

TJIC DIALOGUE

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Gascon, Santos Receive Aquino Awards

New CCP Play Salutes Thomasite Mary Fee

An exciting, new Tanghalang Pilipino production helps mark this year as the centennial of the arrival in the Philippines of the Thomasites. They were the 540 young American teachers who landed in Manila on August 23, 1901 aboard the U.S. army transport "Thomas" to establish a modern public school system and introduce English instruction.

"One Hundred Songs of Mary Helen Fee," which had its premiere on June 14, tells the real-life story of a dedicated Thomasite teacher who was posted to Capiz. Written by Tony Perez and directed by Nonon Padilla, the play stars Irma Adlawan as the idealistic, young American teacher.

According to Padilla, the play tells Ms. Fee's "journey of discovery" and her efforts to share knowledge amidst a clash of cultures as Filipinos all over the archipelago were witnessing the painful birth of their nation.

The U.S. Embassy's Public Affairs Section helped sponsor the play as one of its contributions to the year-long Thomasite Centennial observances. U.S. Embassy Chargé d'Affaires Michael E. Malinowski said, "The life of Mary Fee reminds us all that among the most significant and enduring legacies of more than a century of relations are our many shared educational values, institutions and people-to-people ties."

The play was premiered on June 14 and 15 at the National Museum of the Filipino People, had a special performance at the Asian Institute of Management (AIM) on July 11, and will resume performances during Tanghalang Pilipino's regular season at the CCP as follows:

English version: November 9, 17 and 23 at 8:00 p.m.; November 10, 18 and 24

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New Aquino Awardees "Chito" Gascon and Vergel Santos pose with Counselor for Public Affairs Dr. Michael H. Anderson, Chargé d'Affaires Michael E. Malinowski and former President Corazon C. Aquino.

A lawyer who has been active in advancing democracy and human rights in the country and a veteran columnist who is noted for promoting professionalism in journalism have been honored with awards that commemorate the late Senator Benigno S. Aquino, Jr.'s accomplishments in public service and the media.

Journalist Vergel O. Santos and Atty. Jose Luis Martin ("Chito") C. Gascon were presented the awards by former President Corazon C. Aquino and U.S. Embassy Chargé Michael E. Malinowski during a July 2 ceremony at the U.S. Ambassador's residence.

"Chito," Vergel and other recipients of the Ninoy Aquino Fellowship over the last 12 years are only a small fraction of a rich lode of experience and goodwill found in Philippine journalism and civil society today," Mrs. Aquino explained. "There are many more out there whose dedication to their profession and to the country make them just as deserving of recognition as our grantees."

"Atty. Gascon and Mr. Santos have both been involved with non-governmental

organizations that are trying to make a significant difference in society," Mr. Malinowski said. "Each knows the value of professional training and education and of good organization. Each has been involved in 'people power' — one through the power of the printed word and the classroom, the other through the power of political action and people's organizations."

Santos, who began his long journalistic career in 1964, was detained briefly during the Marcos administration. He helped revive two major Philippine newspapers, The Manila Times and The Manila Chronicle, which were shut down by the Marcos government. An author of journalism textbooks and a teacher at the University of the Philippines College of Mass Communication, Santos also writes a weekly column in BusinessWorld on professionalism and responsible journalism. He is chairman of the Board of Advisors for the Center for Media Freedom and Responsibility.

Gascon was the youngest member of the 1986 Constitutional Commission and, as a member of the House of

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Gascon, Santos...

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Representatives, was the principal author of a bill enhancing children's rights and the law to increase youth involvement in local governance. Aside from being the Executive Director of the National Institute for Policy Studies, Gascon is an active member of various people's organizations, including the Kongreso ng Mamayang Pilipino, the Citizen's Movement for Electoral Reforms, and the Coalition for Peace. President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo appointed him to the government panel negotiating peace with the National Democratic Front.

Established by the U.S. Embassy in 1988 in honor of the late Senator Benigno S. Aquino Jr., the annual fellowship provides two recipients an opportunity to visit the U.S. for professional consultations. Gascon and Santos began their U.S. trips on July 30.



Last year's Aquino Fellowship recipients, Mr. Edgar Comeros and Ms. Melinda de Jesus, participated in this year's awards ceremony by reporting on the most valuable experiences they had during their visits to the United States under the International Visitor Program. Mr. Comeros is Executive Director of the Visayas Cooperative Development Center (VICTO) in Cebu City. Ms. de Jesus is Executive Director of the Center for Media Freedom and Responsibility in Manila.

New CCP Play Salutes...

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at 3:00 p.m.; and November 11 at 10:30 a.m.

Tagalog version ("Isang Daang Awit ni Mary Helen Fee"): November 10, 16 and 24 at 8:00 p.m.; November 11, 17 and 25 at 3:00 p.m.; and November 18 at 10:30 a.m.



The play's award-winning writer, Tony Perez (left), appears with "Mary Helen Fee" — actress Irma Adlawan — and director Nonon Padilla of Tanghalang Pilipino, the Cultural Center of the Philippines' (CCP) resident drama company. The play, which premiered at the National Museum on June 14, moves to the CCP for November 9-25 performances.

American Studies Resource Centers Mark Fourth of July

The American Studies Resource Center (ASRC) at De La Salle University in Manila observed the Fourth of July by mounting a paper show on the American space program titled "Through Artists' Eyes" and holding a day-long screening of films

on America such as "Great American Teachers" and "This Is My Country."

In Bacolod City, the ASRC at the University of Saint La Salle (USLS) mounted a paper show titled "U.S.A. Celebrates 225th Fourth of July Today" and a photo exhibit titled "The Thomasites Centennial." The ASRC also sponsored a lecture series in American Studies. Fulbright alumna Dr. Judy Celine Ick, project director of the Thomasites Centennial Project and professor at the Department of English and Comparative Literature at the University of the Philippines in Diliman, opened the celebration with a ribbon-cutting and spoke on the Thomasites. Ms. Marife Varela, a USLS faculty member who attended the recent American Studies Summer Institute at Miriam College, lectured on "American Racism and Elitism." The program was attended by more than 100 guests, faculty members, students from USLS and other colleges and universities, and representatives from Silay City.

In Cagayan de Oro City, the ASRC at Xavier University (XU) celebrated the Fourth of July in cooperation with the History and Political Science Department. Atty. Neil Pacamalan, an XU faculty member who also attended the recent American Studies Summer Institute at Miriam College, organized the program, which included a lecture by Fulbright alumnus Dr. Renato Cruz de Castro, professor at the Department of Political Science at De La Salle University. A quiz bowl was also held.

PAEF News

PAEF Advisor Participates in U.S. Training

Dr. Esmeralda S. Cunanan, director of the educational information and advising center of the Philippine-American Educational Foundation (PAEF), participated in the recent U.S.-based training program for overseas educational advisers. The program provided advisers with opportunities to understand current issues and trends in U.S. higher education and their relation to the needs of students in their home countries. The three-week program included a week in Washington, D.C., a campus residency, and participation in the national NAFSA Conference.

PAEF Hosts Orientation Program

PAEF held its annual pre-departure orientation program for new Fulbright scholars, Fulbright-Philippine Agriculture Scholarship Program (FPASP) scholars, Hubert H. Humphrey (HHH) Fellows and East-West Center awardees on July 2-3, 2001. The event was held at PAEF's new quarters at Ayala Life-FGU Center in Makati City.

This year's program drew 45 participants, 26 of whom belong to the first



PAEF reception guests (left to right) are Fulbright-Philippine Agriculture Scholar (FPAS) Mr. Dario Cidro, Chargè Malinowski, FPAS Ms. Marissa Romero, CHED's Dr. Ester Garcia, DA's Atty. Edwin Acoba and FPAS Mr. Rizaldo Aldas.

batch of agriculture scholars under the FPASP program. Fulbright and HHH alumni were invited to orient the scholars to the business of daily living and learning in the United States. The program was opened by PAEF Board Chairman and U.S. Embassy Counselor for Public Affairs Dr. Michael H. Anderson and PAEF Executive Director Alexander Calata.

Mr. Michael Pippenger, Manager of the Asia/Pacific Fulbright Programs at the Institute of International Education (IIE) in New York, walked the scholars through the terms of their awards and discussed the role of the IIE advisor in assisting Fulbrighters during their time in the U.S. Dr. Steven Rood, PAEF Board member and Country Representative of the Asia Foundation, spoke on graduate education in the United States. Fulbright alumnus Dr. William Padolina, Deputy Director General for Partnership at the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI), gave an inspiring talk on what a Fulbright scholar should be. To prepare the scholars to be good ambassadors of the Philippines, Fulbright alumnus Dr. Wilfrido Villacorta, President of the Yuchengco Center for East Asia at De La Salle University, spoke on issues relating to Philippine politics and the economy. A panel of agriculture experts composed of Mr. Charles Alexander, Agriculture Counselor of the U.S. Embassy; Atty. Edwin Acoba of the Agricultural Training Institute of the Department of Agriculture (DA); Dr. Bruce Tolentino, DA Grains Policy Specialist; and Mr. Vicente Lim, Jr., President of the Philippine Chamber of Food Manufacturers, discussed the state of Philippine agriculture. Ms. Heide Bronke, Assistant Cultural Affairs Officer of the U.S. Embassy, gave an informative talk on the J visa.



2001 Fulbright scholar Ms. Conchitina Cruz, IIE's Michael Pippenger, 2001 Fulbright scholars Mr. Reginald Vinluan, Ms. Maria Isabel Roxas, Mr. Edson Cabalfin, Ms. Lee Ann Lofranco, Ms. Elizabeth Enriquez, PAEF Senior Program Officer Ms. Ma. Angela Dizon, and 2001 Fulbright scholars Atty. Shennan Sy and Atty. Manuel Arbon at PAEF's reception.

The highlight of the program was the courtesy call by the FPASP scholars on
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PAEF News

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Philippine President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo at Malacañang. The group was led by Chargè d'Affaires Michael E. Malinowski and Agriculture Secretary Leonardo Montemayor. The President had the opportunity to congratulate scholars and pose for a photo with them.

The orientation was officially closed by Dr. Ester Garcia, PAEF Board member and Chairperson of the Commission on Higher Education.

Dr. Anderson hosted a reception honoring both the U.S.-bound Filipino scholars and the newly-arrived American scholars. It was attended by Chargè d'Affaires Michael E. Malinowski, PAEF Board members, officers of the Fulbright, East-West Center and HHH alumni organizations, university presidents, and DA representatives.

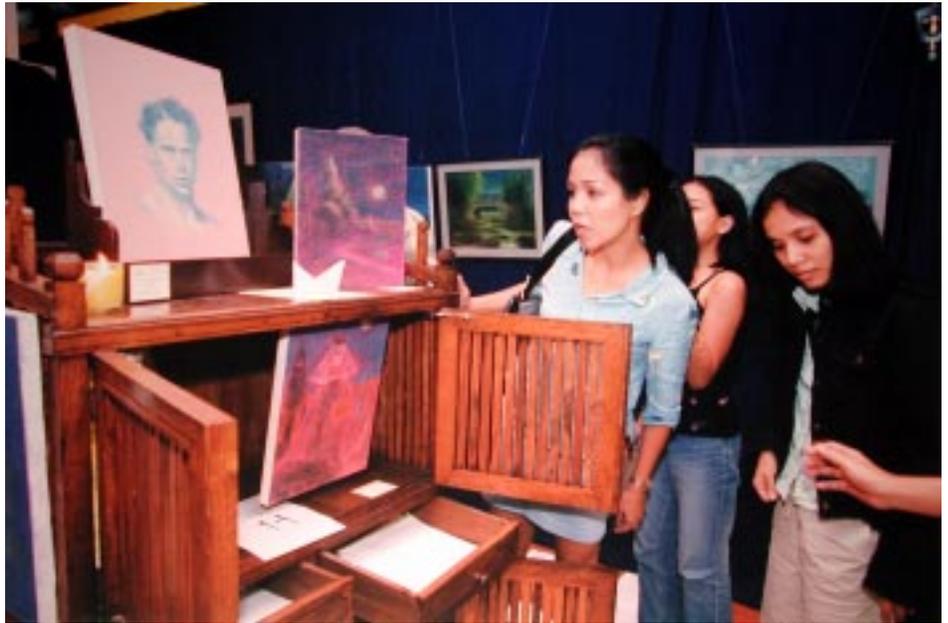
Thomasites Centennial Project

Art Exhibit Honors Thomasites

The exhibit was a tribute to the arrival in the Philippines of the pioneering American teachers who, in August of 1901,



U.S. Consul General John Caulfield (second from right), Counselor for Public Affairs Dr. Michael H. Anderson (third from left) and Thomasites Centennial Project Director Dr. Judy Celine Ick (third from right) help open "Passage by Water: In Celebration of the Thomasites Centennial," a contemporary art exhibit featuring works by visual artist Tony Perez (left) and his student, Victor Olaño (right). The exhibit, which featured works in oil pastels and pencil, opened on June 29 at Powerbooks Makati and ran through July 13.



Tanghalang Pilipino actresses Irma Adlawan (left) and Olga Natividad (right) look over art works from "Passage by Water: In Celebration of the Thomasites Centennial" by playwright and visual artist Tony Perez and his student Victor Olaño. Ms. Adlawan plays the title role of a Thomasite teacher in "One Hundred Songs of Mary Helen Fee," also written by Perez. The play reopens at CCP on November 9.

crossed the wide Pacific to establish the Philippine public school system. Additional contemporary art pieces celebrated the element of water.

The exhibit was curated by Nonon Padilla, a well-known printmaker and the

Artistic Director of CCP's Tanghalang Pilipino.

PHILAM Assists Thomasite Conference

The Philam Foundation donated P100,000 to help the American Studies Association of the Philippines (ASAP) organize an international conference on the contributions of the Thomasites to Philippine education.

Entitled "Back to the Future: Perspectives on the Thomasite Legacy to Philippine Education," the conference was scheduled for August 24-25, 2001 at the Ateneo de Manila University. The conference is part of the observance of the centennial of the arrival in the Philippines on August 23, 1901 of the Thomasites, the first American teachers.

Atty. Manuel L. Ortega, executive director of the Foundation, presented the donation recently to Dr. Cora Villareal, ASAP president. Dr. Shirley Advincula, past ASAP president, and Dr. Michael Anderson, U.S. Embassy Counselor for Public Affairs, attended the presentation ceremony in the Philam Life Tower in Makati.

"Philam is proud of the role it has long played in fostering Philippine-American relations, and we are pleased to contribute

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Thomasite Centennial Project

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to ASAP to help tell the Thomasites' story and observe the important centennial," Atty. Ortega said.

"ASAP greatly appreciates the Foundation's generosity and welcomes its interest in helping Filipino and foreign scholars discuss and document the Thomasites' impact on Philippine society," Dr. Villareal said.

"Thomasite" T-Shirts Go on Sale

Treasures has designed and produced three versions of a Thomasites Centennial T-shirt, which are now available in Metro Manila. Each T-shirt is priced at P150, and includes a brochure explaining this year's Thomasites Centennial. One size fits all.

The T-shirts are available at Treasures outlets, which include the Silahis Center (744 Calle Real del Palacio, Intramuros, Manila) and Pamana, The Museum Shop (National Museum of the Filipino People, Valencia Circle, Rizal Park, Manila). They are also available at the Philippine Crafts Section and at the Level 1 M. Adriatico entrance of Robinsons Place (Ermita, Manila), the Philippine Crafts Section of Robinsons

Galleria (Ortigas Center), the 2nd Level kiosk of Robinsons Place Imus (Cavite), the Philippine Crafts Section of Landmark Department Store (Makati), Balikbayan Handicrafts (Arnaiz Avenue, Makati), and Sta. Lucia East Department Store (Cainta, Rizal).

For more information about the T-shirts, call Sebia Dy or Juliet Avila on 364-2743 or 364-2198. Sebia can also be reached at 0-917-526-1508, and Juliet at 0-917-334-4751.

PNHS to Discuss History of Education

Speakers are invited to present papers at the Philippine National Historical Society's 22nd National Conference on Local and National History to be held on November 15-16 at Silliman University, Dumaguete City. The conference theme is "A Century of Education in the Philippines: Implications for Nation Building," commemorating the arrival of the Thomasites on August 23, 1901 and the founding of Silliman University on August 28 of that year.

Topics will include the history of education and educational institutions (Spanish and American periods), the making of educational policy in the Philippines, mass education and good government, education and

democratization, education and preservation of cultural values, as well as studies on local history (especially of the Visayas), and national history.

Inquiries may be addressed to Professor Bernardita R. Churchill, PNHS president and national convenor, at telephone 921-4575, Telefax 926-1347, or e-mail nitachurchill@hotmail.com or nita@csi.com.ph.

The conference is the major annual activity of the PNHS, which was established in 1941 and is the oldest professional nationwide organization of historians in the country. The PNHS is also a charter member of the Philippine Social Science Council.

International Visitor News

New Visitors Announced

Ms. Sheila Chan, Executive Director of the Palawan Conservation Corps, and Ms. Maria Cecilia Oebanda, President and Founder of the Visayan Forum Foundation, participated in the International Visitor Program on Community Service and Non-Government Organizations, which began in Washington, D.C. on June 21, 2001. The program illustrated the widespread role of volunteerism in U.S. society and showed how non-governmental organizations rally volunteer resources to address serious social problems in a rapidly changing society.

As head of the Palawan Conservation Corps, Ms. Chan works with the youth in furthering environmental conservation through seminars that focus on conservation skills, leadership and environmentally responsible behavior. She is also co-chairperson of a task force on child labor and, during the International Visitor Program, had the opportunity to address such issues in the context of social services to native American populations.

As President of the Visayan Forum Foundation, Ms. Oebanda has made this non-government organization a leader in addressing child labor concerns in the Philippines and in the Asia-Pacific. She is Southeast Asia Regional Coordinator and National Coordinator for the Philippines in the Global March against Child Labor.

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Philam Foundation Executive Director Atty. Manuel L. Ortega recently presented a P100,000 check to American Studies Association of the Philippines (ASAP) President Cora Villareal to help ASAP fund its August 24-25 international conference at Ateneo de Manila University on the contributions of the Thomasites to Philippine education. Max Ventura, Philam Foundation Assistant Executive Director; U.S. Embassy Counselor for Public Affairs Michael Anderson; and ASAP Board member Dr. Shirley Advincula observed.



Board members of the recently organized U.S. International Visitor Program-Philippines Alumni Foundation took their oath on June 27 before Chief Justice Hilario Davide at the Supreme Court of the Philippines. From left to right are Father Benigno Beltran, Commissioner of Human Rights Nasser Marohomsalic, Dr. Jesus Estanislao, film director Laurice Guillen, Justice Zeneida Elepaño, alumni group chairman Aniceto Sobrepeña of MetroBank, and the Chief Justice. At the back are Senate Secretary Lutgardo Barbo and Atty. Adrian Sison. Board members not shown are Angie Cunanan of UNDP and Milwida Guevara of the Ford Foundation. The IV program, which has more than 500 alumni in the Philippines, is a U.S. Embassy-sponsored exchange program that allows Filipino participants to experience U.S. society and meet fellow professionals.

International Visitor News

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Ms. Criselda Perez, Corporate Board Secretary at the Philippine Deposit and Insurance Corporation, traveled to the United States from June 28 through July 19, 2001 to participate in the International Visitor Program on the U.S. Financial System. During the program, Ms. Perez examined U.S. financial markets in their global and domestic contexts. Activities were geared towards explaining U.S. perspectives on international economic and monetary issues. Ms. Perez visited Washington, D.C., New York, Los Angeles, and Chicago.

Ms. Engracia Bangaoil, Attorney and Chief of Staff at the Office of the Director General, Intellectual Property Rights Office, participated in the program on Copyright in the Electronic Age (July 19-August 9, 2001). The program included nine participants representing various countries who observed U.S. efforts to protect copyrighted works through legislation and world treaties. They also examined how technological innovations offer opportunities for distributing — and pirating — copyrighted works worldwide.

Ms. Josephine Fernandez, area director of the American Studies Resource Center (ASRC) at Central Philippine University (CPU), Iloilo City, returned from a



Mr. Telibert Laoc receives his invitation to participate in the International Visitor Program from Assistant Cultural Affairs Officer Ms. Heide Bronke. Mr. Laoc's program will include participants from East Asia and Pacific and focus on volunteerism in the U.S. He is Executive Director of the National Citizens' Movement for Free Elections (NAMFREL).

three-week study tour of the United States sponsored by the State Department in cooperation with the Phelps Stokes Fund. Her program began in Washington, D.C. on May 29 and ended in Los Angeles on June 23. Ms. Fernandez participated in a multi-regional group project on Libraries and Information Management, which focused on the values of U.S. libraries, the role played by the government in promoting access to information, the existing variety of types of libraries and the technology that is making global library cooperation possible.

AFP Official Attends Symposium

This year's Symposium on East Asia Security (SEAS), which took place July 16 - August 9, 2001, was attended by Brigadier General Efren L. Abu, Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations at the Armed Forces of the Philippines. General Abu has held various key command and staff positions and was recently appointed Operations Officer for the entire AFP.

Since 1986, the Commander-in-Chief of the Pacific (USCINCPAC) and the Department of State have jointly sponsored the symposium, which brings together a distinguished group of 25 individuals from 19 nations of the Asia-Pacific region. SEAS provided its participants the opportunity to have in-depth discussions on the vital security issues of the Asia-Pacific region. The symposium began in Honolulu and proceeded to Seoul, Tokyo, and Beijing.



Mr. Cedric Bagtas is presented his invitation to participate in the International Visitor Program on organized labor in the United States. He is Deputy General Secretary of the Trade Union Congress of the Philippines. Shown with Mr. Bagtas are Assistant Cultural Affairs Officer Heide Bronke (left) and Cultural Specialist for Exchanges Marilou Apolinario (right).

American Studies

University of San Jose-Recoletos Sponsors Fulbrighter's Cebu Program

The University of San Jose-Recoletos (USJ-R) in Cebu City hosted a program by Dr. Charles Hubbard, Fulbright professor of History at De La Salle University, on July 6, 2001. It consisted of a lecture on "U.S. Governance and Civil Society" attended by 300 students of the College of Arts and Sciences and a talk on "Curriculum-Building for American Studies" with 50 faculty members of the College of Arts and Sciences.

The program was organized by Dr. Edgar A. Alosbaños, officer-in-charge of the USJ-R College of Arts and Sciences. He is a member of the American Studies Program Committee representing Cebu City and the American Studies Association of Cebu City.

Program News

DECS and PAS Sponsor Workshop on Content-Based Instruction

The Department of Education, Culture and Sports (DECS), in close cooperation with the U.S. Embassy and five leading

universities, conducted a ten-day training institute on content-based instruction from July 15 to 25, 2001 at the Bayview Plaza Hotel, Manila. The Institute was organized in response to a challenge posed by then-DECS Secretary Andrew Gonzalez, who met with Embassy officials in November 2000 and identified English as a major obstacle in the teaching and learning of science and math in the Philippines.

The focus of the workshop was "Content Based Instruction (CBI)." The workshop aimed to provide leading math, science and English educators nationwide with input on the principles and practices of approaches to teaching language and math/science simultaneously (i.e. Content Based Instruction). The participants were provided with materials and strategies which they could use in conducting their own workshops and seminars with science, math and English teachers in their respective regions.

One math, one science and one English master teacher or subject-area supervisor (all at the secondary school level) had been selected by the DECS regional offices in each of the 16 regions of the Philippines. Representatives from 16 leading teacher education institutes (TEIs) also participated in the workshop, forming the "core" audience for the program.

The workshop consisted of a series of plenary sessions, small-group workshops

and a digital video conference with Dr. Gilberto Cuevas, a leading mathematician and CBI specialist based in University of Miami. Throughout the program, Dr. Craig Dicker, English Language Officer for Indonesia, Malaysia, and the Philippines served as lead resource specialist. He was supported by local academic experts from DECS, the Ateneo de Manila University, De La Salle University, the National Institute of Science and Math Education Development, the Philippine Normal University, the University of Santo Tomas, and the University of the Philippines.

The institute produced sample instructional materials which were adapted by the participants from DECS-approved science and math secondary school textbooks in order that they be congruent with the principles and practices of CBI. The participants also designed sample lesson plans integrating science, math and English teaching/learning, developed in accord with DECS lesson plan formats. Training strategies were formulated with agenda, criteria for participant selection and substantive input that will be implemented by each team of participants in their respective regions.

The workshop was a major success, and one DECS representative called it "a major step forward in our efforts to address one of the most pressing problems in the educational crisis facing our nation." The three DECS designates were selected to join the Secretary's advisory panel on curriculum reform and revision.

DVC Held with Elizabeth King on Educational Reform

A digital video conference (DVC) was held on July 20 with Dr. Elizabeth King, an economist of the World Bank. Dr. King spoke on educational reform before an audience of representatives from public educational institutions, corporate foundations, NGOs, and the business community. The DVC was in collaboration with the Asian Institute of Management's Washington Sycip Policy Center, a leading policy think-tank founded on the commitment to enhance the overall competitiveness of the Philippine business environment through public policy reform. Dr. King's presentation focused on strategies for improving the quality of public and private educational systems in the

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context of making it more responsive to the needs of the economy.

Dr. King focused on the decentralization and privatization of the educational system as policy options for improving academic outcomes in enrolment, completion and learning. She discussed case studies in the U.S. and related how decentralization and privatization address the need to change the way schools are managed, forge better partnerships between public and private sectors, and foster programs to reach the disadvantaged and vulnerable members of the society. She also illustrated how similar strategies have been adopted by developing countries in Latin America.

Dr. King enjoined the private sector as important stakeholders in making a real difference for educational outcomes. In closing, she challenged participants from the private sector to take a more active role in helping achieve educational reform in the country.



A team from the U.S. Department of Agriculture visited the Philippines recently to exchange views on biotechnology issues with Philippine government officials, scholars, journalists and industry representatives. The group's visit was highlighted by a week-long workshop on "Agricultural Biotechnology: Facts, Fears and Future Directions" June 11-15 at the Edsa Shangri-La Hotel. Photo shows some members of the team during a visit to the International Rice Research Institute (from left): Dr. Subhash Gupta, USDA's director of biotechnology trade issues for Africa, Asia and Latin America; Dr. Jesus Legaspi, USDA research entomologist and professor at Florida A&M University; Dr. C. S. Prakash, director of the Center for Plant Biotechnology Research, Tuskegee University; and Steven Beasley, team coordinator, from the Office for International Cooperation and Development at USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service.



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