

PREFACE

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The University of the Philippines Department of Sociology has a continuing Public Affairs Program to complement its Academic Program. The Public Affairs Program aims to engage the public in a discussion of vital sociological issues. As part of this effort, the Department organized a lecture-symposium on August 18, 1998 on the theme: *(Re)Imagining Sociology Beyond the 1990s: Trends and Prospects for the Discipline in the Coming Millennium*.

In 1970 Alvin Gouldner critically examined sociology as an academic discipline and enjoined sociologists to contemplate on *The Coming Crisis of Western Sociology*. In the 1990s Charles Lemert re-assessed the discipline - *Sociology After the Crisis* - where he paints a picture of a vanishing sociology as a social science. As the millennium comes to a close, the Department held a debate on what the future holds for the discipline of sociology and how this discipline is able to maintain its relevance in the future.

We were privileged to have as panelists in that lecture-symposium six respected scholars who are authorities on various areas in sociology. We asked them to share their views on how to sociology.

Each provided us with insights that provoked a discussion on future problems and their implications for sociology. We thank them for their thought-provoking contributions: Professor Raul Pertierra (*The Future of Sociology and the Sociology of the Future*); Professor Donald Shoemaker (*Sociology as an International Discipline: Observations on Theory*); Professor Robert Klinteberg (*Quo Vadismus Sociologistae*); Professor Hazel McFerson (*A Sociology for Peace Curriculum in International Relations*); Professor Cynthia Bautista (*Sociology and the Social Sciences in the Philippines: Development and Prospects*); and Professor Randolph David (*Sociology in the Postmodern World*).

This lecture-symposium project was made possible through the effort of various organizations and individuals. The Department is indebted to *Management and Organizational Development for Empowerment, Inc.* (MODE) for the generous support it gave us to ensure the success of our project, to the members of *Kalipunan ng mga Mag-aaral sa Sosyolohiya* (KMS) for assisting us in the preparation and actual conduct of this project, and to the Department's

research and administrative staff (Imelda Reyes, Tony Oliva, Oda Uy, Boyet delos Santos) for ably performing the additional tasks required of them. We thank the members of the faculty who took part in the program of the lecture-symposium and made it more memorable: Mr. Pancho Lara who acted as Moderator, Fr. Salvador Orara who gave the convocation, and to Professor Ofelia Angangco who inspired us with her closing remarks.

The *Philippine Sociological Review*, through this volume, presents the papers delivered in that lecture-symposium. The UP Department of Sociology thanks the Philippine Sociological Society through its President Professor Sylvia Guerrero; and the *Philippine Sociological Review* through its editor-in-chief Professor Virginia Miralao for giving us the opportunity to publish and disse-

minate this important contribution to sociology.

We are especially grateful to Professor Raul Pertierra for accepting the responsibility of editing this volume. Ms. Josephine Dionisio as his co-editor assisted him in this task. We thank the contributors who agreed to review the books included in this issue: Mr. Gerardo Lanuza, Mr. Arnold Alamon, Professor Filomin Candaliza-Gutierrez, Professor Raul Pertierra and Fr. Salvador Orara.

Last, but not least, the Department of Sociology is proud of the dedication and hard work poured into this project by our junior faculty, led by Ms. Josephine Dionisio and ably supported by Mr. Arnold Alamon, Ms. Filomin Gutierrez, and Ms. Joy C. Arguillas. Their dedication made this project a resounding success.