

# SLIDE

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The Official Student Publication of the UP School of Economics

## Dude, Where's My Piso?

Maximizing Profits:  
The Economics of War

Econ's Eleven  
Part 2

Guimaras 101



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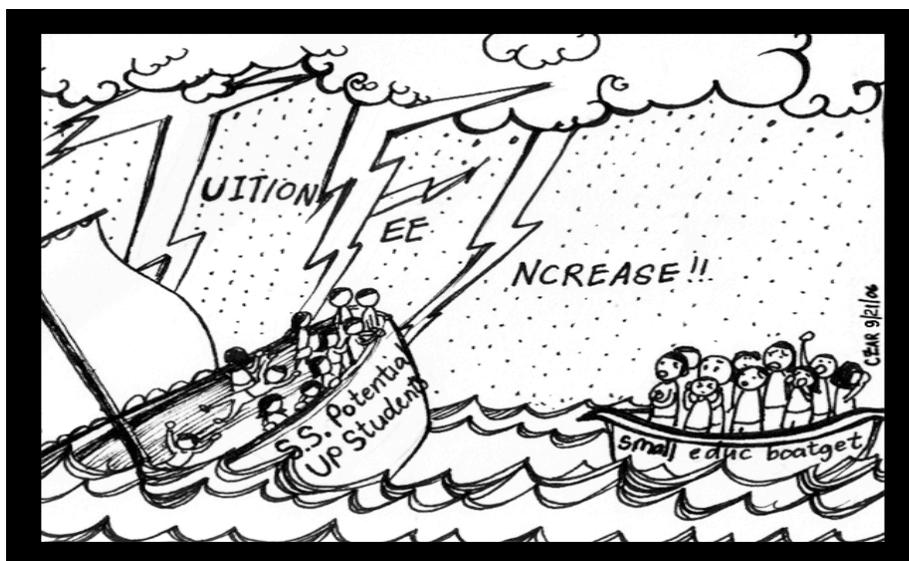
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## Editorial



## Sinisikil/Sinasakal

Ang mga pangyayari ay nananakal. At ang kalayaan natin ay sinisikil.

Umikot sa mga email nitong nakaraang buwan ang pahayag ng Philippine Collegian na kumokondena sa pakikilalam ng administrasyon ng UP sa mga gawaing pampublikasyon na umano'y isang tahasang pag-insulto sa kalayaan sa pamamahayag.

Partikular na tinukoy sa pahayag ng Collegian ang interbensyon ng administrasyon sa proseso ng bidding at sa pamimili ng printing press, gayundin ang pagharang ng administrasyon sa paglalabas ng pondo ng publikasyon. Ito umano ang dahilan kung bakit hindi nakapaglalabas ang Collegian ng isyu sa takdang araw at maging ang mga isyung nakahanay ay hindi pa rin naiimprenta.

Inihayag ng Collegian na simula pa noong Hunyo 2006 ay hinarang na ng administrasyon ang paglalabas ng pondo para sa pag-iimprenta ng pahayagan. Ginamit umano ng administrasyon ang probisyon sa Republic Act 9184 o Government Procurement Reform Act na nagsasaad na ang lahat ng bayarin na kinokolekta ng unibersidad ay pondo ng gobyerno. Sa ganitong pagpapalagay, ang bidding at pamimili ng printing press ay nakasalalay umano sa gobyerno at hindi sa editorial board ng Collegian.

Matibay naman ang paninindigan ng Collegian na ang publikasyon ay hindi institusyon ng gobyerno kung kaya't hindi ito nasasakop sa isinasaad na probisyon ng RA 9184. Ang nagpo-pondo umano sa Collegian ay mga estudyante, at ang pananagutan ng publikasyon ay tanging sa mga estudyante lamang.

Ang labang isinusulong ng Collegian ay laban din nating lahat na mga estudyante ng UP. Malinaw na ang estratehiyang ginagamit ng administrasyon ay isang hakbang upang sikilin ang ating kalayaan sa pamamahayag. Nangangamba ang gobyerno sa mga maaalab nating mga pahayag na sumasalungat sa kanilang mga kabalintunaan. Ang Collegian ay nagsisilbing tinig natin at matang laging nakatunghay sa lipunang sinusubukang manipulahin ng gobyerno.

Saksi ang kasaysayan sa ginawang pakikibaka ng Collegian at ng mga mag-aaral ng UP. Muli tayong hinahamon ng panahon upang makipaglaban para sa pagtataguyod ng ating karapatan.

**Panahon man ay mapanakal, huwag tayong magpasikil.**

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Prof. Emmanuel De Dios  
Prof. Stella Luz Quimbo  
Prof. Benjamin Diokno

Image in Cover: "Dude Where's my Piso"  
by Karen Cervantes

## UPSE plays ball

By: Louise Michelle O. Lozano

### Not even typhoon

'Mileny' could stop the UP School of Economics (UPSE) community from forming stronger bond among its members as it held the semestral inter-batch Schoolympics at the Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR) Gym last September 27.

The event, organized by the UPSE Student Council headed by Chairperson Claire Ericta, showcased the students' athletic abilities as well as their sportsmanship. This also served as their break from the pressure of the forthcoming final examinations.

The sports fest was initiated with cheering performances by each year level followed by ball and board games held simultaneously. The Seniors who represented a large portion of the attendees were the overall champions, dominating eight out of the 12 events.

SESC hopes that the next Schoolympics will be met with the same eagerness and increased participation from the community.

Winners:

- Men's Basketball** Seniors
- Women's Basketball** Seniors
- Volleyball** Seniors
- Futsal** Seniors
- Patintero** Juniors
- Dodgeball** Seniors
- Arm Wrestling for Men** Juniors
- Arm Wrestling for Women** Seniors
- Chess** Seniors
- Badminton** Juniors
- Cheering** Seniors
- Game of the Generals** Freshmen ■

Schoolympics Cheering Competition



## UPSE alumni homecoming held

By: Paula Krisna Lorca

The UP School of Economics held an Alumni Homecoming entitled "Bak 2 Skul of Economics" last September 16 at the UPSE Library Building. It welcomed the jubilarians of Batches 1981 (Silver), 1976 (Pearl), 1971 (Coral), and 1966 (Ruby).

Hon. Edgardo Chatto, representative of the first district of Bohol and alumnus of Batch 1981, was the guest speaker during the occasion. He was also one of the founding members of the UP Economics Towards Consciousness and the president of the UP Alumni Association-Bohol.

The main target of the alumni homecoming was to raise one million pesos to start the endowment fund for the School of Economics. To jumpstart the accumulation of necessary resources, an auction was held during the occasion. Plants, books, and paintings were some of the items that were auctioned that night.

The special performers during the event were the UP Concert Chorus, UP Kontragapi, and UPSE's Guitar Club and Hot Dancers. Aside from the entertainment provided by these groups, various prizes were given out to the different batches that attended the event. Batch 1982 took home the P5000 cash prize for having the most attendees. ■

## UP-ETC, JPES hold ED on free trade

University of the Philippines Economics Towards Consciousness, in cooperation with the Junior Economics Philippine Society, held an educational discussion (ED) on trade liberalization on September 2 at the College of Law.

Entitled "(Be) trade: Trends on Trade Liberalization and the Implications on Fair Trade and Development", the said ED focused on the effects of "freer" trade in the Philippine economy, and the costs and benefits of trading.

Dr. Ramon Clarete graced the occasion as the resource speaker. ■

## MDE batch 42 spearheads lecture on carbon trading

By: Jose Rowell T. Corpuz

The students of the 42nd Session of the Masters in Development Economics (MDE) program of the UP School of Economics (UPSE) organized a lecture entitled "Carbon Trading: A Market Approach to Address Climate Change" held at the Diosdado Macapagal Auditorium, August 31.

The seminar aimed to provide the participants with better understanding about the role of market mechanisms as a useful approach to encourage states and businesses to adopt policies and initiatives that would reduce carbon emissions in a cost-effective manner.

Dr. Roberto C. Yap, SJ, an environmental economist and assistant professor at the Department of Economics, School of Social Sciences of Ateneo de Manila University (AdMU), delivered the lecture, which encompassed the economic concepts of carbon trading, current state of international carbon trading, and insights on the prospects of the Philippines in participating in the carbon market.

After the lecture, a carbon trading game followed in which most of the audience participated. The game is played by the so-called "Kyoto Protocol officials," the authority that controls the market of emission permits and by the "countries to the protocol" or those who need to reduce or help to reduce emissions through trading.

The analysis for the game results showed that all countries profited. "In all of the carbon trading games conducted under klima, Climate Change Center, for some banks, CDM stakeholders, institutions, agencies, companies and schools, the scenario where all countries profited was the first time," said Sandee Recabar, one of the organizers.

The participants came from the UPSE faculty, UPSE graduate and undergraduate students, Public Administration majors, and Master in Environmental Management (MEM) students from AdMU.

The current MDE batch is required to conduct a total of eight lecture series for the whole academic year or four every semester. Its main goal is to provide students with a venue for discussions of current development trends, issues, concerns, or even initiatives that is shaping or has the potential to influence the development economic policy landscape of the country. ■



# GUIMARAS 101

## Mga Huling Balita at Isyu sa Pinakamalalang Oil Spill sa Kaysaysayan ng Pilipinas

Ni: Mary Ann Cuevas

### MT Solar I

Length: 79 meters  
Load: 2.1 M liters of bunker fuel oil  
Owner: Sunshine Maritime Development Corp.  
Point of origin: Petron Refinery in Bataan  
Destination: Zamboanga del Sur  
remote-operated vehicle  
1.3 M liters oil leaked (according to a science undersecretary)

**Affected**  
mangrove  
mudcrab  
green sea turtle  
tilapia  
varied seagrass  
mangrove shrimp  
starfish  
seasnake  
**Threatened**  
giant clam  
blue crab  
dolphin  
dugong

sea cucumber  
corals  
**Damages**  
100-220 km tainted coastline  
1,100 ha spoiled marine reserves  
454 ha mangroves smothered with oil  
26,000 people affected in Guimaras  
136 families (400 residents) evacuated  
7 towns affected  
10,000 fisher folk bereft of daily income totaling Php 3-5 million  
Php 57 million worth of destroyed marine resources in fish cages and fish pens  
P50 million losses in shrimp industry  
P50 million losses in anchovy industry  
P3.57 million foregone revenue from tourism

Source: [http://specials.inq7.net/visayasoilspill/index.php?ver=1&index=1&story\\_id=18699](http://specials.inq7.net/visayasoilspill/index.php?ver=1&index=1&story_id=18699)

**Dalawang** buwan na ang nagdaan mula nang maganap ang pinakamalalang *oil spill* sa Pilipinas dulot ng paglubog ng MT Solar I, isang *oil tanker*, sa Nueva Valencia Coast, Guimaras. Isang buwan na ang nakaraan matapos simulan ni Tina Gallardo, isang manunulat at dating *training officer* ng Petron Corporation, ang krusada ng pagpapagupit ng buhok para sa Guimaras. Ilang linggo mo na marahil naririnig ang iyong mga kakilalang ipinamamaliza ang pagpapagupit at ang nararamdaman nilang kagaanan ng loob habang tangan sa kanilang isipan na ipinadala ang kanilang mga buhok sa hugis-pusong isla upang gamiting panipsip ng krudong kumalat sa dagat. Samantala, ikaw naman ay napapakamot ng ulo dahil noong nakaraang linggo lamang ay napanood mo sa isang dokumentaryo na ilang eksperto na ang nagbabala sa paggamit ng buhok bilang panipsip ng tumapong langis. Hindi kasi ito gaya ng mga bunot ng niyog o di kaya ng dayami, na agad-agad nabubulok. At isa o dalawang araw na marahil ang nakaraan matapos ang iyong *exam* na ilang gabi mo ring pinaghandaan.

Bugbog ka na nga sa pagpupuyat kaaaral at katatapos ng mga *requirements* ngayong patapos na ang semestre, naididismaya ka pa sa tuwing bubulaga sa iyo ang isa na namang Guimaras *oil spill update* sa pahayagan. Halos walang pag-unlad ang mga pangyayari. Dalawang buwan na mula nang lumubog ang MT Solar I, hanggang ngayon ay mistulang hindi pa nangangalahati sa pagbuo ng

kongkretong solusyon ang mga kinauukulan.

### Solusyong Ala-Titanic: Lubog pa rin sa Dagat

Una, kinokonsidera na ng Malacañang ang pag-upa sa Norwegian *firms* upang higupin ang nalalabing krudong tumatagas mula sa lumubog na *tanker* matapos mapag-aralang may nakaabang na malaking pangani—ang lalong pagkasira ng mga pinaglalagiyan ng krudo na pinarupok na ng panahon at ng matinding presyur sa ilalim ng dagat. Ang naunang ipinanukalang solusyong ala-Titanic ng ilang pribadong kumpanya ay gumamit ng *submersible vessels* at mga robot upang pumailalim sa dagat at pigilan ang pagtagas ng langis. Subalit hanggang ngayon hindi pa rin napagdedesisyunan kung papaano talaga tatanggalin ang krudo.

Ilang eksperto na rin ang nagbabala laban sa paggamit ng *oil dispersants* sa parte ng dagat na may lalim na higit 50 talampakan dahil tinutulak lamang nito ang krudo pababa na lubhang mapanganib sa mga lamang dagat gaya ng mga koral. Subalit ilang volunteers pa rin ang masigasig sa paggamit nito sa mabababang parte ng dagat. Patuloy na gumagamit ang mga tao ng buhok at iba pang *non-biodegradable absorbents* na hindi praktikal at mas nakasasama pa sa kapaligiran. Ayon kay Maria Athena Ronquillo Ballesteros ng Greenpeace International Climate and Energy, pakulo lamang ng *media* ang paghingi nila ng donasyon ng mga buhok. Ang

mas malala pa, aniya, kumagat naman sa isyu si PGMA at ang mga politiko.

### Pananagutan ng Petron at SMDC, Pinsala sa Mamamayan

Ikalawa, nananatili pa ring malaking problema kung papaano mabibigyan ng kabuhayan ang mga apektadong mamamayan. Nagsimula na ang Provincial Economic Development Office (PEDO) na maghanap ng alternatibong kabuhayan para sa higit 517 apektadong *aquaculturists*, 6,118 na mangingisda at 80,836 kataong nakatira malapit sa tabing dagat. Ayon sa *statistics*, halos dalawa hanggang tatlong milyong piso kada araw ang nawawala sa kabuuang kita ng mga nasalanta. Bukod pa dito, umaabot sa 300 kilometro ng baybayin ng Guimaras, Iloilo at Negros ang sinalanta ng pagtagas. Winasak ng langis ang mahigit 15 kilometro kwadrado ng mga *coral reef*, 60 ektarya ng plantasyon ng seaweed, 1,100 ektarya ng bakawan, 1,000 ektarya ng *marine reserves* kabilang ang apat na lugar na pinepreserba para sa eco-diversity, anim na daungan at mga *beach resort*<sup>1</sup>. Inceestima ng PEDO na ang maginging alternatibo ay agrikultural ngunit wala pa silang tiyak na solusyong pangkabuhayan para sa mga residente.

Ilang pamilya na ang nakalagak sa mga silid-aralang ginawang *evacuation centers* at natutulog sa *phywood*. Higit 677 katao na ang may sintomas ng mga sakit na gastro-intestinal, at ayon sa pahayag ng mga eksperto mula sa UP Visayas, tinatayang hihigit sa sampung taon ang rehabilitasyon. Sa pagdaan ng panahon,

pataas na nang pataas ang mga datos na ito, subalit patuloy pa rin sa pag-uusap at pagdedebate sa kung saan-saang pulong ang kinauukulan. Php 400 M *supplementary budget* ang inilaan ng senado para sa trahedyang halos Php 200 bilyon ang hinihingi ng National Disaster Coordinating Council (NDCC). Walang maayos na inihandang pagtatala ng paggagastusan ng nasabing 2 bilyong piso, na ikinalalit ng mga senador. Sa bagay, hindi natin sila masisisi; malaki nga naman ang pagkakataong makapangurakot ang ilan, at alam na alam nila ang ganoong taktika. *Bravo*. Tuloy, lalo pang nasasakal ang mga biktima.

Patuloy mang bumuhos ang pangakong pera mula sa mga bansa gaya ng Australia (na nangako ng US\$ 147,400), nagiging mapanakal ang sitwasyon. Hindi man ito usaping nakaangkla sa pera, lubhang nakaaapekto ito sa *morale* ng mga Guimarasnon at lokal na pamahalaan. Sabi nga ng ilang estudyante mula sa ating unibersidad nang mapanood ang isang dokumentaryo sa telebisyon, nakalulungkot dahil kitang-kita ang matinding pagsusumikap ng mga dayuhan, ng lokal na pamahalaan at ng ilang mga NGO na mapabuti ang kalagayan ng Guimaras, subalit hindi karamdam-ramdam ang presensya ng gobyerno at ng buong nasyon. Ang Petron Corporation, mistulang alagang-alaga ng gobyerno at relaks na relaks lang sa pangyayari. Ni wala man lamang inilaang badyet ito, matapos maging pabaya sa paggamit ng *single-bulled* (sa halip na *double-bulled*) *tanker*, para direktang tulungan ang naagrabyadong mamamayan. Mukhang naglaho na lang sa

...continued on page 15

# SESC organizes Chalk, MYX campus tours

By: Jan Erik Angeles



End of March Band

## CHALK CAMPUS TOUR

The School of Economics Student Council (SESC), together with the UP Junior Marketing Association (UPJMA) and the College of Business Administration Council (BAC), organized the Chalk Magazine campus tour held on August 4 at the AS Parking Lot.

The event featured a fashion show and a three-band concert. For the fashion show, Chalk enlisted the talents and looks of student models mostly composed of SE and CBA students. Student-models walked the ramp while endorsing Penshoppe products. Bands present were Calla Lily, Join the Club, and Mojofly.



Chicosci, Pupil, and Mano Mano. ■

## MYX CAMPUS TOUR

SESC, with the help of the BAC, UPJMA, UP Music Circle, and Upsilon Sigma Phi Fraternity organized the MYX Campus Tour on August 8, AS Parking Lot.

The MYX campus tour was an all-night affair which featured some amateur bands from UP Diliman as well as more established bands like

# SEAC Week 2006

By: Adrian Dadongdong

School of Economics-based student organizations joined hands to celebrate the School of Economics Advisory Council Week (SEAC) last August 22-25. The week was filled with interesting activities which was sponsored by the different member organizations of SEAC.

It started with a grand SEAC pakain on August 22 by Sidhi, the official student publication of the school. In the evening of that same day, Organization of Business Economics Majors (OBEM) organized Econ Idol, a singing contest, which was swarmed by org members shouting and yelling for their org bets. Jacquelyn Merced, a freshman and the representative of Economics Towards Consciousness (ETC) won the contest followed by JonJon Avila of Debate Society-HPAIR tandem.

On August 23, an outreach program was held in Krus na Ligas from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm. There were feeding program by the School of Economics Student Council (SESC), family planning seminar by ETC, a livelihood seminar by OBEM and a bloodletting activity by the jointed forces of Sidhi, Career Assistance Program (CAP), HPAIR and Registration Volunteer Corps (RVC).

ETC spearheaded EQnomics, an Economics quiz bee on August 23. It was participated as well by the member organizations. Brylle Baluyot and Marianne Panganiban of Economics Society (EcoSoc) were declared winners. On Friday, an exciting Deal Or No Deal game was prepared by EcoSoc where Princess Paulette de Borja with studio partner, Mark Arisgado, both from ETC luckily won the game.

Finally, as a culminating activity, SESC, EcoSoc and Mu Sigma Phi Fraternity and Sorority of UP Manila held a Medical Mission in Daang Tubo, UP Diliman. The activity, started from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm, was very much appreciated by the people living there in the place.

SEAC week was spearheaded by the SESC Vice Chairperson and SEAC Conve-nor Bernard Kaibigan who was very happy with the success of the event. ■

# Esperon was hit in UP

By: Jonalyn Maraña

General Hermogenes Esperon Jr.



## Eggs are on the go.

At least 10 students of UP Diliman attacked AFP Chief of Staff General Hermogenes Esperon, with eggs and mud while on his departure after being invited as a guest on a forum about "Development and Conflict" at the C.M. Recto Hall of the UP Faculty Center, Sept. 22.

According to Esperon's spokesman, Lieutenant Colonel Bartolome Bacarro, the general was hit on his back twice. However, Anakbayan spokesperson Sarah Maramag claimed that he was hit in the face by two eggs before he managed to get in the waiting vehicle.

Reasons for this incident are not clear. But prior to this, demonstrations have occurred with the aim to dispute the growing surge of murder incidents of left-wing activists that is widely blamed on the military.

Maramag stated that the "assault" on Esperon was joined by the UP Student Council and the League of Filipino Students (LFS). This was done while shouting "fascist military" to Esperon.

However, Bacarro declared that Esperon made light of the situation and joked to him: "Maybe they [UP students] are angry at me because I did not launch a coup d'etat." ■

# ECOSOC holds events management seminar

As its second offering in its 48<sup>th</sup> year celebration, the UP Economics Society (EcoSoc) staged Eventology 101: The Basics of Events Management, a half-day seminar designed to bring people with brimming ideas and planned undertakings towards the experts on the field of events creation and management, September 13.

Eventology 101 tackled the issues, nature, tricks, and the basics of events management by employing two dimensions of the said field. The first aspect, dubbed as *The Essentials of Events Management*, took up the first half of the seminar.

Dondi Alentajan, current brand manager of the San Miguel Corporation's beer division and an EcoSoc alumnus, took up the helm as he imparted the participants with the do's and don'ts of organizing an event.

The second aspect, entitled *Down to Species*, came up next in the second half of the seminar. Phillip Castro, president of X10 Events, Inc. and also an EcoSoc alumnus, spoke about how to organize specific types of events such as parties, concerts, and sporting events..

On the other hand, Martin Molina, current leader of the Ateneo Student Trainers (STRAINS), talked about the value of good facilitation as a critical success factor in events management. He emphasized the significance of motivating people and facilitating the integration of resources, both material and human, appropriately in the pursuit of making events as successful as possible. ■

# DUDE, WHERE'S MY PISO?

## The Plight of the Coins

John Dale Quimpo and Lester Jeff Pawid

If I have Php 100 and you have Php 100, it seems pretty obvious that we are equally well off. That is UNLESS my Php 100 is actually made up purely of Php 1 coins, which will actually make me as much as FOUR TIMES better off than you are. Apparently, a hundred peso bill is not equal to one hundred pesos in coins, and it is this seemingly improbable truth that drives certain economic agents, smugglers to be exact, to engage in a little economic sabotage to further their own ends.

### Dude, these guys are like, really bad

Not only are contrabands entering the country but smugglers are also bringing out anything of value, and the poor Philippine one-peso coins are not spared. There are news of money laundering but, goodness, even the heavy coins are not left out of the equation. Unknown to a lot of people, for more than a year now, smugglers have been hoarding coins and taking them out of the country. Majority of the coins are being smuggled to Taiwan, China, and Japan to be melted into copper, nickel, and scrap metal for tokens to be used in videogame machines and train stations.

In April 2005, an attempt to smuggle Php 1.2 million worth of 25-centavo coins was intercepted. In February, March, and May of this year, attempts to smuggle out Php 1 million, Php 200,000 and Php 400,000 worth of 1-peso coins, respectively were intercepted by custom officials. The latest attempt this year was to smuggle out Php 3 million worth of coins. About 9.5 million coins could have been taken out of circulation. It seems like a small number compared to the amount of coins in circulation (and the smugglers were stopped anyway) but these are just the ones that were caught. Who knows how many coins have already slipped through the fingers of our customs officials? It may not seem so bad, given that there are so many coins anyway, but it's bad enough that the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) feels the need to take action.

"It's a coincidence," BSP Gov. Amando Tetangco, Jr. said, when asked whether coin smuggling was the real problem and not household accumulation. "Coin smuggling is a problem, but we still think that the bulk of the problem is due to the tendency of people to accumulate

jars of coins in their kitchens, for example, just because coins are inconvenient to carry around." (<http://www.newsflash.org/2004/02/tl/tl012796.htm>)

### What are we going to do, man?

In March 2005, the BSP created the Currency Management Committee to facilitate the re-circulation of coins in the country. It seems that as improbable as it may sound, what with the country having more than twice the ASEAN standard for coin to person ratio, we are experiencing a coin shortage that is significant enough to warrant BSP intervention. The BSP, with the help of President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo launched *Tulong Barya Para sa Eskwela*, a coin-collecting drive that aims to generate funds for public schools and get coins back into circulation. The program is receiving support from the banking sector, as well as the transport and retail sectors because this will help them in providing exact change for consumers.

The current coin shortage creates a need for the BSP to produce more coins which would translate into significant costs because coin production entails negative seigniorage. Seigniorage is the net revenue arising from the difference between the face value of a coin or bank note and the cost of producing and distributing the currency.

The BSP cannot afford to have this coin shortage because the cost for them to produce coins is much, much higher than the nominal value of the coins. We will show exactly how much it costs later in the article.

According to the BSP, as of December 31, 2005, there were supposed to be 11.1 billion pieces of coins in circulation, 6.7 billion pieces of which were low-denomination coins (Php 1 and below). That comes to about 150-120 coins per person, around three times as much as the ASEAN standard of 50 coins only. Most of the coins, however, are kept inside bank vaults, in *alkansyas*, inside drawers, and in jars. The Filipino is a saver, at least when it comes to coins, which do not earn interest as they bask inside the belly of cute fat ceramic pigs. The rest of non-circulating coins are being smuggled out of the country.

## Dude, erm...how much is a one-peso coin?

According to conservative BSP estimates, as early as 2002, the cost of producing a one-peso coin was already Php 1.40 to 1.60. This was because until 2003, one-peso coins were 75 percent copper and 25 percent nickel. It was only recently that the BSP started minting one-peso coins made of steel and plated with nickel to cut costs.

Let's do a little simple arithmetic to compute how much exactly the coins are worth if you melt them down and sell them for their metal content. All we have to do is find out the price of the metals per gram and multiply that by how much of that metal is in each coin. Using prices from the London Metal Exchange and using Php 50 to US\$ 1 exchange rate,

Copper: Php 0.3845965 per gram (August 2006 average)

Nickel: Php 1.5356135 per gram (August 2006 average)

	Copper Cost	Nickel Cost	Zinc Cost	Total
5-peso coin (70% copper, 5.5% nickel, 24.5% zinc, 7.7 grams)	Php 2.07297513 (0.7 x 0.3845965 x 7.7)	Php 0.650332317 (0.055 x 1.5356135 x 7.7)	Php 0.315488828 (0.245 x 0.167235 x 7.7)	<b>Php 3.03879628</b>
1-peso coin: (75% copper, 25% nickel, 6.1 grams)	1.75952899 (0.75 x 0.3845965 x 6.1)	Php 2.34181059 (1.5356135 x 6.1)		<b>Php 4.10133957</b>
25-centavo coin: (65% copper, 35% zinc, 3.8 grams)	0.949953355 (0.65 x 0.3845965 x 3.8)		Php 0.22242255 (0.35 x 0.167235 x 3.8)	<b>Php 1.1723759</b>

Keep in mind though, that we are computing the prices for these coins today. When BSP originally decided to use those metals, the prices for copper and nickel were much, much lower.

### Why are metal prices so high?

There are a couple of reasons why the price of copper and nickel are going up, but simply put, it's a matter of supply and demand, and shrewd investors trying to ride the prices.

In the case of copper, its market price has quadrupled in the past three years, due partly to copper mine strikes in Mexico and Chile and largely to speculative buying in the stock market. Economists declare that the price of copper is too high to be sustainable. The price keeps rising, however, because global inventories are lower due to setbacks in production; it is 10% lower than what is expected for this time of year. Investors are fanning the flame as they try to take advantage of the 13-year high price.

As for nickel, China is the main culprit, with its quest for more stainless steel to be used in its industries.

The aerospace sector has also increased its consumption of nickel-based alloys, along with shutdowns of mines and smelters, labor problems, and of course, the ever-present stock market investors.

### SO DUDE, WHERE IS MY PISO?

It's really amazing how China's ongoing industrialization and strikes in Mexican and Chilean copper mines can affect our money supply. It shows you that today, with globalization becoming more and more real and present in our lives, seemingly unrelated events can actually work together to affect us.

High metal prices, driven up by skyrocketing demand for nickel and copper, and constraints in supply, are enticing less scrupulous economic agents to break the law and make a tidy profit. When the intrinsic value of the one-peso coins and 25-centavo coins are four times as much as their face value, it seems that the rational thing to do is to melt down the coins and make objects out of them that would be of much greater value. We have to remember, economic theory assumes man is rational and prefers more to less.

The next time you're riding an *Ikot* jeep, or if you're going out to buy some fishballs, and you reach into your pocket to grab some coins, and all you come up with are 20 or 50-peso bills, you'll know where your coins are they're on their way to China, to be melted down into pots and pans and spoons and forks.

## MAXIMIZING PROFITS:



# THE ECONOMICS OF WAR

By: Pierre Martin Reyes and Dennis Chua

*"In the councils of government, we must guard against the acquisition of unwarranted influence, whether sought or unsought, by the military-industrial complex."*

- Dwight D. Eisenhower, 1961

The issue of war has always been the subject of intense debate. For many of us, war is some sort of history lesson, a phenomenon of the past. However, recent conflicts and tragedies like the September 11 terrorist attacks and the more recent Israel-Lebanon conflict serve as a reality check for all of us.

But what is the true purpose of war? Could it be something deeper? Later on, we will see that behind wars is an ever-increasing influence of Eisenhower's "military-industrial complex" (MIC), which refers to the partnership of the military, the arms industry, and political and economic interests.

## War brings prosperity and profits?

When young men were drafted and sent off to fight in the First World War, they were made to believe that their purpose was to make the world safe for democracy. But behind it all was a war waged for profits. In the book *War is a Racket*, US Marine Brigadier General Smedley Butler, a well-respected officer and one of the most decorated soldiers at the time, argues that the arms industry commercially benefited from the First World War. Before entering the war, the United States was lending money and material to the allies. As General Butler argues, no allied victory meant no repayment. And no repayment meant no profit. The United States, as Butler points out, went to war to assure repayment and to protect corporate profits. At the same time, the arms industry profited a great deal. The war cost the United States US\$ 52 billion and this expenditure yielded US\$ 16,000,000,000 in profits for the arms industry.

Then, of course, there was the Second World War. In the book *The Permanent War Economy*, Seymour Melman, explains how World War II brought prosperity to America. Because of the war, there was a need for massive spending on defense. Many were employed in arms production given the large-scale industrial expansion triggered by

the need to supply the war effort. The military was increased from 370,000 personnel to around 11 million, absorbing a large chunk of the labor force. The government's orders for goods and services increased from around US\$ 10 billion before entering the war to more than US\$ 100 billion by 1945. There was also an increase in civilian personal consumption that reached the highest level in American experience. As Melman argues, the war economy brought an end to the Great Depression as many Americans believed. It made businesses boom and brought economic opportunities.

## Military Keynesianism

After World War II, the United States was very much convinced that military spending could boost the economy and that war work could create full employment. Such an economic policy is a variation of Keynesian theory and is known as "military Keynesianism."

How does it work? In the demand side, government spending increases military demand for goods and services. Income will then increase in response to the increase in government purchases. Higher income would lead to higher consumption. On the supply side, the military hires workers with less skills and education from the labor force. In such a situation, the military acts as an "employer of last resort". It provides a decent standard of living for the least qualified members of the labor force.

Although military Keynesianism seems efficient so far, no economic policy is perfect. Once military spending becomes a continuing, significant, and legitimate end purpose of economic activity, it will lead to the creation of the military-industrial complex. Because the MIC is a large employer and constitutes an important chunk of aggregate demand, the government cannot reduce deficit spending. What are the implications? Well, it just means that Uncle Sam needs to continue expending huge amounts of military spending, which requires a "cycle of constant war".

## The invisible fist

The best way to understand the industrial component of the MIC is to look at Microeconomics. In the book *Pentagon Capitalism*, Seymour Melman argues that firms from the military industry are different from

the profit-maximizing firms that are more common in the economy. When the Pentagon orders a weapon system, it is bent on buying it no matter the price. Because of this, the military firm does not trouble to minimize costs in order to maximize profits like competitive firms would do. Higher costs are better for the military industry firm because it means higher prices, which then translate to higher profits.

Why would the military industry firm prefer such a situation? Well, the government believes that money added to the firm is good for the economy because it would make jobs. This is subsidy-maximization. Higher costs entail more activity – and more employees. The arms industry is the muscle of the US Economy. It has become a huge and untouchable jobs program. As American journalist Thomas Friedman said, "The hidden hand of the market can not work without the hidden fist." That hidden fist is the military-industrial complex.

## Approaching but never ending threats

Although Eisenhower warned of the increasing influence of the military-industrial complex, he was never against it. It was a "necessary evil" to combat a hostile ideology, which at that time was Communism. The military industry flourished during the Cold War because of massive military spending brought about by the arms race between US and the Soviet Union.

After the Cold War, America was left without an enemy and there was no justification for spending hundreds of billions on defense. Thus, the MIC saw the need to search for "new sources of threats", even to the point of creating them. Part of this was the unprecedented levels of US military exports. By proliferating sophisticated weapons, Uncle Sam makes the world unsafe. At the same time, it weakens American military superiority, which then justifies the need to develop more advanced weapons compared to those it exported to other countries. In this plan, the military industry that already benefits from arms exports profits more with increased military spending.

Eventually, America found a new "source of threat"—a lethal combination of "rogue states" and "terrorism". The Bush administration saw 9/11 as an opportunity to bolster the faltering economy. The anger of the American people was exploited to rally them into an open-ended war on terror, which led to

...continued on page 13

# Kwentong Kapiterya

Nina: Ronnel Vergel De Leon at Linda Mae Fernandez

**May taglay na** panghalina ang kinalahating silid.

Subalit gaano mang lamunin unti-unti ng malaki kong bituka ang maliit kong bituka (gaya ng madalas na sabihin ng aking lola), hindi ko magawang ilabas ang dalawampung piso sa aking balsa, at ipambili ng pagkaing ibinibida nila.

Nariyan man ang kalahating silid na ginawang kapiterya, mistulang pili pa rin ang mga taong nakalalapas ng tunay nitong panghalina.

## Si Kapitan Kenneth at ang Mahiwagang Sandok

Hunyo 2006 nang muling binuksan ang kantina sa School of Economics (SE). At sa pagbubukas na ito, ang Kenneth's Canteen ang siyang nagsilbing caterer. Ang Kenneth's Canteen ang parehong caterer na nagsusuplay ng pagkain sa kapiterya ng College of Business Economics, UP-NISMED at UP Integrated School.

Matatandaang bago muling nagbukas ang kapiterya ng kolehiyo, nagmistula itong "ghost town". Bilang sa daliri ang mga kumakain, at halos langawin na rin ang mga ibinebenta nilang pagkain.

Sa pagdating ng Kenneth's inasahang muling babalik ang dating sigla ng kantina. Hinati ang silid sa dalawa, kung saan ang kalahati ay nagsilbing student lounge at function area.

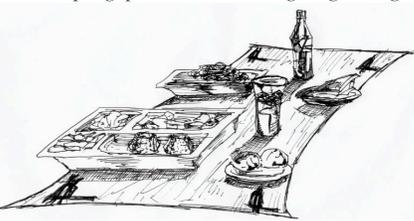
## Ang Alamat ng Kinalahating Silid

Marahil, marami sa atin ang nagtataka kung bakit hindi nagtatagal ang mga concessionaires dito sa ating kolehiyo. Ano kaya ang dahilan ng kanilang palagiang pagpapalit-palit? Mayroon nga bang problema o sadyang ganito lang ang mga pangyayari?

Sa isang panayam kasama si Gng. Eden Bautista, administrative officer ng UPSE, kanyang isinalaysay ang kasaysayan ng ating kapiterya. Gayundin, kanyang ibinahagi ang mga proseso sa pabubukas at mga alituntunin sa pamamalakad na dapat sundin ng

establisyementong may kinalaman sa pagtitinda ng pagkain.

Ayon kay Gng. Bautista, ang Business Concessionaires Office ang siyang nangangasiwa sa ating kapiterya at maging sa lahat ng kapetirya sa buong unibersidad. Ang opisinang ito ay regular na nagsasagawa ng bidding para sa mga gustong magbukas ng kaintinan. Sa bawat kolehiyo, ang sinumang may pinakamataas na bid ang siyang pinagkakaloo-ban ng karapatang magnegosyo.



Mula noong taong 2000, ilang beses nang nagbukas-sara ang ating kapetirya. Kabilang na sa mga naging concessionaires dito ay ang Your Basic Needs Center (1999-2001), Baroques Cuisine and Catering Services (2001-2004), New Albergus Corporation (2004-2005), Baroques muli (2005), at ang Kenneth's Canteen and Catering Services (Hunyo 2006 hanggang sa kasalukuyan).

Kadalasan, ang dahilan ng pagsasara ay ang hindi pagbabayad ng kuryente, tubig at renta ng silid. Marahil, ito ay dulot ng hindi rin gaanong mataas na kita. Ngunit, mayroon ding bigla na lamang umalis sa di malamang kadahilanan—ang New Albergus Corporation. Hindi pa man natatapos ang kontrata ay tumigil na ito sa pagtitinda at pinagtatanggal din ang mga permanenteng gamit sa kantina tulad ng kabinet at partisyon sa silid, kaya naman nasira ang dating maayos na anyo nito at nagmistulang storeroom ng Econ.

Sa kabilang dako, may mga pagkakataong sa simula pa lamang ay wala nang gustong mag-bid para sa kantina ng SE. Maliban sa pagiging mahal ng renta, kulang din kasi ito sa mga pasilidad. Kung ating papansinin, ito ay isang dating silid-aralan (SE 116-117) kaya wala itong kusina at iba pang kagamitan. Nasasaad sa kasunduan, na ang mga concessionaires ang bahalang magpaganda ng silid. Sila ang magdadala ng kagamitan na kanilang kinakailangan tulad ng mga cabinet, food counter, cashier's table at iba pa. Sila rin ang bahala sa disenyo, pintura at mga palamuti para sa dingding. Ngunit sa kasalukuyan, dahil sa wala pang nananalang bidder, ang SE na muna ang nagpaayos ng kantina.

Ayon naman kay Propesor Corina Gochoco-Bautista, ang tagapangulo ng Departamento ng Economics, hinati ang silid upang bumaba ang renta. Ang laki ng espasyo ng silid umano kasi ang batayan sa pagtatakdang renta para sa lahat ng kapiterya sa buong UP Diliman.

Sapagkat walang lalagyan ng tangke at kalan, ang mga pagkain ay niluluto muna at dinadala nang maaga sa kapiterya. Inilalagay ang mga ito sa tray na may warmer upang hindi lumamig. Ngunit sa ating panlasa, iba pa rin ang kalidad ng bagong lutong ulam sa pinainit lamang, kaya naman nasasabi ng iba na mas masarap ang luto, halimbawa, sa NISMED kung saan Kenneth's Canteen din ang concessionaire.

## Hikbi ng Econ

Hindi maiiwasan sa isang bagong establisyemento ang mga kritisismo. At hindi rito ligtas ang Kenneth's Canteen. Dahil matagal-tagal ring nawalan ng kapiterya ang SE, naging mas kritikal ang mga tao sa pagpuna sa bagong kapiterya.

Maraming nagsabi na ang pagkain sa ating kapiterya ay may kama-halan, kumapara sa ibang kantina. Sa isang survey na isinagawa ng Sidhi, 48 bahagdan mula sa 63 na estudyante ng SE ang nagsabing relatively expensive yet reasonable ang presyo ng pagkain, samantalang 28 bahagdan naman ang tumugon na relatively expensive and unreasonable. Ang natitirang 24 bahagdan lamang ang nagsabing affordable and reasonable ang mga pagkain sa kapiterya. Kung susumahin, mas malaking porsyento ang namamahalan talaga sa mga pagkain sa bagong kapiterya kumpara sa ibang kapiterya sa UP.

Ang presyo ng isang meal sa bago nating kapiterya ay nagkakahalaga ng mula Php 35 hanggang Php 55, depende na rin sa uri ng ulam. Mayroon

din silang combo meals na siyang mas tinatangkilik ng marami. Ang isang combo meal naman ay nagkakahalaga ng mula Php 55-60. Ayon kay Bb. Mhylene Flores, ang kahera ng kapiterya, sapat lamang umano ang kanilang pagprepre-syo. Mas mura pa nga raw ng mga limang piso ang mga pagkain sa atin kumpara sa NISMED.

Bahagi rin ng isinagawang survey ay ang pagtukoy sa reservation price ng mga estudyante para sa kanilang pananghalian. Ayon sa resulta, 85 na porsyento ng mga tinanong ay handang gumastos ng mahigit Php 50, na pumagpapalim sa presyo ng isang meal sa kapiterya. Ngunit paano naman ang 15 na porsyento na may mas mababang reservation price? Ang isa pang tanong: Sulit ba ang perang ating ibinabayad sa pagkaing ating binibili?

Ilan pa sa mga karaniwang puna ng mga kumakain sa kapiterya ay may kinalaman sa lohistikong aspeto nito. Ayon sa marami, hindi sapat ang ilaw na mayroon sa kantina. May nagbanggit din na masikip sa loob ng kapiterya. Hindi rin daw kaaya-aya ang kabilang din ang pagkakaayos ng mga upuan at lamesa.

Ayon pa rin kay Bb. Flores, gustuhin man daw nilang ayusin ang pasilidad ng kapiterya, hindi naman nila ito magawa. Hindi pa kasi sila ang permanenteng concessionaire sa SE. Sa katunayan, isang semestre lang ang kanilang itatagal. Nagsimula sila noong Hunyo 19 at magsasara rin sa pagtatapos ng semestre sa Oktubre. Sa kasalukuyan, ang kapiterya ng SE ay nasa bidding stage pa, kung saan kabilang din ang Kenneth's Canteen sa mga kalahok.

Nanghahalina ang kinalahating silid. Habang patuloy sa paglabas-masok ang mga nais tumikim ng mga pagkaing dito'y inihahain, ako nama'y nag-iisip kung hanggang kailan ko ba titiisin ang paglamon ng malaki kong bituka sa maliit kong bituka, at kailan ba sasapat na pambili ng pagkain sa kantina ang dalawampung piso sa aking balsa. ■



Comics by: Ian Vincent Lopez

# Personalities Behind the Pedestal (Part II) ECON'S ELEVEN

After rave reviews and resounding requests for a repeat article, we've decided to come out with a revamped version of *Econ's Dives*, aptly named *Econ's Eleven*. This time we've added one more professor to the number of query victims and formulated more probing questions that'll really make our Econ mentors sweat. So just like our last issue, take a deep breath, clear your mind, and prepare to chuckle after every line.

## PROF. EMMANUEL DE DIOS

### Describe yourself in three words.

"Learn by teaching", which is actually a crib from the old Latin saying: *docendo discimus*.

### What is love?

An altruistic and pleasurable response evolved originally to ensure procreation and safeguard the survival of the next generation, but since then valued and enjoyed for its own sake.

### What's your favorite Disney movie?

Sleeping Beauty, 1937 best authentic hand-drawn and painted animation before the CGI era.

### How do you want to be remembered?

In writing.

### What would you do if you won a million dollars from the lottery?

Retire in Palawan with a huge library and endow a school for the Batak.

### What's the best thing about being a UP professor?

Autonomy and the company of the wise and the good.

### What are three material things you can't live without?

Running water, a computer, and the Internet.

### Which do you prefer, teacher's pets or class clowns?

I enjoy both. Biodiversity rules.

### Do you have any pets? What are their names?

A chow called Cinnamon.

### How do you think the Philippines will become a first world country?

First, reduce the power of the president and the national government and give people power to decide things at the local level. Second, invest in basic education for the many and in highly advanced science and research by a talented few. Third, invest in highly selective major projects of physical infrastructure.

## PROF. BENJAMIN DIOKNO

### Describe yourself in three words.

A cool dude.

### What is love?

A strong, occasionally blissful feeling of deep affection for a person or thing.

### What's your favorite Disney movie?

The Lion King.

### How do you want to be remembered?

A reformer.

### What would you do if you won a million dollars from the lottery?

Start a foundation with focus on providing scholarships for the poor, donate part of the proceeds to UP Econ Foundation to provide MA and Ph.D scholarships in Economics.

### What's the best thing about being a UP professor?

Having the opportunity to interact with intelligent and beautiful people.

### What are three material things you can't live without?

Food, water and cable TV.

### Which do you prefer, teacher's pets or class clowns?

Teacher's pets by a mile.

### Do you have any pets? What are their names?

None at the moment.

### How do you think the Philippines will become a first world country?

We need a new breed of leaders, quantum improvement in governance, strong political and administrative institutions, and heavy and sustained investment in human capital and critical physical infrastructure.

## PROF. FIDELINA CARLOS

### Describe yourself in three words.

I don't know.

### What is love?

Something I don't understand.

### What's your favorite Disney movie?

Mulan.

### How do you want to be remembered?

Motherly teacher.

### What would you do if you won a million dollars from the lottery?

(Pauses long to think) I will look for poor Econ students they're rare and help them with their tuition.

### What's the best thing about being a UP professor?

I see bright students.

### What are three material things you can't live without?

Students! (*material?*) Students! Hmm...material things? I can't think of anything. I value my freedom. I want to be able to do what I want to do, that's the most important thing. Even if you undergrad students do

not like me, I love undergrad students.

(*Laughs*) You think of me as a punisher but I'm not. (*Laughs again*) Three material things? You include the students. And the school itself... the library, this building and the students. *Labat kami*, this is our life. *Totoo yun. Labat kami*. We love the library and the staff. *Kasi* it's not nice *naman* to call this our home *kasi* it's a workplace but it's actually like our home. You should feel the same. (*Smiles*)

### Which do you prefer, teacher's pets or class clowns?

Class clown.

### Do you have any pets? What are their names?

Yeah, I have three, Lancer, Whitey and Leslie dogs.

### How do you think the Philippines will become a first world country?

Oh, I don't know. *Naku yan ang problema ko*. Up to now the Phil. is still a developing country. *Di ko alam yan. Kaya natatamad na kong magturo eh*. Up to now, *ganito pa tayo*.

## PROF. JOSEPH CAPUNO

### Describe yourself in three words.

I don't know. *Yun na yon*. (*Laughs*)

### What is love?

Well...I've felt it, obviously getting married after all... I have a metaphor: I didn't have very good math teachers. I didn't really understand, until now I don't understand, math. I didn't really understand what it tries to do until I went to grad school and enrolled in Dr. Danao's class. He was very systematic. He has this easygoing way of telling you "this is trivial, this is easy..." The closest description I could put on the way he does things is: "now I know what love is..." It changes the way you look at things... "Understand, appreciate, what it tries to do" that's what I tell my students. "Now I know what love is" I still don't have definition, but that's the closest description I have.

### What's your favorite Disney movie?

I think the first one I saw, Beauty and the Beast.

### How do you want to be remembered?

A funny guy. (*Laughs*)

### What would you do if you won a million dollars from the lottery?

I'll give 990,000 to my wife. And I'll give 10,000 to myself, on the condition that she [my wife] takes care

of the relatives. (*Laughs*)

### What's the best thing about being a UP professor?

Being in the company of like-minded people, the flexible time. I like doing many things at the same time I cannot do a 9 to 5 job. I can stay 9 to 5, but I have to be doing several things at the same time teaching, doing interviews, consulting, research....

### What are three material things you can't live without?

Coffee, my jogging suits, and going out with my family.... Material? Books *siguro*.

### Which do you prefer, teacher's pets or class clowns?

I don't know. I had a student who acted both. He was my favorite because he was clownish in a way that he didn't know that he was being clownish. He always recites "*blab blab blab*" *ganyan*, and sometimes he gave funny answers while being clueless about it. Otherwise, when he sets his mind to it, he can perform well... Got high grade not because he was my favorite... So he was both.

### Do you have any pets? What are their names?

Two dogs Blanca (mother) and Solo (only puppy who survived).

### How do you think the Philippines will become a first world country?

*Palagay ko*, education if you educate enough number of people.

## PROF. CORINA BAUTISTA

### Describe yourself in three words.

You should ask other people to describe me. I find it hard to describe myself... Well, I like to travel, I like good food. I like to read about the lives of scientists... Those are the kinds of things I like. I'm a person who values personal freedom.

### What is love?

It's a commitment. It's having interdependent utility functions. (*Laughs*) Whether you're talking about a spouse, a sibling, a colleague, your country that the welfare of these people or your country appear as arguments in your utility function... that their happiness matters to you.

### What's your favorite Disney movie?

Madagascar... The one with the orange fish Finding Nemo. Is that Disney? [On classics i.e. Sleeping Beauty, Cinderella] *Hindi yun ang mga type ko eh...* I like the new stuff.

### How do you want to be remembered?

*Ano ba yan*, these are such profound questions! What's next?

### What would you do if you won a million dollars from the lottery?

I will probably donate most of it to try and beef up the educational system in this country. I'll try to get more people to go to school and become educated. I think it's important to try and create the new elites of this country. And the rest of it, I will retire... do the things I like, do some volunteer work, travel, enjoy really nice places... live life, you know...

### What's the best thing about being a UP professor?

Bright, enthusiastic students. People you can talk to intelligently. Fairly flexible schedule. And you know, time to do research and not get stuck behind a desk reporting to some boss.

### What are three material things you can't live without?

[in front of the pc] Well, I guess now the computer... Uhh... Cellphone, email.

### Which do you prefer, teacher's pets or class clowns?

I like the bright students (*Laughs*), the ones who ask the good questions.

### Do you have any pets? What are their names?

No... At home? The garden might get ruined so unfortunately, I have no pets.

### How do you think the Philippines will become a first world country?

Education.

## PROF. RENATO RESIDE

### Describe yourself in three words.

Hard-working, loving father.

### What is love?

Sacrifice of one's self for someone or something.

### What's your favorite Disney movie?

Toy Story 2.

### How do you want to be remembered?

As a relentless social reformer.

### What would you do if you won a million dollars from the lottery?



save some, spend some, give some.  
**What's the best thing about being a UP professor?**

Opportunities for shaping people's minds, opportunities to influence national economic policies.

**What are three material things you can't live without?**

Computer, car, food.

**Which do you prefer, teacher's pets or class clowns?**

Class clowns lighten my mood.

**Do you have any pets? What are their names?**

I have no pets now.

**How do you think the Philippines will become a first world country?**

Promote investments build roads and other infrastructure; strengthen education system; achieve political stability and regional stability and peace; strengthen social expenditures of government strengthen anti-poverty programs, public hospitals, *agri* infrastructure; promote equity reduce policies which give preferential treatment to narrow-vested interests; promote equity in the

tax system; reduce corruption.

**PROF. RAMON CLARETE**

**Describe yourself in three words.**

Deep, silent water.

**What is love?**

It's the bright side of humanity.

**What's your favorite Disney movie?**

Lion King.

**How do you want to be remembered?**

Reasonable, firm, and kind.

**What would you do if you won a million dollars from the lottery?**

Keep and invest part of it for my retirement and bequest. The rest put in a foundation for the education of deserving children of the poor.

**What's the best thing about being a UP professor?**

There's never a boring class regardless how many times you had taught it in the past. I never fail to get a new insight on something I thought I understood well, from interacting with different cohorts of students.

**What are three material things you can't live without?**

Computer, cell phone, food.

**Which do you prefer, teacher's pets or class clowns?**

Clowns.

**Do you have any pets? What are their names?**

I don't have any.

**How do you think the Philippines will become a first world country?**

Reduce population growth; open the economy to foreign direct investors; compel through punitive taxation unproductive oligarchs to immigrate; and implement the above consistently.

**PROF. TERESA HO**

**Describe yourself in three words.**

Describe myself in three words... impatient, that's the first thing that came to my mind. Generous, positive or optimistic.

**What is love?**

Caring about somebody else.

In public finance terms, it's an externality. *(Laughs)* Caring about somebody else... where it means that the happiness of somebody else is the same to you as your own happiness.

**What's your favorite Disney movie?**

I don't watch Disney movies. I don't have kids so I don't know much about Disney movies.

**How do you want to be remembered?**

I never think of it... for my generosity.

**What would you do if you won a million dollars from the lottery?**

I will give most of it away... I'll save some for myself. *(Laughs)*

I have very simple taste. What I want is to start little projects that I couldn't do when I was in the World Bank. I'd use the money to start some projects.

**What's the best thing about being a UP professor?**

You're relevant to the real politics and the real world in the Philippines, and the smart children of course. I'm assuming they're smart.

**What are three material things you can't live without?**

Air-conditioning that's the first my computer, and fresh orange juice.

**Which do you prefer, teacher's pets or class clowns?**

Class clowns.

**Do you have any pets? What are their names?**

No, I hate pets.

**How do you think the Philippines will become a first world country?**

People should start taking responsibility for themselves and not wait for others to take care of them.

**PROF. EMANUEL ESGUERRA**

**Describe yourself in three words.**

I'd rather not.

**What is love?**

*(Laughs)* *Ganyan ba talaga ka-wacky ang mga tanong nyo?* Are you serious?

*(Laughs)* What is love... isn't that better felt than defined? [Follow up: Sir, how do you feel then when you're in love?] It can't be described.

**What's your favorite Disney movie?**

Nothing in particular. I only watch Disney movies when I'm with my kid.

**How do you want to be remembered?**

Never thought about that... seriously...

**What would you do if you won a million dollars from the lottery?**

Still eat three meals a day.

**What's the best thing about being a UP professor?**

Best thing about being a UP professor is being on the company of other UP professors. May I amend that? Being in the company of other UPSE professors. [Follow up: Sir, given the choice of different colleges, would you still choose SE?] Of course!

**What are three material things you can't live without?**

There are my books, my CD's, and my coffee. My books are not just academic books but general interest books. My CD's my jazz CD's. [Follow up: Sir, no R&B or rock CD's?] Well, the R&B of my time. And my coffee, brewed.

**Which do you prefer, teacher's pets or class clowns?**

Neither.

**Do you have any pets? What are their names?**

Nope. Human or non-human?

*(Laughs)* No, I don't have any pets.

**How do you think the Philippines will become a first world country?**

By learning from its past mistakes. As a general observation, we seem to have a short memory.

**PROF. JONNA ESTUDILLO**

**What is love?**

I do not know how to answer this. Perhaps we should ask the legendary Romeo and Juliet. I am sure they can give you a better answer.

**What's your favorite Disney movie?**

I love the Beauty and the Beast. Belle is a fantastic character with her demure and loving image. Belle seems to appreciate many things, including the things that

many people consider as "ugly".

**What are three material things you can't live without?**

First, I cannot live without my laptop because I work almost everyday in my research and lesson plans. Second, my day is not complete without a glass of newly-squeezed orange or apple juice; fresh juice is just refreshing. Third, I cannot live without an email connection because email is my

access to the rest of the world.

**PROF. AGUSTIN ARCENAS**

**Describe yourself in three words.**

Serious, shy, and introspective.

*(Laughs)*

**What is love?**

What is love? I haven't thought about that *kasi bata pa ako.* *(Laughs)* Love is sacrificing one's welfare without expecting anything in return.

**What's your favorite Disney movie?**

Escape to Witch Mountain. Grade five *pa ako nito.* *(Laughs)* *Magkapatid sila tapos pareho silang may powers.* Outcast *sila. 'Di nila alam na they're from another planet. Gusto ko yung part na outcast sila pero may special powers sila.*

**How do you want to be remembered?**

I want to be remembered as someone who makes people happy.

**What would you do if you won a million dollars from the lottery?**

What would I do with the money? *Habanap ako ng street-children at pag-aaralin ko sila.*

**What's the best thing about being a UP professor?**

The students...

**What are three material things you can't live without?**

There is really nothing I can't live without even without clothes.

*(Laughs)*

**Which do you prefer, teacher's pets or class clowns?**

Class clowns. Teacher's pets are a little bit annoying to me.

**Do you have any pets? What are their names?**

No, I don't.

**How do you think the Philippines will become a first world country?**

Eliminate corruption. Everything else will follow.

**[Miscellaneous]**

Sir Arcenas: *Mas magaganda yung mga tanong last issue. Kung sa akin itimanong yung* "How would you react if a student says she has a crush on you?", *ang isasagot ko:* "Get in line." *(Laughs)*

Interviews by: Jan Erik Angeles Alexis Cimagala Anezka Cortina Mary Ann Cuevas Adrian Mendoza Yla Gloria Paras	Graphics by: Czarina Carbonel Erik Eleazar Daren Lim
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# MINORITY SOLILOQUY

Records of the Social Assassin

By Rafael Augustine Lapid

*"To bait fish withal; if it will feed nothing else, it will feed my revenge. He hath disgraced me and hindered me half a million, laughed at my losses, mocked at my gains, scorned my nation, thwarted my bargains, cooled my friends, heated mine enemies—and what's his reason? I am a Jew. Hath not a Jew eyes? Hath not a Jew hands, organs, dimensions, senses, affections, passions? Fed with the same food, hurt by the same weapons, subject to the same diseases, healed by the same means, warmed and cooled by the same winter and summer as a Christian is? If you prick us, do we not bleed? If you poison us, do we not die? And if you wrong us, shall we not revenge? If we are like you in the rest, we will resemble you in that. If a Jew wrong a Christian, what is his humility? Revenge. If a Christian wrong a Jew, what should his sufferance be by Christian examples? Why, revenge! The villainy you teach me I will execute, and it shall go hard but I will better the instruction."*

- Shylock from Shakespeare's Merchant of Venice -

I must say, I wish I could create a similar profound monologue condemning the palpable injustices in this wretched world. I mean, just like Shylock, I have been through a lot of flak these years. And why? Why do I feel alienation from this supposedly real world I chose to immerse myself in? Why do I get smirks, sneers, grins, and even dreadful silence instead of sincere smiles and cheerful laughs from the crowd? I have been an unwitting victim of prejudice the moment I entered my chosen school. Indeed, I am different in a way that is not my fault. I may be different but I was one of the few who chose integration over isolation. I am perceived as different but I opt to live my life to the fullest, the way I know how. **It is just unfortunate that the price of being comparatively well-off is paralyzing discrimination.**

Take for instance, my first English class here in UP. The course was all about making academic papers, a task that was comprehensively taught well in my high school and for which I humbly excelled in. Now for this subject that I mentioned above, I even made a 25-page research paper that fitted as the final exam. I considered this as one of my masterpieces. I used the best techniques and style I learned all those years that we were pounded to master English proficiency and expression especially in writing. I really put my heart into my English subject because I wanted to share whatever I could bring to UP. And what did I get in the end? A big fat dos. Oh okay, maybe my professor just had a very high standard. But I was astounded when a classmate from another college boasted that he got a 1.5! One big W%T@F\$! I wouldn't have felt bitter if not for the fact that this guy was always late, a mediocre, and poor in English! After I went through the initial shock, I grudgingly concluded that my mentor evaluated me on the basis of my high school background, the course I selected, how I dressed and carried myself, and perhaps because of my fair complexion. I was just too good for this professor that he couldn't take my kind. *Lolz.*

*Elitista. Kapitalista. Ekonomista.* These are just some of the loaded terms branded on people like us here in UP. Though I do not deny them, I just find it perplexing that every now and then, my fellow *mga iskolar ng bayan* would rally not just against the government but against market economies as well. I support any movement against corruption and injustice, but I really find it amusing that they are voicing out the downfall of my kind, when in fact, communists are the recidivists who are slowly disappearing. Moreover, I perceive it to be ironic that you see these people in job fairs, applying in corporations the moment they graduate. Special mention goes to that student activist who denounced free enterprise but now works as a TV host for one of the country's biggest networks. What a paradox! *Wabababa.* I find it unfair being condemned just because I belong to the mid-upper class. I am tempted to summon economic market theories but of course, they would just fall on deaf ears. Let me summarize this with a simple fact: businesses here in the Philippines pay billions of taxes, and we scholars should know this phrase well: "you must not bite the hand that feeds you."

*Coño. Laki sa layan. Sosyal, Hambog.* Again, these are just some of the hurtful labels that have been engraved on my identity here in the campus. I must admit, I have been quite cliquish, but do not dare fool me. Look who's talking. Birds of the same feather flock together; hence, students of the same class really tend to bond in the long run. This is a fact of life, and do not take it against me if I do not interact with everybody in the same way that the other parties do not wish to rub elbows with our kind. I did try to assimilate especially in the beginning because I had this idyllic concept of widening my horizon by reaching out to more diverse groups. Precisely why I went to UP! Remember that when you're starting out in a new venue, you carry in your heart this ideal illusion to engage and belong; join the mainstream, so to speak. However, much as I tried to be part of the school soul, my kind has been received with disdain by the majority of what constitutes UP. I have already dressed down and conditioned myself as a grounded maroon, but I still get gossiping stares, silence as I pass by as if I was modeling on the catwalk. Most cruel are the insinuations that I should just stay in a private school and give my slot to a deserving public school student, after all, my parents can afford to send me there. Ouch. As far as I can remember, the state university gives everyone the chance to study in it, and the most deserving applicants based on academic merit shall enjoy the privilege and perks of being a state scholar. I worked hard to be here, contrary to what many of you believe. I left my comfort zone to test unchartered territory. It would be a disservice to the Filipino to deprive potentially great minds of such a prestigious education and the chance to consolidate all the finest that could be learned here. I am not saying we are the best and that we should rule. Of course not! All I am saying is that we should remember that there will always be greater and lesser people than ourselves. Let us not bash others, but improve ourselves based on meritorious achievements.

To end, I am relieved that I have said my part, and now you know what has been bothering me. There is a silent minority who feels the same way as I have expounded. I am just as human as you all are, just as Shylock was to his adversaries. I am pretty sure you do not want to be stepped on as well. I know that I am different, but diversity is a positive aspect in most organizations, so is acceptance and tolerance. I appeal for fairness, genuine friendship, and mutual understanding. Given that, we may even mold strong and lasting partnerships. Perhaps, this mirrors what our ailing country needs. Please, let us respect each other...

Or else...

*The Social Assassin*

*"giving until it hurts you..."* ■

# HINDI AKO ISANG BITTER OCAMPO.

Ni: Lowell Frederick Madrileño



**Ako si Heminio** Ebakobako Di-maculangan, isang mahirap na promding nangarap na makapag-aral sa Unibersidad ng Pilipinas, at mapalad (o malas ba) na napadpad sa School of Economics (SE) kung saan araw-araw kong nakikita (naririnig at naaamoy, pero hindi madalas na makausap) ang mga coñito at coñita. De-tatak man ang kanilang mga suot mula ulo hanggang paa at lagi man nilang pinaglalaruan sa kanilang mga palad ang titanium na susi ng kanilang nakaparadang kotse, hindi ako kailanman nainggit sa kanila. At kailanman, hindi ko pinangarap na mahawaan ng kanilang kultura.

Hindi ako galit dahil mayayaman sila. Hindi naman lahat ng mayaman ay gaya nila, at wala rin namang kasalanan ang mga mayayamang taong ito kung ipinanganak man sila sa maykayang pamilya, habang ako'y lumaki na kasa-kasama ang araro at kalabaw ni ama. Maging ako'y nagnanais ding yumaman kung kaya't nagsisikap akong mag-aral sa UP. Gaya nga ng sinabi ko, walang masama sa pagiging mayaman, maliban na lamang kung masilaw ka nang husto sa kinang ng iyong katayuan sa lipunan at ang tingin mo sa sarili mo ay ikaw lamang ang matalino, ang maganda, ang magaling.

Noong nakaraang taon, noong hindi pa nagpapaskil ang SE Student Council ng mga karatulang nagbabawal sa paninigarilyo sa SE lobby, mistulang pausukan ang nasabing lugar (na tambayan na rin ng

mga grupong coñong ito). Dumaan kami ng aking mga kaibigan sa gilid ng lobby, kung saan dapat dumaan ang mga naka-wheelchair, dahil nakaharang ang kanilang kumpulan sa daan. Tulad ng madalas na eksena, narinig ko ang ingay ng pumipilipit nilang dila na nagsasambit ng mga hindi ko matukoy na pinaghalu-halong lenggwahe. Umunit ang ulo ko nang masinghot ko ang nanunuot na amoy ng usok ng sigarilyo na ibinuga ng mga bunganga ng mga taong iyon. Sa gitna ng ingay, ginusto kong sumigaw nang: "Hey, dude! Can't you see? I'm not a manok nor a mangga, so why are you making me singhot the usok from your cigarette?" (ganito dapat ang pagsasalita para magkaintindihan kami). Mabuti na lamang at nakapagpigil ako.

Sa patuloy na paglalakad, nakasalubong ko pa ang isa pang coñito. Ang angas ng dating at hayup maglakad, animo'y lumilipad (o sumasayaw) at walang pakialam kung makabangga ng tao sa daan. Sabi ko sa sarili ko: "Kung mabangga ako nito, itutulak ko talaga ito".

Hindi ko alam kung may pagkakataon na kaya naming magkasundo. Iba ang gusto nilang pag-usapan sa gustong pag-usapan ng tulad ko. Wala naman ding masama roon dahil magkaiba ang aming kinalakhan. Ang akin lang, kung kaya lamang sana nilang lumebel sa amin baka magkasundo pa kami. Baka naman sabihin nilang bakit hindi kami ang lumebel? Kaya namin iyon, hinahadlangan lamang kami hindi pa man kami nakalalapit. Kapag

sila ang nariyan, kaya naming tumiklop at makinig sa kanilang sinasabi. Subalit kapag kami na ang nagsasalita tila tumatagos lamang ang aming sinasabi sa kanilang mga tenga, at sa huli ipipilit pa rin nila ang kanilang gusto. Sana'y maisip nilang hindi na mahalaga kung saang high school ka nagtapos dahil lahat tayo ay nasa UP na, at tayong lahat ay tiyak na may mataas na kapasidad sa pag-iisip. Hindi nila monopolyo ang katalinuhan.

Iginigiit nilang sila ang minorya at hindi nauunawaan. Nakatatayang hindi nila naiisip na bagama't kaunti nga sila (kaunti nga ba?), napakalakas naman ng kanilang puwersa. Ano pa kaya kung dumami sila lalo na sa napipintong pagtaas ng tuition fee na malamang na lalong magpapababa ng aming bilang?

Hindi ito usapin ng kung sino ang mayaman o ang mahirap. Siguro nga'y may mga mahihirap din na nag-aastang mayaman at umaarteng coño. Sa halip, ito ay usapin ng pag-uugali — ng pagpapakumbaba at maayos na pakikitungo sa iyong kapwa estudyante.

Kung ganito binibigyang-buhay ng mga coño ang kanilang kultura, siguradong kailanman, hindi ko yayakapin ang kulturang ito.

*Isang matalinbagang pabiyag ng saloobin ng isang karakter mula sa imahinasyon ng may-akda tungo sa pagbabago ng lipunan at kasalukuyang status quo. ■*

\* "bitter"

## Maximizing Profits...from page 8

the invasion of Afghanistan and Iraq. The arms industry benefited from this war on terror and so did other US companies who realized that the business of nation-building is very good business indeed. Afghanistan is the shortest route between the Persian Gulf and the gas resources in the Caspian Sea—a great business opportunity for US oil companies. In Iraq, Halliburton, which was formerly run by current Vice-President Dick Cheney, has already begun operations in some oilfields. Hundreds of billions of dollars are flowing to the US companies tasked to repair the infrastructure of Iraq and Afghanistan.

The war on terror, according to Bush, is best fought on a preemptive first-strike basis. Thus, it is clear that Uncle Sam is dead serious on bringing this war on terror to the next level. So when North Korea decided to test its missiles, America declared North Korea a threat to stability even though its missile test failed and the chances of North Korea perfecting a missile that can target the US is low. But why did the

US amplify such a feeble threat? Japan, who fears that it will be attacked by North Korea, is now spending billions of dollars to install a US-made missile defense system. Then there is also Iran, a beacon of Islamic Fundamentalism. The recent Israel-Lebanon conflict was a "proxy war" against Iran who supplied Hezbollah and the US with rockets. The US gave Israel its blessing to "simulate" how Iran would fight the US. It is clear that Uncle Sam is determined in its push against Iran. With the current tensions in the Middle East, America is able to maintain the cycle of constant war that fuels its economy.

### The broken window fallacy

The 19th century French economist Fredric Bastiat pointed out that if a person broke the window of a bakery, some people would argue that it benefited the town because it would provide a job for a glass maker who would buy more from the clothes maker and so on. This reasoning, which is very much like

that of military Keynesianism, ignores opportunity cost—what the baker would have bought had he not been forced to replace the broken window.

War wastes precious resources and ultimately has no good effect on the people. Soldiers could have engaged in something more productive and the arms industry could have been producing basic necessities rather than killing machines. War will drag down economic growth in the long run because military spending in unneeded weaponry and defense contracts comes from general taxation, which in turn comes from productive sectors of the economy. Many politicians see conflicts as opportunities and exploit them, at the cost of everyone's welfare. Soldiers, mostly young men, and innocent citizens die while the military-industrial complex profits from the blood spilled by wars. ■

## All-Embracing Goodwill

By: Joy Arvin Sadaran



# Search for the Lost Revolution

**The People Power** uprising that overthrew Marcos dictatorship left among the Filipinos a promise of great transformation towards a new nation, liberated from the bondages of socio-economic and political problems. But were the tides of change of the EDSA spirit able to sweep away the nations' land, when after two decades since 1986, the EDSA phenomena happened again. EDSA 2 and 3 challenged the original spirit of EDSA whether or not it was really fulfilling as its promises and aspirations. These chains of events manifested the nature of the EDSA phenomena to recur, regularize and reproduce until it maintained itself to the political structure of the country. The recurrence and integration of the EDSA phenomena in the nations' political activity exposed a pervading political system that is highly maintained by electoral democracy, the EDSA system.

EDSA may have three faces but rooted under one body. EDSA 1 underlined the restoration of democracy and civil liberties because of the overwhelming repression brought by Marcos' dictatorship while EDSA 2 highlighted the morality and competence of leadership because of issues of corruption attached to Erap's government. On the seemingly different hand, EDSA 3 was questioned as an authentic people power because of its personalistic theme on bringing Erap back to power.

Now, let me ask, has anything changed after EDSA? To ask this question is to ask whether EDSA achieved its real promise for this nation – revolution. The difference EDSA made to the Philippines and to the Filipinos in the past years can evaluate the significance of EDSA for social change and its success in achieving its goals. To further understand the state of change of the country, changes in major problematic areas of Filipino life since 1986 must be presented in terms of institutional patterns and policy responses.

EDSA was highly appreciated because it showcases the power of democracy practiced by ordinary citizens. But deep beyond the masses rallying in the streets are the elites seating at the higher chambers of power, directing the movements of the mobilized people. It is very interesting to show the dynamics of elite rivalry every EDSA event. Conflict of interest and competition for power among elites can be seen as the driving force of an EDSA uprising. The most crucial and interesting aspect of elite rivalry in EDSA is how the elite attached their interest to the sentiments and campaigns of the masses and end up achieving their goals thru the mobilized people. This insight can be perceived with the scenes of Cojuangco's faction winning over Marcos elites in reclaiming and expanding their wealth and property in EDSA 1, Arroyo's group of elites grabbing power from Estrada's elites in EDSA 2, and Estrada's elites recovering the lost power from the Arroyo's elites



Image from: <http://members.tripod.com/twist14/edsa2/thepictures>

in EDSA 3. It is worth noting the continuous role of the winning elites of EDSA 1 in the unfolding of the EDSA system especially in the uprisings of EDSA 2 and 3.

Will an EDSA uprising happen again? Acknowledging the systemic nature of EDSA, this may not be the proper question that must be raised but rather: When will EDSA recur and in what face? And despite the various faces, what matters most is which of these scenarios lead to a new configuration of social power that will offer twin pillars – wealth redistribution and participatory democracy – of truly democratic state oriented to development. The stagnant class structure, persisting socio-economic problems of 1986 and recurring social patterns reveal the vicious cycle that the country is undergoing under the EDSA system. The next step the Filipinos can do is to make this cycle on upward direction rather than downward spiral, confront the maintaining agents of EDSA system, and finally find our way out of this impasse towards social change.

Revolutions are never finished for change is a continuing process. There are no revolutionary changes achieved in four days nor even a decade may not be enough to complete social transformation. Who will now finish the revolution and how? With this in mind, Filipinos need to go back to what they have lost after every EDSA uprising. Transforming this nation means transforming the Filipino people themselves who had the strongest passion in this country that made EDSA happen. Bringing back the lost power to the people and mainstreaming it in the EDSA system is the key to keep the nation's revolution unraveling and unfolding. ■

## SPECIAL EDITORIAL

# Isang Taon, Hustisya Saan Paroroon?

Ni: Christopher Destajo

**Mag-iisang** taon na ang Subic Rape Case at inaasahan ng Makati City Court na matatapos ito bago ang unang taong anibersaryo ng kaso.

Inakusahan ni Nicole sina Lance Cpl. Daniel Smith kasama sina Lance Cpl. Dominic Duplantis, Lance Cpl. Keith Silkwood at Staff Sgt. Chad Carpentier mula sa US Marines noong Nobyembre 2005 ng pangagahasa sa loob ng isang van sa Subic Bay Freeport. Binibigyan lamang ng isang taong "prescription period", hanggang Disyembre 27, ang Pilipinas para tapusin ang kaso. Kamakailan, inamin na ni Smith na nagkaroon sila ni Nicole ng "consensual sex" at walang pagpupumiglas na ginawa si Nicole.

Dahil sa kaso, muling nabuhay ang kontrobersya ng Visiting Forces Agreement.

Isa itong malaking pagsubok sa pagkakaibigan ng Amerika at Pilipinas. Sumiklab ding muli ang damdaming feminista sa Pilipinas. Ayon sa mga grupong ito: "Nararapat lamang na bigyan ng katarungan sa lahat ng pagkakataon ang isang babaeng imbes na iginalang ay pinagsamantalahan".

Ang tanong lang na naiwan sa akin: Sinong matinong babae ang makikipag-inuman nang dise-oras ng gabi sa mga taong 'di niya lubos na kilala lalo na at sa isang bar pa? Hindi ba't pag pumasok ka sa bar ay asahan mong malalasing ka, at ibibigay mo ba ang buong tiwala mo sa mga hindi mo kakilala? Kung may relasyon man si Nicole sa isa sa apat na akusado, bakit siya sumisigaw ng rape ngayon?

Abangan na lang natin ang hatol sa nalalapit na pagtatapos ng kaso. ■

## Ano ang hindi mo makakalimutang nangyari sa iyo ngayong semester?

**Jemzie:** Last sem ko na!!! Graduating na! Naglakad ng mga gradesheet at TCG sa OUR at colleges.  
**Sister Hazel:** Ma-stranded sa Palma dahil wala akong payong.  
**Ven:** Makapunta sa Corregidor because of Geog 135...  
**Kid\_08:** Econ 172 Field Trip.. very educational.. eye-opener.  
**Jen:** Field trip sa Pampanga, nabisita and Bacolor Church. Astig!  
**Ralyj:** Dumami pimples ko lalo dahil sa mga pagpupuyat para sa mga papers!  
**Jhopsky:** Weeh, ang data gathering naman ng pakner ko sa thesis, grabe, one of a kind! We have reached the Payatas dumpsite just to get real data!  
**Lithium 9:** Adventures naming para sa case studies... lalo na yung out-of-town shooting para sa presentation.  
**Rockstar:** Life-changing Econ 172 Immersion Trip!!!  
**Luke 23:** When Luke met Peyton at the tambayan!  
**Kumicho\_yankumi:** Bumagsak ako ng 1<sup>st</sup> exam sa Econ 196. Panalo!

## CONFERENCE

- ☺ Jemzie
- ☺ Sister Hazel
- ☺ Ven
- ☺ Kid\_08
- ☺ Jen
- ☺ Ralyj
- ☺ Jhopsky
- ☺ Lithium 9
- ☺ Rockstar
- ☺ Luke 23
- ☺ Kumicho\_yankumi
- ☺ Sacramento

## Ano ang gagawin mo kapag tuluyan nang nagtaas ng tuition fee ang UP?

**Jemzie:** Pagdadasal ko ang mga future isko at iska.  
**Sister Hazel:** Sasama ako sa rally laban dito.  
**Ven:** "Big burden" ang tuition fee increase pero still magbabayad pa rin ako... no choice eh... hehe... ay oo nga for the future UP students lang pala yun... Good luck na lang sa kanila!  
**Sacramento:** Wala akong ibang magagawa kung di ang umasang sana ay maayos ang pagpapatupad nito—na yung may kakayahang makabayad ang di magbabayad, yung wala sana ma-assess mabuti ng STFAP para may pagkakaatao pa ring makapag-aral. Saka na lang ako magra-rally pag di-effective...  
**Kid\_08:** Continue studying. Maging mas matipid sa ibang gastusin.  
**Jen:** Pagbubutihan ang pag-aaral para maka-graduate agad.  
**Ralyj:** Deadma, hindi naman tayo affected dun eh, mga future UP students lang.. Hehe! Pero if lalo na pati tayo eh maaapektuhan, I'll try to finish my studies asap.  
**Jhopsky:** Carry lang, last sem ko na next sem! Basta large portion pa rin ng total tuition fee eh subsidized ng government, kaya pa!  
**Lithium 9:** Tuloy ang pag-aaral... too late na kung lilipat tska maganda yung pagtuturo dito.  
**Rockstar:** Sana di naman sobrang taas and ilalaki ng tuition fee, okay lang naman kung P500 sapagkat pinakamura pa rin ang UP. Ngunit kung P1500 na, masyadong malaki and epekto nito sa mga nagnanais na maging iskolar ng bayan. Sana, huwag naman... Ipagdadasal ko na lang.  
**Luke 23:** Save up na lang and kung kayang ipaglaban eh laban!  
**Kumicho\_yankumi:** Wala na. Patapos na ako e. Bwahahaha!



Image from [www.seasite.niu.edu](http://www.seasite.niu.edu)

## Guimaras...from page 4

kung saan ang pahayag ni PGMA na "No one culpable in this tragedy shall walk away scot-free...we shall give them [victims] the attention that is due to them."<sup>2</sup>

### "Polluters Residents Pay"

Ikatlo, datapatwat kinasuhan na sa wakas ang Petron Corporation (matapos ang kontrobersyal na muntikang *walk-in-the-park-escape* ng korporasyong 40% pagmamay-ari ng gobyerno) at ang Sunshine Maritime Development Corporation (SMDC) sa paglabag sa Republic Act No. 9295 o Clean Water Act, Anti Dummy-Law, at sa probisyon ng Revised Penal Code na Reckless Impudence Resulting in Homicide and Damage to Property, hindi pa rin nalilitis at nahahatulan ang mga may-sala sa kaganapan. Ang Petron ay nananatili sa kanilang paghuhugas-kamay sa isyu at iginigiit na ang tanging may sala ay ang SMDC, ang may-ari ng MT Solar I. Idinagdag nito na wala silang legal na pananagutan sa nangyari, subalit kinikilala nila ang kanilang 'moral obligation' na tulongan ang mga apektado ng *oil spill*.

Kaya naman nirapat nitong kumontrata at humingi ng tulong sa Fukada, isang Japanese firm, upang pag-aralan sa loob ng apat na araw ang kondisyon ng lumubog na *tanker* at magrekomenda ng pinakamainam na solusyon ukol sa natitirang krudo sa loob nito.

Mukhang nakalimutan na nga ng Petron ang prinsipyong "the polluter pays". Tuloy, ang nangyayari, sa pagdaan ng mga araw, sa pagtagas ng 120 litro ng krudo kada araw mula sa *tanker*, ang nagbabayad ay ang mga apektadong mamamayan.

Kahit sa bandang huli ay mahatulan man sa korte ang Petron Corporation at ang SMDC na *guilty* sa paglabag sa Clean Water Act at magbayad ng Php 10,000 hanggang Php 200,000 kada araw sa lokal na pamahalaan ng Guimaras, hindi na maibabalik ang dating kagandahan ng isla ng ito.

**Negatibong Gobyerno: Katahimikan para sa isang Positibong Guimaras**

Kamakailan, nagpalabas ang Palasyo ng kautusang tanging ang NDCC na lamang ang makapagbibigay ng opisyal na pahayag ukol sa insidente. Ayon kay Rafael Coscolluela, Presidential Adviser for Western Visayas, ang iba't ibang balita ukol sa insidente "do not give a positive picture of Guimaras."

Ayon sa ating natunghayan, walang gaanong natalang pag-unlad ukol sa naganap na *oil spill* sa nakalipas na dalawang buwan, at nakatala na sa kasaysayan ang naganap sa Guimaras, kaya kahit saang anggulo ay hindi mata-tanggal o mababawasan ang pagkakaroon ng bahid sa 'positive picture' ng Guimaras. Kakatuwa naman kung tanging ang 'positive picture' lamang ang dahilan ng pagbababa ng kautusang ito ng Palasyo. May itinatago na naman ba ito, gaya ng *second-walk-in-the-park-escape* marahil ng ilan sa mga nahabla o dapat inihabla? O ang kontrobersya sa sa pagpili ng banyagang kumpanyang magtatanggal sa nalalabing krudo sa *tanker*? Sa halip na tutukan ang paggawa ng pangmatagalang plano para matulun-

gan ang mga biktima ay nagkakaroon pa ng oras ang Palasyong patahimikin ang Philippine Coast Guard at ilang institusyong sumusubaybay sa trahedyang bumabatikos sa kapabayaan ng Petron Corporation.

Sa loob ng halos dalawang buwan, napansin mo marahil na araw-araw, may bagong balita ukol sa trahedyang sa iba't ibang pahayagan sa bansa. Iba't ibang balita, iba't ibang editoryal. Sa simpleng bagay na ito, maipapakita ang kalayaan sa pamamahayag. Sa simpleng pagkakaiba-ibang ito, masasala ng mga tao kung sino ang nagpapasikil sa mga may kapangyarihan at nananatiling pipi sa isyung kinahaharap ng bansa; kung sino ang pinaglalaruan lamang ang mga datos; at kung sino ang nagpapahayag para sa mamamayang Pilipino. Sa pahayag na ito ng Palasyo, nakikitang iwinawaksi ang pagkakaiba-ibang ito at ang malayang pamamahayag sa bansa.

# The Market of Minds

## Law of Decreasing Marginal Utility

By: Karen Cervantes



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