



SYSTEMS PLUS COLLEGE FOUNDATION

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ICEASS-2013 Singapore Conference to Hear Research Paper on Systems Plus College Foundation's Historic "Social Work Practice with Amerasians" Course

SINGAPORE CITY, Republic of Singapore – An educational topic review paper on the first social work practice course for stranded military Amerasians believed ever to have been offered to social work students in East/Southeast Asia or US mainland history has been accepted and will be presented to the prestigious International Conference on Education and Social Sciences (ICEASS-2013) in Singapore September 13-15, 2013. The course is taught to third-year B.S.S.W. (Bachelor of Social Work) undergraduates at the Department, formerly College of Social Work, Systems Plus College Foundation (SPCF). SPCF College is a fast-expanding information technology, education, engineering, arts and sciences, nursing, social work and hotel and restaurant management undergraduate and graduate college in Angeles, Pampanga, West Central Luzon, the Philippines.

"It is a distinct achievement, a most worthy educational initiative and another indication that the research and educational advancements and progress underway here are picking up traction and attention nationally and internationally," declared Professor J. Leo Vincente A. Tago, SPCF College's Vice President for Academic Affairs. The paper describes, in part, how it became almost essential that the college offer social work and other care giver profession students an opportunity to learn about the cultural and geo-political roots, as well as currently low socioeconomic and high psycho social risk and stress factors facing mixed-heritage and race African (Black) and Anglo (White) Amerasians. The 3-credit course was approved for accreditation purposes by the Philippine Commission on Higher Education (CHED) following a staff visit to the college in November, 2012; it originated at SPCF in 2011-2012 as a "pilot" course, and is scheduled to be taught as a third-year elective at SPCF's Social Work Department in the winter-spring semester, 2013-1014.

SPCF College is located inside the fabled AMO (Angeles, Metro Manila and Olongapo) Amerasian Triangle, believed to contain the highest concentration in the Western Pacific Rim of biracial Amerasians abandoned, orphaned or stranded when U.S. military personnel and long-standing military bases, including the huge Subic Bay naval complex, Olongapo-Zambales, Clark air base, Angeles-Pampanga and the Crow Valley Gunnery Range in Tarlac, among dozens of other installations, were abruptly expelled from the archipelago by the Philippine Senate in 1991-1992.

The SPCF-PARC study unit, in a lengthy research paper released to the 9th International Conference on the Philippines at Michigan State University in October, 2012, contends the number of biracial Amerasians in the Philippines has been seriously undercounted. There are between 200,000-250,000, or possibly more, 1st and 2nd generation Amerasians of all ages alive in the Philippines today born to U.S. military servicemen and corporate contractors and Filipina national mothers dating to the pre-World War II, Philippine Commonwealth era and continuing to the present day, the research paper claimed.

The ICEASS 2013-Singapore paper, titled "Formulating Mental Health Treatment Paradigms for Military Filipino Amerasians: A Social Work Education Challenge," is co-authored by P.C. "Pete" Kutschera, PhD, Director of SPCF College's Philippine Amerasian Research Center (PARC) and Visiting Social Work Professor, who will represent SPCF College and present the paper in Singapore; Dr. Marie A. Caputi, PhD, Contributing Senior Faculty at Walden University, USA, and Prof. Jose Maria G. Pelayo, a SPCF College psychology professor, College Research Coordinator and PARC Deputy Director.

The ICEASS 2013 Conference (website: <http://www.iceass.org/index.asp>) is scheduled to be held at the Grand Copthorne Waterfront Hotel, 392 Havelock Road, Singapore. In addition to the Singapore presentation - under SPCF-PARC sponsorship - Dr. Kutschera and Dr. Caputi and Professor Pelayo have collaborated on various Filipino and Pan Amerasian research papers presented at three other major conferences in calendar year 2013. These included the Annual International Meeting of the Asia Association of Global Studies in Bangkok, Thailand and the International Online Conference on Multidisciplinary Social Sciences, Sydney, Australia, both in March, 2013, and the International Pursuit of Justice Conference hosted by the Gonzaga University Law School and Institute for Hate Studies in Spokane, Washington State on the US West Coast in April, 2013.