



PHILIPPINE SOCIAL
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Volume 52 (2024)



THIS ISSUE

In this issue, we are featuring what social scientists do best—doing research and thinking critically social issues of the times. In between, we listen to eminent scholars give their take on the development of the social sciences through lectures, roundtable discussions and publications. We participate in the acquisition and generation of knowledge through our training sessions, conferences and production of journals.

Our first showcase of excellent research focuses on pregnant Filipinas, who visit health facilities, but struggle to deliver their babies there. Written and well inquired by Denise Hyacinth Joy B. Musni, this MA thesis, won the Loreta Makasiar Sicat Prize award in 2023. Musni who currently takes her PhD at the Center for Demographic Research – University of Louvain, Belgium flew home to deliver her lecture on 25 April 2024. Her home institution in the Philippines, the UP Population Institute could never be prouder of this recognition by its student.

Another social scientist who reveals her critical gaze on the upcoming 2025 Mid-Term Philippine Elections, presents an article that explains political parties and citizenship, including some challenges and emergent election concerns. Edna E. A. Co, MPA, DPA, a former Dean of the National College of Public Administration and Governance, University of the Philippines, preliminary observes election behavior and practices that challenge electoral reforms. She emphasizes that the election is about the role of the citizen – voters who have the chance and the choice to make the right decision.

Next, we were privileged to have our former chair, Academician Allan Bernardo deliver a scientific lecture during the PSSC General Assembly on 17 February 2024. He posed a dare to PSSC to integrate the works of the social scientists and transcend the limitations of their respective disciplines.

Meanwhile, with a partnership agreement with Rex Education, we implemented the Saliksik Kasaysayan: A Compendium of Resource Materials on Philippine History, together with the Philippine National Historical Society (PNHS) and the Philippine Historical Association (PHA). Eleven (11) illustrious fellows were chosen to take stock of and secure the articles, materials, and references on Philippine history.

Fulfilling our mandate to share knowledge, PSSC continues to conduct social science training courses on Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Social Research, Designing Social Science Research, and Ethics in Human-Participant Social Science Research.

We held the second installment of the roundtable discussions (RTD) of “The Past, Present, and Future of the Social Sciences in the Philippines” in partnership with the Lyceum of the Philippines University. In here, we picked the brains of four distinguished social scientists: Dr. Alejandro S. Bernardo (Linguistics), Dr. Allan B.I. Bernardo (Psychology), Dr. Ma. Luisa T. Camagay (History), and Dr. Edna Estifania A. Co (Public Administration and Governance).

They envision a bright future for the disciplines of social science through the continuing collaboration with scholars and institutions and PSSC’s dedication, leadership, and service. Finally, we constantly supported the Philippine Migration Research Network by organizing an international conference that reflected on the 50 years of PH labor migration.

We also recognized and honored social scientists through our various grants. The 3rd Loreta Makasiar Sicat Prize for the Social Sciences granted the award to Denise Hyacinth Joy B. Musni of the University of the Philippines Population Institute (UPPI). Her article, “Mind the Gap: An Analysis of the Discontinuity Between Antenatal Care and Facility-Based Delivery Among Filipino Mothers” delves into the issues of maternal and child health in the Philippines.

Moreover, the 2024 Virginia A. Miralao Excellence in Research Award (VAMERA) paid tribute to Dr. Pia Patricia A. Tenedero of UST Research Center of Social Sciences for her winning book, “Communication that Counts: Language Practice and Ideology in Globalized Accounting.” She demystified the skill of communicating as a disability among accountants as she delves into the language, communication practices, and ideologies emerging from accountancy education and workplaces in the Philippines.



SOCIAL SCIENCE INFORMATION

Volume 52 (2024)

What's Inside...

OUTSTANDING RESEARCH

Pregnant Filipinas visit health facilities, but struggle to deliver their babies there 3

FEATURE

The 2025 Mid-Term Philippine Elections, Political Parties, and Citizenship:
Old Exercise, Some Challenges and Emergent Concerns 5

COUNCIL NEWS

Academician Allan Bernardo delivers a lecture during the PSSC GA 11
 Saliksik Kasaysayan: A Compendium of Resource Materials on Philippine History 12
 PSSC continues conduct of social science training courses 13
 PSSC holds second roundtable discussions on Philippine social sciences 15
 PMRN conference reflects on the 50 years of PH labor migration 17
 UPPI clinches top prize for 3rd LMS Prize 20
 UST faculty bags 2024 VAMERA 22

SPOTLIGHT

A Journey to the Past: How Ernesto Acosta Became a Cornerstone of PSSC 23

PSSC GRANTS PROGRAM

Nurturing an Environment for Disciplinary Advancement:
Latest Developments in PSSC Grant Programs 25

OFF THE PRESS

29

THE PSSCENTER

33

This Issue (cont.)

As in the past issues, this issue spotlights the journey of our Center Manager, Ernesto Acosta who has harvested many memories of achievements, challenges, teamwork, and commitment.

Finally, what makes this issue special is the presentation of compiled data on how PSSC has been nurturing an environment for the disciplinal advancement of scholars. In an article written by our interns from the Polytechnic University of the

Philippines, we bring you latest developments and trends in our PSSC Grant Programs and present information on the number of awardees, classification by discipline sex, academic background, affiliation and regional distribution. It gives us pleasure to think that we have gone this far to champion the growth of Filipino social scientists and social science research—and there is no stopping us to serve the social science community.

Lourdes M. Portus, PhD
PSSC Executive Director

PSSC SOCIAL SCIENCE INFORMATION

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In line with the mandate of PSSC, the PSSC-SSI seeks to promote the dissemination of social science knowledge and research findings and their use in public policy-making. As a newsletter, PSSC-SSI aims to circulate activities and events of its member-association.

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Pregnant Filipinas visit health facilities, but struggle to deliver their babies there

DENISE HYACINTH JOY B. MUSNI

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We have a saying in Filipino that during childbirth, women have one foot in the grave (*isang paa sa hukay*), as not a few women perish in an attempt to bring forth life. Around four to seven (4 to 7) Filipino women die daily from pregnancy and childbirth, and the Philippines lags behind its neighboring countries in reducing its maternal mortality rate.

To prevent these deaths, pregnant women are encouraged to consult with formal healthcare providers, to have at least four (4) antenatal

care (ANC) contacts during their pregnancy, and to deliver their babies in a health facility. Policies tend to emphasize the promotion of facility-based deliveries, as the Department of Health attributes maternal deaths to at-home deliveries. Local government units have thus enforced the controversial “No Home Birthing Policy” by imposing fines on women who deliver babies outside health facilities and on the birth attendants who assist them.

In reality, nearly all Filipino women are able to have at least one ANC contact, but many are unable to have four, and much less deliver in health care facilities. This research sought to understand why this situation occurs despite most women’s contact with formal health providers.

With data from the 2017 National Demographic and Health Survey in the Philippines (NDHS), I examined factors correlated with facility-based delivery



among a sample of 6,294 women who had a recent live birth and at least one ANC contact during their pregnancy.

A couple of key findings and their implications are worth emphasizing. First, I found that even after controlling for other variables, women’s likelihood of delivering in a health facility increases with each additional ANC contact and each additional service received. The statistical model that includes antenatal care variables showed a better fit to the data, suggesting that antenatal care experiences may impact one’s predisposition to deliver in health facilities. This may be because women develop trust in the formal healthcare system through subsequent ANC visits, and they feel taken care of with additional services. Some literature also notes that health workers are able to encourage women to deliver in health facilities during ANC contacts. In real-world settings, there is thus a unique oppor-

tunity to see if women will be able to deliver in a health facility by monitoring the frequency of their ANC check-ups. Appropriate interventions on enhancing access to facility-based delivery may then take place during the ANC phase.

The second key finding is that education and financial capacity are among the primary factors linked to utilization of maternal healthcare services. Being highly educated, having a highly educated spouse, belonging to a rich household, and being affiliated with PhilHealth increases women's odds of delivering in a health facility. Conversely, low socioeconomic status and lack of health insurance increases the likelihood of home births. These results reflect the unfortunate reality that healthcare access and experience are largely defined by social class. These results also add nuance to the first key finding – increasing ANC contacts and services may have been associated with facility-based delivery because educated and rich women also access good-quality antenatal care.

Overall, this study underscores the inequalities driven by the commodification of health services and insufficient investments in public healthcare. Pregnancy and childbirth are expensive. Public facilities may be more affordable, but equipment is inadequate, healthcare providers are overworked, patients line up for hours, and overcrowding is unavoidable. The maternity ward of the Fabella Memorial Hospital in Manila alone sees an average of 60 deliveries per day, with three mothers sharing one bed. According to a DOH executive in 2021, there are only 1.2 beds available per 1,000 Filipinos, said to be comparable to the bed density of the poorest countries in the world. Further, 50% of Filipinos travel more than 30 minutes to get to the nearest primary healthcare facility. This can be particularly challenging for pregnant women in labor, some of whom have had to give birth on the way to a health facility. It would not be surprising then that some pregnant women feel as though giving birth at home is safer on top of being cheaper.

The study's recommendations start with a call

for the government to end its preoccupation with banning home births. Maternal healthcare services have been found to be interrelated, and thus interventions should be comprehensive. Significant efforts should be made towards improving the uptake of ANC and the quality of ANC services, beyond encouraging facility-based delivery. As prenatal checkups are less time-sensitive compared to delivery, there should be a way to bring ANC services into the homes of pregnant women, especially those residing in remote areas.

In other low- to middle-income countries, the increase in facility-based deliveries have not led to significant decline in maternal mortality because of still-deficient facilities and services. Improving maternal healthcare in our country therefore necessitates broader supply-side public healthcare system improvements – more affordable medicine, better-equipped facilities, infrastructure that connects people to providers, decent wages for healthcare workers, and support for medical research and development.

Finally, cultural practices may conflict with health professionals' advice, as is the case for Muslim and indigenous women who prefer care from trusted community members over unfamiliar doctors. Health practitioners and policymakers must thus begin reflecting on how home births may be permitted in certain cases, while ensuring women's safety and access to emergency health facilities when needed.

If our country's humanity is measured by how we treat our most vulnerable, we have much to reflect on when it comes to supporting pregnant women, children, and marginalized communities.



Credit: Tzogia Kappatou | Getty Images | Canva.com

The 2025 Mid-Term Philippine Elections, Political Parties, and Citizenship: Old Exercise, Some Challenges and Emergent Concerns

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This essay tenders a nippy preliminary observation relative to the upcoming 2025 mid-term elections in the Philippines. Political parties are certainly central to elections. As the paper visits election as a political exercise, Citizenship and the role of citizens are core to elections and raise concerns. The essay speaks of electoral behavior and practices of old seasons and recognizes how such stubborn practices and more, continue to pose a challenge to electoral reforms.

INTRODUCTION

The mid-term 2025 election is set to pick leaders at the local level of government. For the House of Representatives (HoR), 253 district and 63 Party list

members will be voted for. Twelve (12) members will be elected for the Senate to complete the total of 24 slots. At the local government level, representation looks at 81 provinces, 145 cities, and 1,489 municipalities. By sheer number, a fierce local “political battle” is on.

As of the 9th of October 2024, the last day of the filing of the Certificate of Candidacy (COC), there were 184 candidates for the Senate and 190 Party List groups. Some party list wannabes are candidates who “break away” from their old parties and hop to other parties praying they would stand a chance in congress. Going through the long list of aspirants under the Party List and the Senate, one

imagines how highly competitive the 2025 political race will turn out.

From a broader, sociological viewpoint however, election is a “citizens’ moment”. It is the singular big moment when citizens, as voters, exercise their supreme power to pick the nation’s leaders who would lead public affairs. Theoretically, citizens are the vital decision-makers of politics. Election is a formidable Citizens’ Chance and Choice.



Credit: Getty Images | Canva.com

POLITICAL PARTIES AS MECHANISM OF CHOICE, BUT DO PARTIES MATTER?

Of the six (6) major political parties in the 2022 election, two are known to be the oldest: namely the Nacionalista Party and the Liberal Party. The younger major parties count in the following: Partido Federal ng Pilipinas, which incumbent President Ferdinand “Bongbong” Marcos Jr. leads, and the Lakas-Christian Muslim Democrats led by the incumbent Speaker of the House of Representatives, Martin Romualdez. The Nationalist People’s Party and the National Unity Party are among the latest teams that launched candidates to bid for the nation’s leadership posts in 2022. These parties do not articulate strong differences in their programs and advocacy; instead, the glitter and prominence are largely attributed to known politicians and personalities.

In the Philippines, parties generally convey generic “platforms” on governance and critical issues of the nation, and parties are not necessarily distinguishable from one another. Slogans are adopted

in interesting colors and logos sometimes matched with jingles, but nothing much is elucidated either.

Election observers raise interesting annotations and questions as follows: In the 2022 elections, some candidates and party bearers ran under different parties, but how did candidates now align under a single party of the Administration for the Mid-term 2025? Do party-mate candidates indeed share the same or similar political agenda? Or is it simply an apparent unity for convenience? Are there programs that distinguish one party from another? How do individual candidates and personalities contribute to the goals and brilliance of political parties? And how do parties shape and influence candidates? In other words, do parties really matter?

In 2022 there were 49 registered national political parties, 23 regional parties, and 102 parties for provincial and local constituencies (PDI, 2022). An interesting question to ask these parties is how they differ or whether they differ at all from each other? Are there consistent agendas that party members adhere to?

According to the Philippine Commission on Elections (Comelec), there are 190 organizations under the party list who registered for the 2025 elections. Of the 190 organizations, forty one (41) were disqualified by the Commission on Elections based on Republic Act 7941 or the Party List System Act. The law says that a party list can be disqualified after failing to win 2 consecutive election periods.

Traditional political families find the party list as an alternative venue to present themselves outside of the conventional political parties. In the recent electoral periods, the party list has been invaded by traditional political “wannabes” even as the party list is originally meant to be a window for representation of the non-traditional politicians and the marginalized sectors. The Party List System Act or RA 7941 signed into law during the time of then President Fidel Ramos, intends to bring in a representation of the underprivileged and underrepresented

sectors. However, such intended representation seems to be liberally evolving yet. Since the recent elections, the country has witnessed a mixed type of party list, where known personalities with bloodlines of political families and/or wealthy candidates have been liberally allowed to run under the party list system. Such emergent practice possibly even reduces the window of opportunity or competes for space meant for the “underrepresented sectors”.

The current political parties- whether major ones or party list, serve as mechanisms of vetting candidates during elections. Political parties, and now, including the party list, operate basically as a “makeshift coalition” characterized by a fragile unity that is temporary and convenient, and active only during or around election time. These parties may re-group as they need or see “re-grouping” as a convenient measure to win the election. As seasonal political competitors, parties do not have a life in-between elections. As a consequence, parties are hardly strengthened, more often with no clear platforms that define the parties. They surge during election time but easily fade away thereafter.

Parties are advantageous to the elite or long-time politicians who wish to engage in electoral processes. This situation is different from and is less hospitable to poorer populations. Often a network of relatives, friends, or associates, these political parties lack in wider membership expansion that should engage and grow through discernment of political issues and identification of reforms.

With no sustained sources of funds and resources of their own, many parties tend to either get beholden or limited to rich candidates or to candidates with support from private financiers. The resource limitation or resource capacity serves as a major consideration in launching wide and effective campaigns, in getting votes counted, and in launching activities that would broaden the candidates’ reach. The financial capability of political parties largely accrue to the non-continuous presence and existence of parties and their little con-

cerns for the organizational vigor and sustenance of parties. In other words, the seasonal mentality of political parties persists – parties come alive only during election time, but have no life in between elections.

The Philippines continues to value in-person activities including campaigning. In many areas and in large rural populations, communities would still want to see, meet, shake hands, and hear candidates in-person. All said modalities of meeting between candidates and voters, while preferred, limit the outreach of less-moneyed candidates to be able to cover wider areas, meet more people and time to campaign.

The one bright spot of alliances is for parties to link with non-government organizations, labor unions, and other civil society or citizen groups.



Credit: Johnny Greig | Getty Images Signature | Canva.com

DOES TECHNOLOGY CHANGE THE EQUATION OF POLITICS?

Fast-track into 2025, the digital way of campaigning hopes to reach a wider population, including sectors cited above, namely non-government organizations, citizen groups, and other civil society groups including labor unions. Thanks to technology as a medium for action and decision by citizens, the digital system of communication, parties and candidates are able to campaign online, reaching out to the public at lesser cost.

In a changing time of digitalization and elections, technology becomes a convenient asset to

campaign, communicate and engage citizens specially the Gen Z and other young voting population. Consider the growing number of the Gen Z and other younger voters and the means to reach this age group. With the younger population joining the voting caravan, life and links with voters will increasingly rely on technology for 3 Cs gains namely, Communication, Campaign, and (campaign) Cost reduction.

BLOODLINES, GLITTERS, AND POLITICAL COMPETITION

Bloodlines and inter-personal relations more than political agenda characterize the current practices on candidacy and the formation of parties.

Note this example: long-reigning movie star XXX who decides to go back to the mayoralty race in a city, has her TV host- elder son running for the post of Vice Mayor whilst the younger son, a tyro politician presents himself to become a city councilor. Similar cases emerge in other local districts. Politics as a “family enterprise” continues to rise in the Philippine electoral scenario. In these cases, the edge of entertainment stars is that they have “popularity” as a socio-political capital. If the voting public is lucky, they could enjoy the entertainment numbers of candidates during campaign rallies.

The switching of coveted positions between and among blood relatives is not only a common practice but also a growing one. In another town, the younger brother runs for a position to be vacated by the older brother; a son takes over the candidacy of the parent upon the end of the latter’s term, whilst the parent aspires for another post within the same district. In very crude cases, three (3) sets of blood relatives dominate a chamber during the same term of office- there’s mother and son tandem, a pair of brothers, and a brother and sister - all in one chamber during the same term. The clan indeed remains indefatigable.

Bloodline thickens as years wear on as though monopoly and family dominance indeed define

Philippine politics. Such practice on succession and on post-switching now characterize election and politics. Whilst election is a democratic exercise and its product is meant to represent the people’s choice, the opportunities for wider representation should indeed be the spirit of choices and chances. Electoral practices need regulation that would warrant fair representation, choices and chances. But this paper hastens to add : choice and chance in favor of voters rather than candidates.

Added to the political atmosphere is the continuing entry of film stars and entertainment personalities who have an edge over other candidates due to the former’s sheer popularity. Drumbeating electoral campaigns have at some point the candidate’s ability to entertain and charm the public. Exposure to public media is an edge of film stars and high-level personalities. Whilst the Philippines has a “free enterprise” to run for public posts, these opportunities may be regulated through rules on campaigning and campaign expenditures.

Unless Election is determined by the Citizens’ Choice and Chance, it is nothing more than a playing field of glitters and popularity. Include herein a common practice of generational legacy as if political office is a matter of family and political inheritance.



LOOK THIS WAY: THE GEN Z POPULATION HERE!

The Gen Z sector (referring to those born roughly between 1996 and 2010, or those aged 30’s or below) now constitutes a growing number of the educated and professional sectors. Gen Z is said to

constitute roughly 41% of the working population or 38 million of the country's population (Philippine Statistics Authority, 2020). The Gen Z is the emergent bloc. This age group thinks differently in more ways than one – being quite adapted to technology, straight-forward in communication, inclined to travel and see places and discover novel stuff, keen to own property, are ambitious in charting their jobs, and thoughtful about their future. They dream of building their own families, own house, and so on. They can be critical of conventional ways, including “trapos” (traditional politicians). They are impatient to transform dreams into reality. This is the generation that would challenge the conventional choices and ways of doing and thinking. Perhaps, this is a promising generation if one was to dream of an ambitious future, of a Philippines with more vigor and zest. Easily prone to “mental health” issues, the harried Gen Z may just be the suds that would change the littered and glittered tradition of politics.

Recognizing this bunch of young Filipinos, one may anticipate or at least, hope for a change in the thinking, preferences and socio-behavior of voters and electoral players. The landscape of potential leaders running for public positions is also changing, with young people joining the league and manifesting interest and leadership in public service. The young breed of possible political players pose interesting or new challenges to elections and political participation.

GOVERNMENT: WHERE ART THOU?

Government itself is a natural ally of political parties to improve and strengthen the party system through support and regulatory measures as these apply. Legislations that strengthen the party system and those which would institutionalize political parties as a key electoral player are crucial to reform politics and the electoral system.

Regulation on campaign expenditures is another concern that would warrant parity and equal chances. And this is centrally in the hands of the government and its regulatory agencies. The com-



mon practice is that some candidates are related to each other by affinity or consanguinity and that the choice(s) are narrowed down to those who can afford the costs required by massive machinery, expensive propaganda and campaign in an election. In this situation, campaign finance effectively becomes a competition of wealth and resources and is a crucial area for electoral reform. To enable a level playing field among candidates in the political competition, regulation on campaign expenditures is crucial. And regulation certainly counts on the clarity of policies and for a dedicated enforcement of the same. Election-related agencies are central to policy efforts including enforcement. Whilst the watch-dog on election-related expenditures may be citizen groups as vanguard, the access to financial reports including campaign expenses such as adverts and other publicly visible activities of candidates and parties are within the bounds of official recorders and the submission to the Commission on Elections (Comelec). Beyond surveys and opinion polling on elections, the academe, the media and the rest of civil society could sharply pitch in and make a voice to guard the costs of a democratic exercise such as through campaign finance monitoring. Still and all, the government agency plays a primary and potent role in regard to regulation.

In the 2016 election, the COMELEC played a crucial role in monitoring campaign finance expenditures. Comelec put up a mechanism to monitor reports on campaign finance and expenditures and put these in the public eye through media coverage and advocacy carried out by non-gov-

ernment and citizen groups. A call for democratic citizenship is in order. Still and all, the role of the Commission on Elections (Comelec) and its compliance to the regulatory functions on electoral expenditures remains crucial.

THE PLACE OF JUAN DE LA CRUZ IN THE 2025 ELECTORAL EXERCISE

Elections are an opportunity for genuine CITIZENSHIP- a moment when the supreme decision by the voting public to make their Choices and to seize the Chance to choose, are primarily in their own hands- as citizens. For one crucial moment, the Citizens as Voters are the most determinant-player in a democratic exercise called Election.

Recognizing the vital role of the citizens as voters, the electoral exercise including its rules and the regulations take primordial consideration to highlight citizens' decisions and choices. During these moments, at least theoretically and ideally, citizen-voters have access to information as well as rules and regulations that warrant the one's freedom of choice. Central to an electoral exercise is the role of the citizen-voter to make decisions and

choices on candidates. Juan de la Cruz, the Citizen, therefore takes the responsibility on both the exercise and outcome of the elections. The citizen in this regard, is sovereign.

From information-communication and dissemination, to education, rules and regulations governing elections, safety and efficiency of the processes, and the voters' participation such as but not limited to the observance of the process, campaign and information-sharing, registration, voting itself, canvassing and reporting among others. Citizen Juan is summoned to fully engage in the political exercise.

Election is about Juan de la Cruz, the CITIZEN-VOTER, with immense CHANCE and CHOICE. The upcoming 2025 election should turn back the pivotal role of Juan de la Cruz, as Citizen-Voter.



Academician Allan Bernardo delivers a lecture during the PSSC GA

JEANNE PAULINE ALVAREZ

Communications Officer, Institute for Climate and Sustainable Cities

On 17 February 2024, renowned Academician and a distinguished professor from the De La Salle University, Dr. Allan B. I. Bernardo delivered a scientific lecture during the general assembly of the Philippine Social Science Council (PSSC) member-organizations at the Philippine Social Science Center Auditorium.

Dr. Bernardo probed into the intersections of social science research and sustainable development goals (SDG), focused on quality education (SDG 4) and reduced inequalities (SDG 10).

He stresses that through PSSC, Filipino social scientists and scholars should work together to cre-

ate a framework that integrates “insights from descriptive, predictive, and explanatory approaches” transcending the limitations of their respective disciplines.

Additionally, Dr. Bernardo also urges PSSC to lead the coming together of the Filipino social science community in leveraging the benefits of interdisciplinarity, and to create frameworks that will have a “bigger impact in the attainment of SDGs.”

Former PSSC Chairperson Dr. Bernardo was elected by the National Academy of Science and Technology as an Academician, with his specialization in cognitive psychology in 2007. In July 2024, he also became the first Filipino elected as an Executive Member of the International Union of Psychological Science for 2024 to 2028.

“ We need a framework where we can begin integrating (research methodologies and approaches)”



Saliksik Kasaysayan: A Compendium of Resource Materials on Philippine History

MARIA CRISTINA B. BARRIOS

Saliksik Kasaysayan Project Secretariat



Two years after the Philippine Social Science Council (PSSC) responded to Rex Education's invitation to develop a compendium or reference material of Philippine history, the Saliksik Kasaysayan - A Compendium of Resource Materials on Philippine History was produced. The compendium, which aims to guide its writers and authors in writing history textbooks, is a 632-page resource material containing annotated bibliographies of works and references on Philippine history's different periods and subject areas.

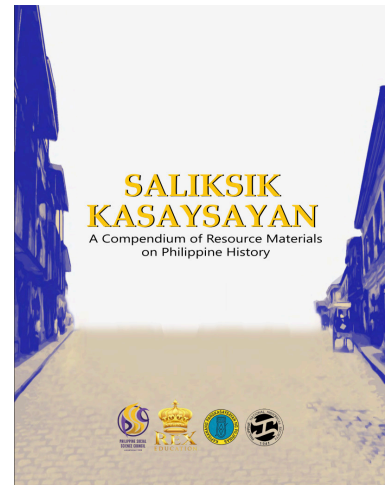
The project officially began on 6 September 2022 with the signing of the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the representatives of PSSC, Philippine National Historical Society (PNHS), Philippine

Historical Association (PHA), and Rex Education to establish a fellowship program. On 17 February 2023, the Fellowship Program was launched, with the introduction of the 11 fellows who would take stock of and secure the articles, materials, and references on Philippine history.

The fellows included Michael L. Tan, Marya Svetlana T. Camacho, Grace Liza Y. Concepcion, Ricardo T. Jose, Michael D. Pante, Ferdinand C. Llanes, Jose Victor Z. Torres, Mary Jane B. Rodriguez, Alicia P. Magos, Cecilia B. Tangian, and Calbi A. Asain. They were given a year to research, collect, and annotate resource materials on their respective periods/areas of study. On 18 March 2024, the fellows presented and shared what they had researched

and discovered in their respective periods/areas of study.

PSSC compiled, edited, and laid out the collected annotated bibliographies into a book form. The compilation is divided into two parts: Part 1. The Period, with seven chapters, and Part 2. The People, with four chapters. The compendium was submitted to Rex Education for its writers'/authors' reference on Philippine history.



PSSC continues conduct of social science training courses

PATHRICIA ANN ROXAS

Research Ethics Officer,
PSSC Social Science Ethics Review Board

MIGUEL ALVARO KARAAN

Project Officer, Asian Association of Social
Science Research Councils

The Philippine Social Science Council (PSSC) continues to offer training courses aimed at enhancing the capacity of social scientists in the academe, government, and private sectors in conducting research.

PSSC hosted two cohorts of its Training Workshop on AI in Social Research, led by Prof. Peter A. Sy, Assistant Vice President for Digital Transformation of the University of the Philippines (UP).

Introduced by PSSC in 2023, this training course is designed to equip researchers with the tools and knowledge in using AI as aid in social research, while maintaining ethics and integrity in the responsible conduct of research.

The first cohort of the AI training, attended by 49



participants from the academe, government, and private institutions, was held on 25-26 January 2024 at the PSSC Auditorium.

Due to high demand, a second cohort of this type of training was held on 27-28 June 2024 at the PSSC Mercedes B. Concepcion Seminar Room,

with 31 participants from academic and government institutions, as well as from an international organization.

Meanwhile, PSSC held back-to-back training workshops on Designing Social Science Research, one on qualitative and one on quantitative approaches. These courses were held at the PSSC Mercedes B. Concepcion Seminar Room on 14-17 May 2024.



Thirty seven participants attended the course on qualitative research, facilitated by UP College of Mass Communication Professorial Lecturer, Dr. Jose R. Lacson, Jr. On the other hand, 19 participants attended the course on quantitative research, led by UP School of Statistics Assistant Professor Martin B. Borlongan.

Additionally, for the first time since the pandemic, the PSSC Social Science Ethics Review Board (SSERB) offered its signature Training Workshop on Ethics in Human-Participant Social Science Research onsite at the PSSC Mercedes B. Concepcion Seminar Room on 28-29 May 2024.

Twenty-three researchers from Metro Manila, Puerto Princesa, Palawan, Dumaguete City, and other parts of the country participated in the four-module training which tackled various ethical principles and their application in the review and conduct of research.

Dr. Diwa Malaya A. Quiñones, chair of the UP College of Social Sciences and Philosophy Ethics Review Board, discussed the first module on Ethical Principles in Social Science Research, while Prof. Sy shared his expertise on AI tools in the context of Informed Consent, Privacy, and Anonymity in research. Ms. Stella P. Go, LPT, MA of the De La Salle University Integrated School also zeroed in on the topic of Maintaining Research Integrity on the second day of the training. Dr. Almond Pilar N. Aguila, chair of the second Ethics Review Committee of

PSSC-SSERB, capped off the training with her module on Designing Research for Beneficence, Social Justice, and Inclusivity.

Earlier, a customized version of the training workshop was successfully conducted online with 27 faculty members and researchers of the Polytechnic University of the Philippines Research Management Office (PUP-RMO) on 30-31 January 2024.

Prof. Sy and Dr. Aguila discussed the same modules, while Dr. Amaryllis T. Torres, PSSC's veteran research ethics expert and professor emeritus of the UP College of Social Work and Community Development, handled the first module on Ethical Principles in Social Science Research.

Dr. Cristina E. Torres of the Forum for Ethical Review Committees in the Asian and Western Pacific Region (FERCAP) and Prof. Edlyn B. Jimenez of the UP-Manila Research Ethics Board shared their expertise on the Institutional Guidelines for the Ethics Review of Human-Participant Research.

A second installment of the training was conducted with 40 researchers and faculty members of PUP last 24-25 September 2024. Held at Bulwagang Bonifacio, PUP Sta. Mesa, the training workshop was the first face-to-face customized training organized by PSSC for an academic institution after the pandemic.

Efforts to improve the current training design on research ethics also started this year. The synchro-

nous onsite training in May was accompanied by a self-paced, basic module on research ethics hosted via Moodle. The course featured a list of video and reading materials that participants explored to complement the face-to-face interaction. Spaces for discussion and questions, as well as a short as-

essment quiz, were also integrated in the course.

SSERB aspires to improve this self-paced course and open it to the public, in line with its mission of mainstreaming ethical standards and practices in social science research.

PSSC holds second roundtable discussions on Philippine social sciences

BETHANIA MARIE MASANGKAY

Communication and Media Officer, PSSC

The Philippine Social Science Council (PSSC) has once again brought together prominent social scientists in its second installment of roundtable discussions (RTD), held on 19 November 2024, from 2-5 PM at the Jose P. Laurel Hall, Lyceum of the Philippines University, entitled “The Past, Present, and Future of the Social Sciences in the Philippines: The Second Roundtable Discussion.” The event aligns with PSSC’s vision to unite and advance the Philippine social science disciplines.

As with the previous RTD, the discussion follows this year’s theme, “Pamana at Panata: Limampu’t Limang Taong Kahusayan sa Agham Panlipunan,” commemorating PSSC’s enduring role in fostering Filipino Social Sciences. This time, the event featured four distinguished social scientists: Dr. Alejandro S. Bernardo (Linguistics), Dr. Allan B.I. Bernardo (Psychology), Dr. Ma. Luisa T. Camagay (History), and Dr. Edna Estifania A. Co (Public Administration and Governance). Philippine Political Sci-

ence Association (PPSA) President Dr. Jan Robert Go led and moderated the discussion.

The panelists exchanged ideas on various relevant topics. They reflected on their journeys in the social sciences, celebrating the scholars and mentors who helped them shape their paths. They also discussed the evolution of their fields, the challenges faced by Philippine social science, and the importance of decolonizing research.

The conversation highlighted how PSSC has



been instrumental in molding the disciplines and fostering collaboration across the social science fields.

Dr. Alejandro observed that the Linguistic discipline, while distinct in its domain of inquiry, still remains interconnected with other social science disciplines when addressing pressing national issues in the country. “Linguistics is now marrying other disciplines... we borrow, we draw inspiration from other disciplinal areas like psychology, sociology and even religion. In other words, Linguistics has become some sort of a crossroad where different disciplines converge and meet.”

Reflecting on the transformative evolution of their disciplines throughout the years, they also recognized PSSC’s pivotal role in shaping the landscape of social sciences in the Philippines, and they posed challenges to PSSC to continuously integrate the works of the social scientists.

As Dr. Allan emphasized, PSSC has consistently fostered and created spaces for interdisciplinarity. “The migration research network, for example... It was creating more of these opportunities where the

disciplines are signaled and looked at by engaging other disciplines that are also growing and maturing.”

The panelists also acknowledged that although advancing the social sciences is challenging, the pursuit lies on continuous localization of knowledge and conversations with fellow scholars.

“I think social science will have to move from more generalizations. Let’s be more evidence-based, data-based, while also trying to highlight what is the Philippines, what is local,” Dr. Edna claimed.

Emphasizing the value of history and highlighting how it informs the present and future of Philippine research, Dr. Luisa further underscored this point by advocating “more conversations among the disciplines” where the social sciences can weave together and create data-backed agendas, be it in terms of policy making or hard research.

With the hope that the social science scenery will flourish, the discussion ended on an optimistic note that the social science disciplines will continue



to make significant contributions to the future of the Philippines.

The event concluded with the panelists envisioning a bright future for the disciplines of social science that will thrive by embracing intellectual humility, conducting research-driven community in-

volvement and development, and prioritizing local knowledge. While continuing to collaborate with scholars and institutions throughout the Philippines, PSSC's dedication to social science remains strong after 55 years of leadership and service.

PMRN conference reflects on the 50 years of PH labor migration

JEANNE PAULINE ALVAREZ

Communications Officer, Institute for Climate and Sustainable Cities

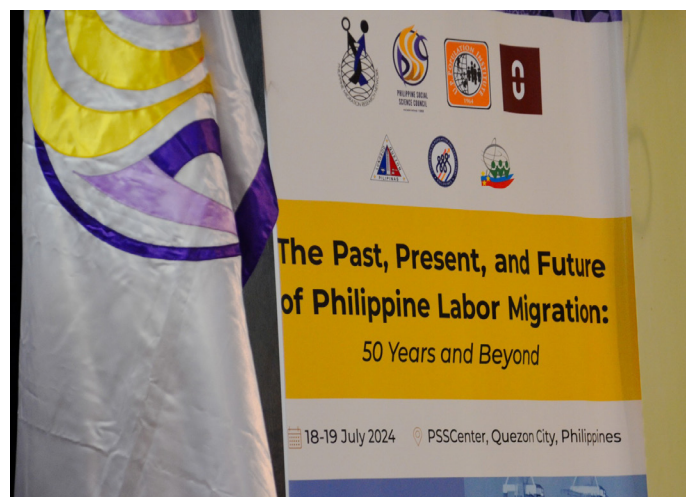
Marking the 50th anniversary of the enactment of the Labor Code of the Philippines, the Philippine Migration Research Network (PMRN) hosted an international conference on Philippine labor migration on 18-19 July 2024 at the Philippine Social Science Center, Quezon City.

Over 170 participants from national government agencies, local government units, civil society organizations, and local and international migration scholars attended the conference, which had the theme, "The Past, Present, and Future of Philippine Labor Migration: 50 Years and Beyond."

Together with PMRN, the conference was co-organized by the Philippine Social Science Council (PSSC), University of the Philippines (UP) Population Institute, UP Office of International Linkages, Quezon City Government, Commission on Population and Development (CPD), and Institute for Migration and Development Issues.

THE PAST: HOW LABOR MIGRATION SHAPED THE PHILIPPINE SOCIAL LANDSCAPE

The Philippines, one of the world's largest labor-sending countries, has a long history of labor



migration, with the earliest record dating back to 1417.

However, it was in 1974 when the Labor Code of the Philippines was enacted, when labor migration became more institutionalized in the economic and development strategies of the country.

Following the end of World War II and the declaration of Martial Law, the Philippines faced the brunt of economic challenges including high unemployment rate and widespread poverty.

And at the same time, on the other side of the world, the rapid economic growth in oil-rich nations in the Middle East created opportunities for foreign labor- the Philippines was one of the countries to heed to the demands of the Gulf region.

It was during the late 1960s to early 1970s that the government realized the benefits of labor export to the Philippine economy, largely driven by the healthy flow of remittances from overseas Filipino workers (OFWs).

On 1 May 1974, then-president Ferdinand E. Marcos, Sr. formally enacted the Labor Code of the Philippines which consolidated all previous labor laws and policies into a single, comprehensive framework.

The Labor Code seeks to regulate every aspect of employment from social protection of workers, wages, and working conditions within the domestic labor market, to the migration of workers overseas.

Fifty years later, OFWs still continue to play an integral role in shaping the economy and the community of not only the Philippines, but also of their countries of destination.

THE PRESENT: REFLECTING ON WHAT WE KNOW NOW

Using an academic approach to examine the past and present of Philippine labor migration, it is about time to review what has transpired in the labor migration policies and situation in the country, and what’s in store for the Philippine labor migration and the global community.



PMRN Convenor Stella P. Go opened the conference, together with PSSC Executive Director Dr. Lourdes M. Portus, and CPD Deputy Executive Director Lolito R. Tacardon.

“We are gathered to reflect on the labor migration history of the Philippines, critically examine the present, and envision the future of this significant phenomenon that has shaped our nation and touched the lives of countless Filipinos, their families, and communities,” notes Go.

Undersecretary Bernard P. Olalia of the Department of Migrant Workers delivered the keynote address, on behalf of Secretary Hans Leo J. Cacdac.

“Amidst the narratives of success lie the stories of exploitation, abuse, and vulnerability. The harsh realities faced by many migrant workers underscore the urgent need for a comprehensive and effective governance framework that prioritizes welfare, protection, and empowerment,” says Olalia in his keynote speech.

To kickstart the discussion, a panel session was dedicated to how labor migration started and evolved in the Philippines. Panelists included Thetis Abrera Mangahas, founding fellow of the Social Weather Stations; Marianito D. Roque, former Labor secretary; and Dr. Jorge V. Tigno, a Political Science professor from UP Diliman.

Meanwhile, the paper presenters in the second session delved into the Significant Turns in Migration Governance, which covered the bases on



gendered migration, shifts in policy throughout the decades, sustainable reintegration for returning migrants, and how the COVID-19 pandemic impacted migration governance.

This was followed by a session that examined the Labor Migration Governance in the 21st Century— from how local government units monitor their inhabitants and migrants, to the institutionalization of the National Migration Survey, to how diplomatic relations are affected by permanent migration in the case of the Philippines and the Middle East.

On the second day, 19 July, the health aspect of migration was highlighted during the fourth session, also underscoring the importance of mental health of migrants. Also discussed in this session is the economic impact of migration in the development of the Philippines.

Sessions five to seven, on the other hand, were an amalgamation of scholarly studies on labor migration, covering topics such as sex-aggregated overseas voting behavior, the protection of Filipino seafarers on foreign-flagged ships, and the reproductive patterns of Filipino women in Belgium and the Netherlands.

Lastly, the final session gathered prominent migration scholars in the country to discuss the future of Philippine labor migration. The discussion was led by Maruja M.B. Asis, Senior Researcher at the Scalabrini Migration Center; Dr. Filomeno Aguilar, Jr., History professor from the Ateneo de Manila University; and Ellene Sana, Executive Director of the Centre for Migrant Advocacy.

THE FUTURE:

WHAT LIES AHEAD FOR FILIPINO MIGRANTS

Despite the elaborate migration policies and strong migration institutions in the Philippines, there is still more to be done for the welfare of OFWs, their families, and their communities.

“There’s a need to really integrate how migration can contribute to development, and how the lack of development will continue to contribute to persisting migration issues,” Asis stressed.

She emphasized the need to address the wage gap between the Philippines and other countries to make the OFWs’ return to the country more sustainable, underscoring the importance of “mak-



References:

Philippine Statistics Authority. (2023). Survey on Overseas Filipinos. Retrieved from <https://psa.gov.ph/statistics/survey/labor-and-employment/survey-overseas-filipinos>.

World Economic Forum. (2023). Global Gender Gap Report 2023. Retrieved from <https://psa.gov.ph/statistics/survey/labor-and-employment/survey-overseas-filipinos>.

ing opportunities for domestic employment” and strengthening social protection.

According to the recent report of the Philippine Statistics Authority, in 2023, more than half of OFWs were women at 1.20 million, and they also brought in a large amount of remittances. Majority of these women were engaged in elementary occupations at 64.1%.

When they return to the Philippines, however, they would most likely earn 28% less than their male counterparts, as reported by the World Economic Forum Global Gender Gap Index in 2023.

“I wish that one day, our people will migrate out of choice and not out of necessity, but 50 years of migration journey and we’ve yet to see our people migrate out of choice,” Sana states in her concluding speech.

UPPI clinches top prize for 3rd LMS Prize

JEANNE PAULINE ALVAREZ

Communications Officer, Institute for Climate and Sustainable Cities

University of the Philippines Population Institute (UPPI) graduate Denise Hyacinth Joy B. Musni received the top prize for the 3rd Loretta Makasiar Sicat Prize for the Social Sciences on 25 April 2024 at the Philippine Social Science Center Auditorium.

Her article, “Mind the Gap: An Analysis of the Discontinuity Between Antenatal Care and Facility-Based Delivery Among Filipino Mothers” delves into the issues of maternal and child health in the Philippines.

Musni is the second graduate of UPPI to emerge as the winner for the LMS Prize, and the third from the UP College of Social Sciences and Philosophy (CSSP).

In her lecture, Musni draws attention to the importance of comprehensive maternal healthcare interventions.

“Pregnancy and childbirth are known to be expensive. Though more affordable services may be accessed in public hospitals, these facilities are not in the best condition,” she notes.

Musni belabored that “equipment (is) inadequate, healthcare workers are overworked, and patients have to line-up for hours, and overcrowding is unavoidable.”



Meanwhile, Dr. Alice Prieto-Carolino from UP College of Social Work and Community Development ranked second place with her article, "Interrogating Women Polychaete Fishers' Wellbeing Within a Gendered and Dynamic Social-Ecological Systems."

Jose Antonio E. Ramirez from University of Asia and the Pacific School of Economics received the third prize for his research on the "Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership: An Analysis of the Extent of Preference Erosion of the Philippines in the Import Markets of China, Japan, and South Korea."

Aaron Philip Dela Cruz and his ethnographic study on the virtual sabong (cockfight), and

Dr. Christie P. Sio on locating anger in five-factor space, both from UP CSSP, ranked fourth and fifth, respectively.

Inaugurated in 2021, the LMS Prize seeks to promote the Filipino social sciences and honor the legacy of Dr. Loretta Makasiar Sicat, a Filipino political scientist and a former PSSC executive director who lobbied for the establishment of the Philippine Social Science Center.

The LMS Prize awards a cash prize amounting to USD 5,500 to the best thesis or dissertation by a young Filipino social science scholar.



UST faculty bags 2024 VAMERA

JEANNE PAULINE ALVAREZ

Communications Officer, Institute for Climate and Sustainable Cities

The Philippine Social Science Council (PSSC) conferred the 2024 Virginia A. Miralao Excellence in Research Award (VAMERA) to Dr. Pia Patricia A. Tenedero on 7 August at the Thomas Aquinas Research Center and Graduate School, University of Santo Tomas (UST).

Dr. Tenedero's winning book, "Communication that Counts: Language Practice and Ideology in Globalized Accounting," delves into the language, communication practices, and ideologies emerging from accountancy education and workplaces in the Philippines.

Following the awarding ceremony is a scientific lecture by Dr. Tenedero about her book.

"Globalized accountants are not just numbers-people, they are active language workers," she stressed.

"Para sabihin na ang mga accountants, lahat sila, ay hindi mahusay mag-communicate, ay hindi makatarungan, (To say that the accountants, all of them, are not good communicators is not justifi-

able)," Dr. Tenedero emphasized.

She added, "The 'poor communicators' label is a product of a very limited knowledge of what really goes on in a Filipino accountant's school and work life. It is also a product of a monolingual English mindset which naively imagines a world that speaks only English."

Dr. Tenedero is the assistant director of the UST Research Center of Social Sciences and Education, and an assistant professor in the Department of English of the same university. She is also the first faculty member from UST to receive VAMERA. Dr. Jeremiah Opiniano, Associate Professor from UST Department of Communication and Media Studies, nominated her for the award.

Founded in 2010, the VAMERA awards a cash prize for the best article in a social science journal, book chapter, or a book written by a promising young scholar in the profession, along with a unique trophy designed by renowned Filipino artist Toym Imao.



A Journey to the Past: How Ernesto Acosta Became a Cornerstone of PSSC

PAMELA JENNA R. SABUERO

Research and Publication Officer, PSSC



Ernesto S. Acosta, also known as “Sir Ernie” to his colleagues, hails from the small town of San Nicolas in Ilocos Norte. From a young age, Sir Ernie has always shown dedication and passion in his pursuits. Whether it was putting his dreams on hold to care for his family, or following an unfamiliar yet promising path, he faced every hurdle with determination.

EARLY BEGINNINGS

Before becoming a beloved staff member in the Philippine Social Science Council (PSSC), his journey took root in the classrooms of Far Eastern University – Ilocos, where he pursued his dream of becoming a nurse. Life, however, took an unexpected turn when his parents fell ill. With the doctor appointments getting more frequent and the med-

ical bills mounting, he decided to put his studies on hold after two semesters to help his parents through their recovery.

It wasn’t until a few years later that he resumed his studies, this time pursuing liberal arts at a local college in the province. During his senior year, the Institute of Philippine Culture (IPC) at Ateneo de Manila University – Ilocos recruited select liberal arts students as field interviewers for a project. Unbeknownst to him, this opportunity would later lead to a decade-long career in development work, where he immersed himself in grassroots communities, conducting research while exchanging cultures and stories with the locals.

LIFE IN PSSC

Sir Ernie eventually found his way to the PSSC in 1996, thanks to the late Dr. Virginia A. Miralao, who, at the time, served as Project Director at IPC and Executive Director at PSSC. Her belief in his dedication set the stage for his long-standing career in the organization.





Starting in the Programs Development and Management Section, Sir Ernie quickly became an asset, often lending his talents to the Frank X. Lynch Library and the PSSC Central Subscription Service. By 2005, he had taken on the role of Center Management and Administrative Section (CMAS) assistant, where his expertise and commitment became a cornerstone of the organization, until his retirement in 2018.

Shortly after his retirement, Sir Ernie returned to PSSC, this time as a CMAS consultant. When asked why he chose to return, he fondly said:



“Naging part na ng buhay ko... Dito na ‘ko tumanda. At peace, napakagaan ng dulot ng PSSC sa work at life.”

For Sir Ernie, it’s never been just about the routine. It is the memories shared in the quiet hallways, the teamwork that turned challenges into achievements, and the bonds he’s built and nurtured with his colleagues, staff, clients, and tenants that keep him going. At PSSC, he didn’t just grow older – he grew with the people around him. And his example of commitment is one we strive to follow.



Nurturing an Environment for Disciplinary Advancement: Latest Developments in PSSC Grant Programs

DELILA BANDO, PATRICK CAESAR BELAS, JHON PAUL JAGORIN, KYLA MANINGAS, AND MELANIE TAMAYO

Interns from the Polytechnic University of the Philippines

The PSSC continues to champion the growth of Filipino social scientists and social science research through its diverse grant programs. Among these initiatives, the Research Award Program extends modest financial assistance to Filipino graduate students in the social sciences to enable completion of their graduate thesis or dissertation, while the International Conference Assistance Program supports social scientists in presenting their work at the global stage. The Conference Award Initiative (CAI) provides supplemental funds to regular mem-

ber-organizations of PSSC to help defray their expenses in holding annual conferences.

Additionally, the Virginia A. Miralao (VAM) Excellence Award awards the best article in a social science journal, book chapter, or book written by a promising young scholar in the profession. Building on the 2009 SSI article of Dr. Miralao on PSSC’s Travel Grants and International Linkages Program, this piece wishes to review and give updates on the developments of PSSC’s grant programs.

RESEARCH AWARD PROGRAM (RAP)

512
Filipino social scientists helped since 1968

P50,000
for PhD students

P25,000
for MA students

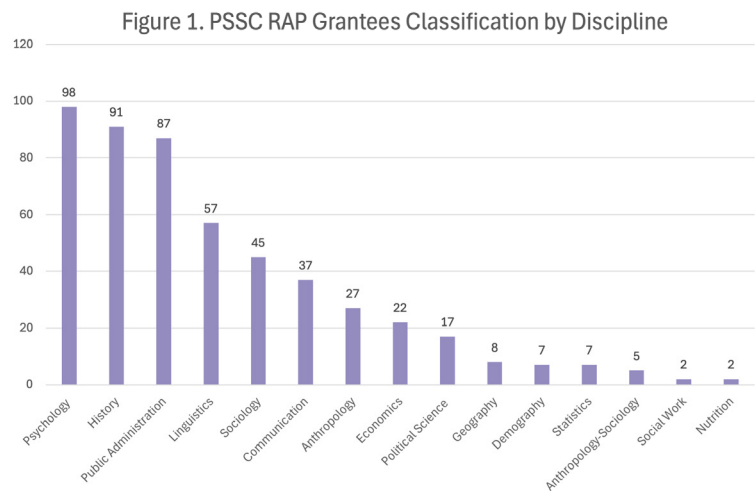


Figure 1 shows **Psychology** with the most number of recipients (**98**) over the years. This is closely followed by **History** with **91** grantees and **Public Administration** with **87**.

Figure 2. PSSC RAP Grantees Classification by Academic Background

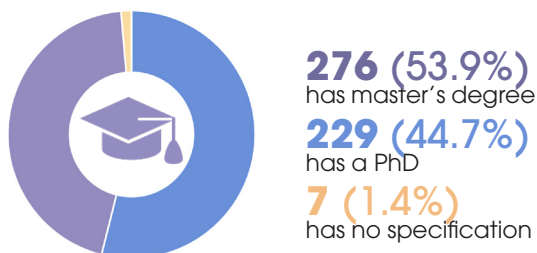
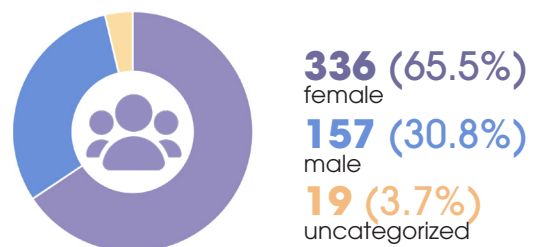


Figure 3. PSSC RAP Grantees Classification by Sex



INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (ICAP)



222
scholars supported
in their pursuits
since 1974

117
grantees
from PSSC
associate
members

19
grantees
from PSSC
regular
members

3
grantees
sponsored
by PSSC

Figure 4. Distribution of ICAP Grantees

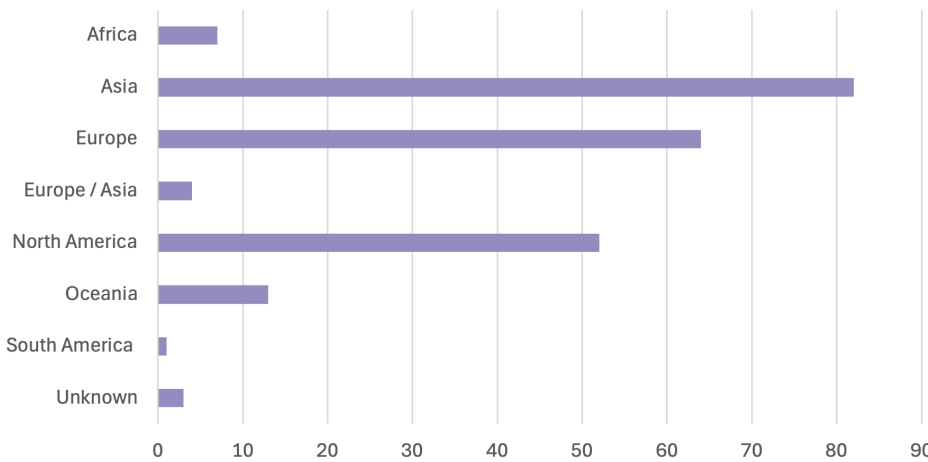
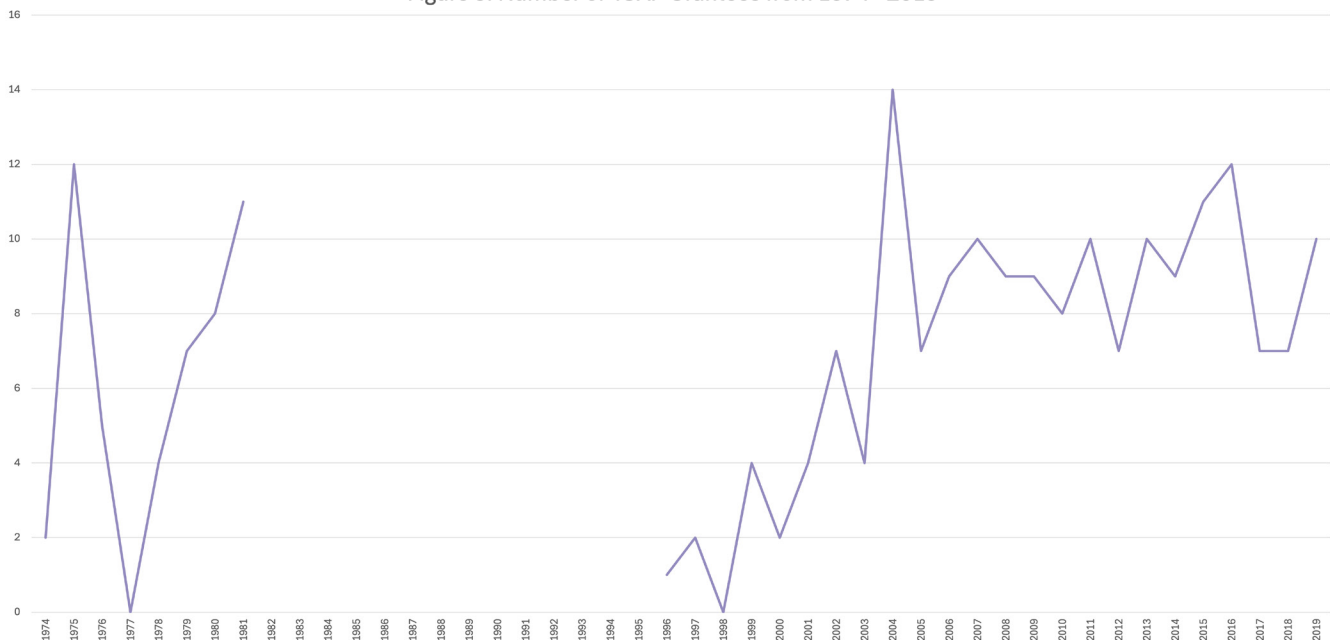


Figure 4 shows wide geographical distribution highlights TAP’s role in fostering international academic collaboration and knowledge exchange. Asia has the highest with 82 grantees, followed by Europe (64), North America (52), Oceania (13), Africa (7), Europe/Asia (4), and South America (1).


Meanwhile, the top 10 countries that have hosted the most TAP grantees are the following: USA (44), Japan (16), Netherlands (12), Australia (11), Thailand (10), China (9), Canada (8), Hong Kong (8), Malaysia (8), and Spain (8).

Figure 5. Number of ICAP Grantees from 1974 - 2019




As shown in Figure 5, the program began with 2 grantees in 1974, growing to 12 in 1975, and peaking at 14 in 2004. Significant participation was observed from 2017 to 2019, with 10 grantees each year. The program faced a hiatus in 1982 due to financial constraints, with no recorded grantees in 1977 and 1998. Resuming in 1996 with 1 grantee, numbers gradually increased over the years and consistent support in the early 2000s with 9 to 10 grantees annually.

CONFERENCE AWARD INCENTIVE (CAI)



provided funding
289 times
to PSSC regular members
from 1995 to 2024

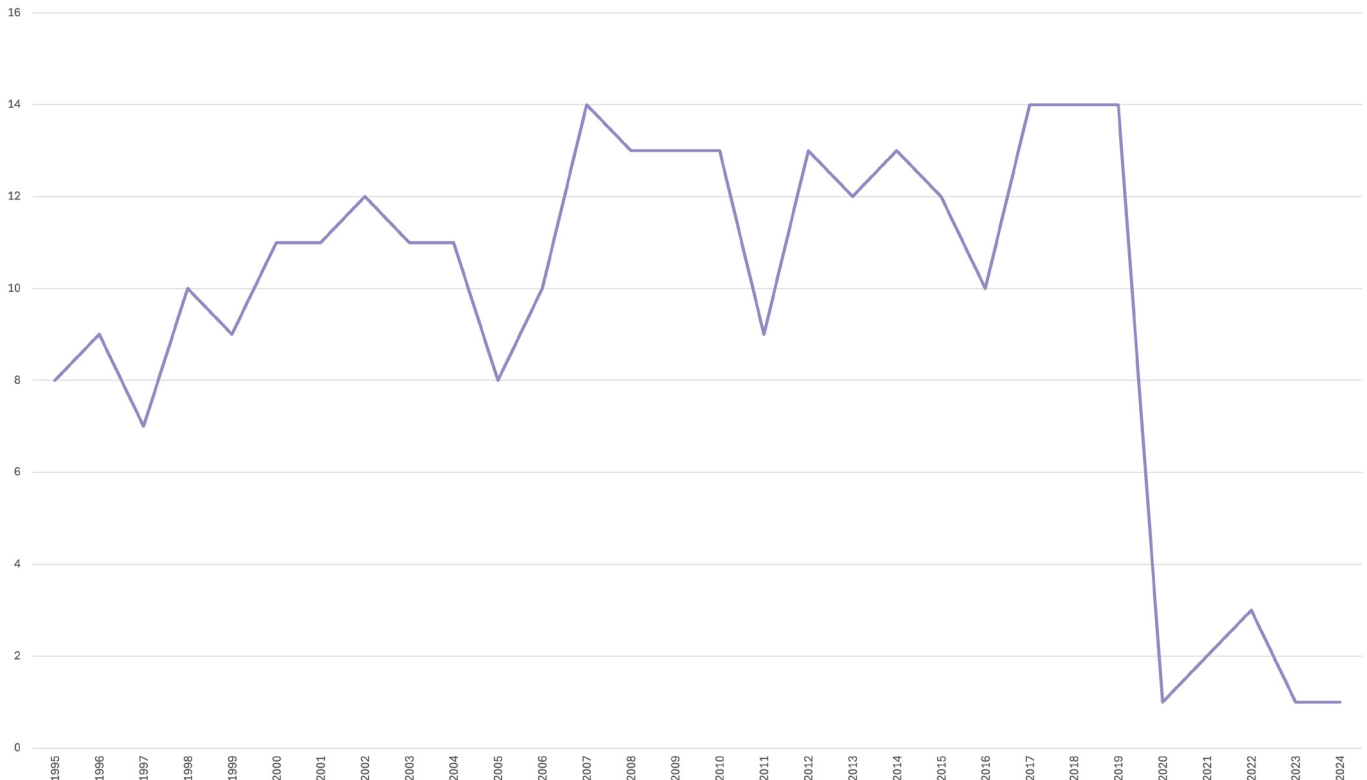


P30,000
incentive awarded to
from 2007 to Present

Figure 6 shows the growth in the number of CAI grantees over the years. From only eight grantees in 1995, to its peak number of 14 in 2007.

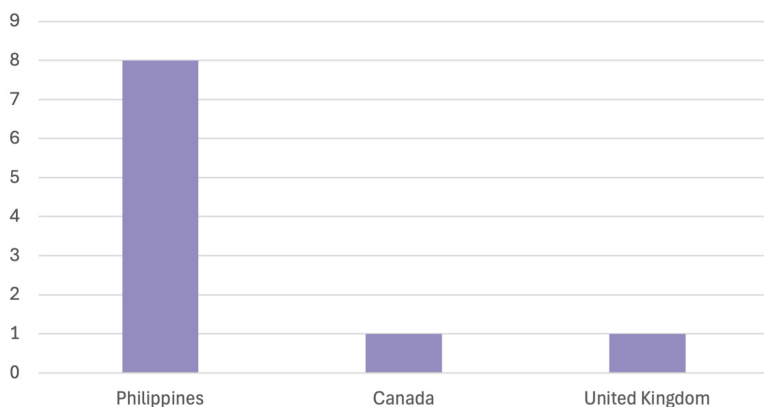
This full participation was also observed from 2017 to 2019. The pandemic in 2020 marked a challenging period, with only one member organization to avail and use the grant for its annual conference — the Linguistic Society of the Philippines (LSP).

Figure 6. CAI Grantees from 1995 - 2024



VIRGINIA A. MIRALAO (VAM) EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH AWARD

Figure 7. Geographical Distribution of VAMERA Winners

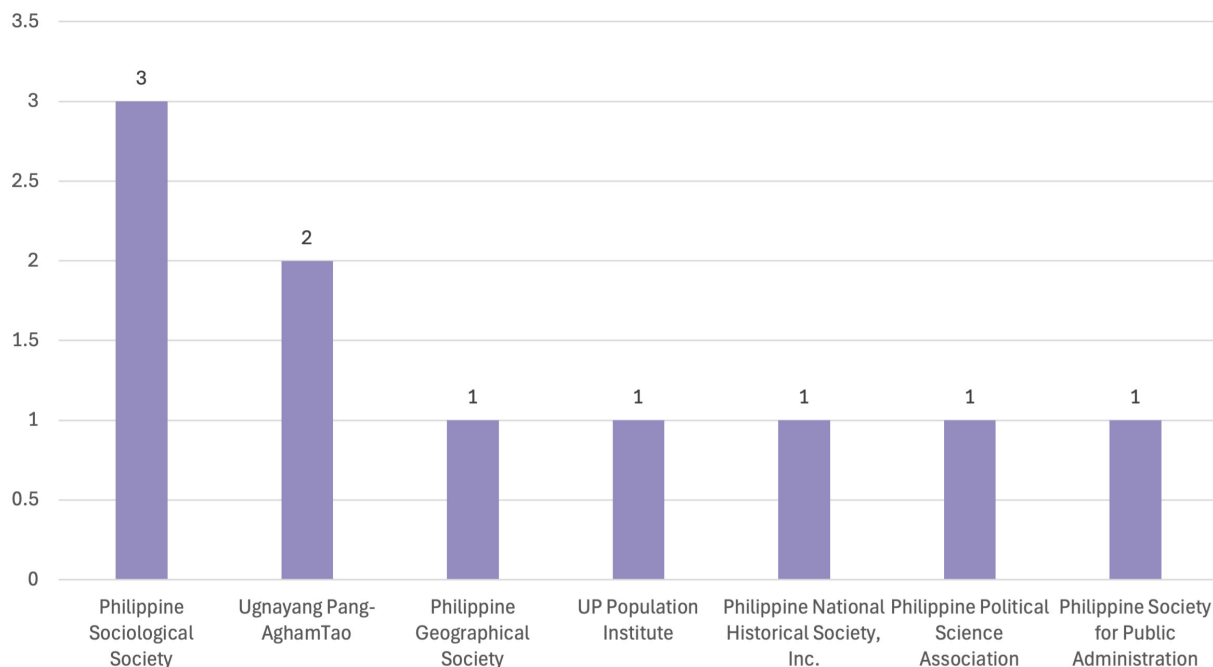


As seen in Figure 7, **eight** of the winners' educational institutions are located in Philippines (six from the National Capital Region, one from Region 7, and one from Region 4).

Two winners are located abroad (one from Canada, and one from the U.K.).

VIRGINIA A. MIRALAO (VAM) EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH AWARD (CONT.)

Figure 8. Affiliations of VAMERA Winners



Most of the winners have been nominated by the Philippine Sociological Society (PSS) with three winners, followed by Ugnayang Pang-Agham Tao (UGAT) with two, and the remaining PSSC regular members with one winner each.

WAYS FORWARD

Despite the significant financial challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, the PSSC has successfully revitalized all of its grant programs to support the advancement of Filipino social scientists and promote social science research. To enhance the sustainability of these initiatives, the PSSC is committed to exploring innovative strategies that ensure the long-term viability of its grant programs. This includes fostering strategic partnerships with various organizations and implementing resource generation activities aimed at increasing the number of grantees.

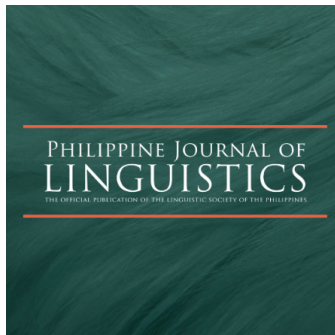
In 2021, the PSSC proudly launched the Loretta Makasiar-Sicat Prize (LMS Prize) in Social Sciences, marking the largest monetary award in the council's history. With generous backing from

the family of the late Dr. Loretta Macasiar Sicat, former PSSC Chairperson and Executive Director, the LMS Prize recognizes outstanding M.A. theses and PhD dissertations in the social sciences, encouraging academic excellence and innovation in the field.

Starting next year 2025, all PSSC grant applications will transition to an online submission and processing system. This move not only aims to significantly reduce paper usage but also reinforces our dedication to environmental sustainability. Furthermore, the PSSC has revised several procedures and criteria for our regular programs to encourage greater participation from social scientists across the regions of the Philippines, ensuring that diverse voices and perspectives are represented in the research community.

OFF THE PRESS

LATEST PSSC PUBLICATIONS AND JOURNAL RELEASES OF MEMBER-ORGANIZATIONS



LINGUISTIC SOCIETY OF THE PHILIPPINES
PHILIPPINE JOURNAL OF LINGUISTICS (PJL)
VOLUME 54 (2023)

A spectral taxonomy of cross-domain-ness in Visual Metaphor Identification Procedure (VISMIP): A case study of three Philippine editorial cartoons on disinformation

Nicko Enrique L. Manalastas

Agent-first and pivot-second constraint effects in the online sentence processing of Tagalog flexible word order

Ivan Bondoc & Amy J. Schafer

A corpus-based study on the morphosyntactic functions of Waray substantive lexical items

Voltaire Q. Oyzon



PHILIPPINE POLITICAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION
PHILIPPINE POLITICAL SCIENCE JOURNAL (PPS)
VOLUME 44

VOLUME 44 ISSUE 1 (MAY 2023)

Deliberative Mini-Publics: Core Design Features, written by Curato, Nicole; Farrell, David; Geisel, Brigitte; Grönlund, Kimmo; Mockler, Patricia; Pilet, Jean-Benoit; Renwick, Alan; Rose, Jonathan Setälä, Maija; Suiter, Jane
Danica Marra M. Soliman

Chasing Freedom: The Philippines' long journey to democratic ambivalence, written by Adele Webb
John Romer M. Capuros

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Gerardo V. Eusebio

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Anthony Andrew G. Divinagracia

Sociodemographic Factors, Policy Satisfaction, Perceived Character: What Factors Explain President Duterte's Popularity?
Geoffrey M. Ducanes, Steven Rood, & Jorge Tigno

VOLUME 44 ISSUE 2 (AUGUST 2023)

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Sol Iglesias

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Gerardo V. Eusebio

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Paul Danielle P. Labor & Maria Cecilia C. Gastardo-Conaco

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Hyun-Chool Lee & Alexandre Repkine

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ASEAN and the Major Powers in the South China Sea: the Role of Law, Diplomacy, and Deter-rence in Moderating Sovereignty Claims
K.S. Nathan



PHILIPPINE ECONOMIC SOCIETY
PHILIPPINE REVIEW OF ECONOMICS (PRE)
VOLUME 60 ISSUE 2 (DECEMBER 2023)

Shared prosperity characterized by four development goals: pro-poor growth, pro-poor development, inclusive growth, and inclusive development

Nanak Kakwani
Zakaria Siddiqui

Piketty inequality, meta market failures and the new role of the state

Raul V. Fabella

Diamond and Dybvig in developing economies and in a digital world

Margarita Debuque-Gonzales

Toward a general neoclassical theory of economic growth
Delano S. Villanueva

Measuring fiscal policy sustainability in developing Asia: what does the Markov Switching Augmented DickeyFuller Test tell us?

Dannah Ysabel M. Premacio

Ezra Rebecca G. Vidar
Toby C. Monsod

The 16th century Carrera del Pacifico: its sailor-merchants and their trade goods
Kristyl Obispado



PHILIPPINE SOCIOLOGICAL SOCIETY
PHILIPPINE SOCIOLOGICAL REVIEW (PSR)
VOLUME 71 (2023)

Alternative Learning in the Philippines: A Study of Two Alternative Learning Systems for Out-of-School Youth
Rosselle Trishia Reyes-Carbaja

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Herbert Docena

Forced Resiliency: Bayanihan Narrative Masks Insufficient Support for Typhoon Haiyan Survivors in Resettlement Sites during the COVID-19 Pandemic
Yvonne Su & Sivakamy Thayaalan

Student-Centered Learning During COVID-19: Lessons from Paulo Freire and Teaching in Higher Education

Galvin Radley Ngo, Davijay Leighton Engay, Janela Leemae Gaw, George Millbrain D. Kho, Lorenzo Lagamon, Kerima Ruth Sonaco, Lars Michaelsen Salamante & Jose Eos Trinidad

Unsettling Familiar Ways of Teaching and Learning: Challenges in Science Education during a Pandemic

Genejane M. Adarlo, Marlene M. De Leon & Abigail Marie T. Favis

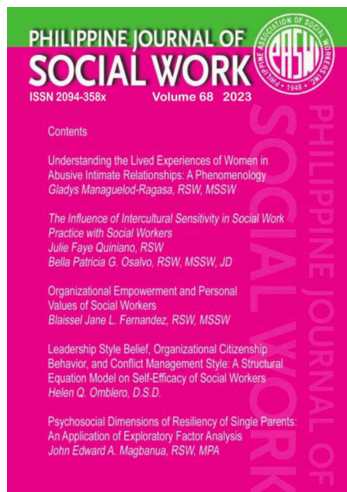
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Clement C. Camposano

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Gene Segarra Navera

Running Ideas Up and Down the Clock: Using Timed Activities for the Research Classroom
Inez Z. Ponce de Leon

Disrupted Memories of the City: Teaching Urban Ethnography in the Pandemic
Daniel P.S. Goh

Introduction to Volume 71: Educating Through Ad-versity: From Crisis Response to Pedagogical Innovation in the Philippines and Singapore
Julius Bautista



Understanding the Lived Experiences of Women in Abusive Intimate Relationships:
A Phenomenology
Gladys Managuelod-Ragasa, RSW, MSSW

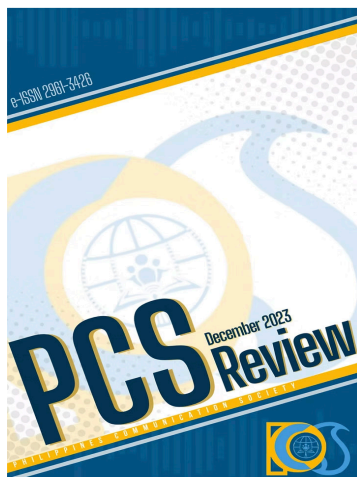
The Influence of Intercultural Sensitivity in Social Work Practice with Social Workers
Bella Patricia G. Osalvo, RSW, MSSW, JD & Julie Faye Quiniano, RSW

Organizational Empowerment and Personal Values of Social Workers
Blaisel Jane L. Fernandez, RSW, MSSW

Leadership Style Belief, Organizational Citizenship Behavior, and Conflict Management Style:
A Structural Equation Model on Self-Efficacy of Social Workers
Helen Q. Omblero, D.S.D

Psychosocial Dimensions of Resiliency of Single Parents:
An Application of Exploratory Factor Analysis
John Edward A. Magbanua, RSW, MPA

PHILIPPINE ASSOCIATION OF SOCIAL WORKERS, INC.
SOCIAL WORK JOURNAL
VOLUME 68 (2023)



PHILIPPINE COMMUNICATION SOCIETY
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VOLUME 15 (1) 2023

History In The (Re)Making: a Schema-Theoretic Analysis Of Baguio-Benguet University Students' Perceptions Of The Political Legacies Of Ferdinand Marcos Sr. and Corazon Aquino
Jethro Bryan S. Andrada, Nique Jade B. Tarubal, & Christan Jay G. Lazaro

Themes, Frames, and Practices: Editorials of Philippine Broadsheets During the 2022 Campaign Period
Adelle Liezi Chua

Aktibismo sa Teatro: Representations of Youth Activism in Sining ADhika's Online Theatre Plays with Critical Discourse Analysis Approach
Jade A. Oraa

Rants for Reform: Collective Consciousness and #LigtasNaBalikEskwela
Karina Y. Evangelista, Tanya Amadeus Leibniz Komoda, Rian Mitchell Piamonte, & Enrico Miguel D. Pilapil

Free Talk: Self-disclosure of Online ESL Teachers in the ESL Domain
Justine M Sanoy

The Relationship between Power Distance Cultural Dimension and Organizational Assimilation of Filipino Online ESL Teachers
Rudell A. Ramirez

(Re/Co)Constructing the Filipino Praxis in Development Work for Agriculture and Rural Development in a Grounded Theory
Ernesto C. Collo, Jr. & Benjamina Paula G. Flor

Transformative Communication for Empowerment: Silence and Participatory Development in a Marginalized Community in Nueva Ecija
Valerie Anne M. Lejarde

Cleaners (2019): Analyzing Glenn Barit's Way of Navigating Familiarity and Nostalgia Through Visual Treatment, Aesthetic, and Space-Time Relations in the "New Normal"
Zandra Mae T. Beo, Raiza A. Masculino, & Celina Mae M. Medina

Revitalizing Philippine Rhetorical Education in the Age of Ineloquence
Oscar T. Serquiña, Jr.

Communication Research Methods in Studying Sustainable Development Goals in the Philippines
Irish Jane L. Talusan

Participatory Communication: Toward Reconceptualizing a Fractured Paradigm
Michelle Anne N. Sto. Tomas

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2023**

Tell Us the Truth
Annaliza P. Gonzales-Kwan

*1696 Palaos Drifters in Guluuan, Eastern Samar,
and the Search for Islands*
Rolando O. Borrington and Kinna Mae G. Kwan

Guluuan as a Naval and Air Base in World War II
Ricardo Trota Jose

*Paradise: Understanding the Impact and
Significance of the 1949 Tubabao Refugee
Camp and the Philippines' First Experience in
Aiding Refugees as an Independent Republic*
Kinna Mae G. Kwan

*Appreciating a System of Fighting and Weaponry
by the Bisayans through the Examination of the
1885 Diccionario Bisaya-Español of
Juan Felix de la Encarnacion*
Sandra C. Ebrada

Remembering a Time of Tig-gulutom (Famine)
Rad Xavier R. Sumagaysay

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Philippines: Gifts of Nature and History*
Regalado Trota Jose

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Food History to Philippine Social Studies*
Felice Prudente Sta. Maria

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between Indochina and the Philippines*
Edgar Allan M. Sembrano

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Survey of Some Place-Names in
Pampanga and Bulacan*
Ian Christopher B. Alfonso

Augustinians from Filipinos before 19700
Felix I. Rodriguez

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Local Relations during the War*
Maria Cynthia B. Barriga

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danao: Parallels and Contrasts*
Calbi Anji Asain



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VOLUME 67 (1) 2023 - 2024**

*Responding to the Plastic Crisis: Local
Government Plastic Bans and Consumer
Behavior Towards Single Use Plastic Bags in
Tarlac, Philippines*
Julia Crowley

*Southeast Asia's Resilience Must Match Rising
Climate Risks*
Vinod Thomas

*Mitigating corruption in the Philippines through
holistic governance?*
Rizal Buendia

*For Better or For Worse? Assessing the Impact
of Monitoring and Benchmarking on the Fiscal
Performance of Local Governments in the
Philippines*
Marl Jinno Gooch

*Regulating Wastewater Discharge and Effluent in
Laguna de Bay: Issues, Challenges, and Lessons*
Rosalina Banzuela Yokomori

*National-Local Dissonance and Exacerbated
Vulnerabilities: COVID-19 and
PH Governmental Response*
Maria Elissa J. Lao & Pilar Preciousa P. Berse

*One Hundred Years of Solitude: A Path Con-
stitution Analysis of Philippine Basic Education
Assessments and Reforms in the Past 100 Years,
1921-2020*

**Alex, Jr. B. Brillantes & Herisadel P. Flores,
Melanie G. Riva**

*Mission Economy: A Moonshot Guide to
Changing Capitalism*
Honey Tabiola

In Memoriam: Mila A. Reforma (1943-2023)
Eula Mangaogang



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THE PHILIPPINE STATISTICIAN (TPS)
VOLUME 72 NO. 1 (2023)**

*Modelling Portfolio Risk and Diversification Effects of a Portfolio Using the
Exponential Distribution – Bivariate Archimedean Gumbel Copula Model*
Owen Jakata & Delson Chikobvu

*Local Quadratic Regression: Maximizing Performance via a Modified PRESS** for
Bandwidths Selection*
E. Edionwe & O. Eguasa

Spatiotemporal Patterns of COVID-19 Cases in Quezon City, Philippines
Tricia Janylle B. Sta. Maria, Nancy E. Añez-Tandang, & Edrun R. Gayosa

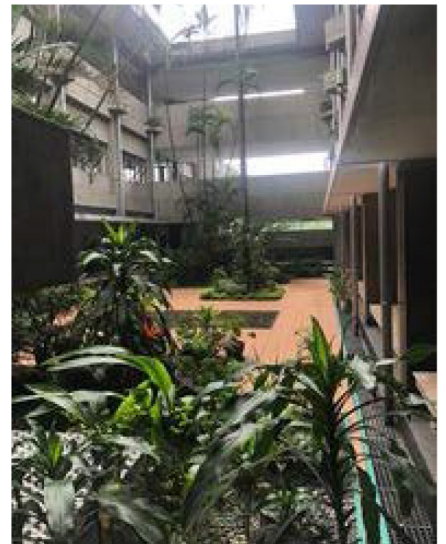
*Utilization of Machine Learning, Government-Based and Non-Conventional Indicators for
Property Value Prediction in the Philippines*
Gabriel Isaac L. Ramolete, Bryan Bramaskara, Dustin A. Reyes, & Adrienne Heinrich



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