist, Dr. Mercedes Concepcion, will talk about the early years of PSSC, while economist and former NEDA Director-General, Dr. Cayetano Paderanga will discuss the macroeconomic history of the Philippines.

The National Social Science Congress is a quinquennial event that serves as a forum for Filipino social scientists to share their knowledge and expertise on given themes and reflect on their role in and contributions to the country's human and social development.

PSSC invites nominations for the Virginia A. Miralao Excellence in Research Award

The Philippine Social Science Council invites its member-organizations to nominate deserving social science scholars for the first Virginia A. Miralao Excellence in Research Award. The Award, which comes with a cash prize, recognizes the best article in a refereed publication written by a promising young scholar in the profession.

The Award was established through a generous grant from Dr. Belinda A. Aquino, professor and director of Philippine Studies at the University of Hawaii at Manoa. It aims to honor the “invaluable and distinguished contributions of Dr. Miralao to the development of social science in the Philippines primarily in her role as Executive Director of the Philippine Social Science Council for many years, and as a talented scholar herself in the field.”

Nomination guidelines and procedures may be downloaded from the PSSC website (www.pssc.org.ph). Deadline for submission of nomination documents is 29 November 2012.

Call for Applications



PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

PSSC's Research Award Program (RAP) was established in 1972 to support the training and development of young Filipino social scientists.

RAP provides modest financial assistance to graduate students in the social sciences to enable them to complete their thesis or dissertation. A maximum of P50,000 is available for PhD students and P25,000 for MA students.

ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for RAP grants, applicants must:

- 1) be graduate students in any one of the following disciplines: anthropology, communication, economics, demography, geography, history, linguistics, political science, psychology, social work, public administration, sociology and statistics. Graduate students in other fields (e.g., education, philosophy, Philippine studies) whose thesis/dissertation topics relate to the social sciences can also apply, but will be accorded lower priority in RAP grants; and
- 2) have successfully defended their thesis/dissertation proposals at the time of application.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

All applications must be received by the PSSC-RAP Secretariat no later than 15 March of every year. Visit the PSSC website, www.pssc.org.ph/RAP, for the detailed application procedure and requirements.

No application will be reviewed unless all requirements have been received by PSSC, and no application will be returned to the applicant.

Results are announced on the first week of May.



NATURE OF THE GRANT

The program provides supplementary financial assistance to individual scholars to help defray travel, accommodation and/or registration costs for attending an international/overseas conference. A maximum of \$500 will be given to scholars who will be presenting a paper or poster.

ELIGIBILITY

To qualify for a PSSC travel grant, an applicant must:

1. be a bonafide member of a regular or associate member-organization of PSSC;
2. be endorsed in writing by his/her association through its President or authorized officer;
3. not have enjoyed a PSSC travel grant in the last three years immediately preceding the application; and
4. have submitted all required application documents at least six weeks before the conference.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

All applications must be received by the PSSC Secretariat six weeks before the date of the conference. Visit the PSSC website, www.pssc.org.ph/TAP, for the detailed application procedure and requirements.

All applications shall be accepted on a "first-come, first-served" basis. Furthermore, only those applications with complete documentation shall be reviewed by the PSSC Grants Committee.

Applicants will be notified of the result of their application as soon as the PSSC Board of Trustees or Executive Committee has made a decision on the recommendations of the Travel Grants Committee.

PSSC Central Subscription Service and Book Center

The PSSC Book Center helps promote Philippine social science materials, particularly the publications of PSSC and its member-associations. The Book Center also carries books and journals released by the country's leading university presses and social science institutions. It sells individual copies of publications, accepts orders for specific titles, and services subscriptions for regular journal publications. The list of available titles at the PSSC Book Center can be viewed at the PSSC website (www.pssc.org.ph) and facebook account.

For orders or subscription and payment details, please write to the PSSC Book Center at: **CENTRAL SUBSCRIPTION SERVICE**, Philippine Social Science Council, PSSCenter, Commonwealth Avenue, UP P.O. Box 205, Diliman, 1101 Quezon City, Philippines
Tel: 922-96-27, Fax: 924-41-78 E-mail : css@pssc.org.ph.