



## SYSTEMS PLUS COLLEGE FOUNDATION

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## **Not-for-Profit Corporation Registration Status Approved by Philippine Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) for SPCF College's PARC (Philippine Amerasian Research Center)**

***Metro Manila, Philippines*** -- The Philippine Amerasian Research Center (PARC) sited at Systems Plus College Foundation (SPCF College), Angeles City, Luzon, and a research affiliate and collaborative partner of the non-profit New York State-based Amerasian Research Network, Ltd. (ARN, Ltd.), has been approved as an official NPO (Non Profit Organization) by the government of the Republic of the Philippines. Professor Mary Grace Talamera-Sandico, a licensed social worker, faculty instructor at Don Honorio Ventura Technological State University, and a former social work faculty member at SPCF College, confirmed the approval by the Philippine Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) in late February after filing the application in January on behalf of the PARC.

The Philippine SEC, headquartered in Mandaluyong City, Metro Manila, regulates the securities industry throughout the archipelago. It is an agency within the Office of the President and among numerous functions approves the formation, registration and regulation of both private and commercial sector and non-profit corporations. The NPO incorporation certificate issued for PARC lists the organization officially as the Philippine Amerasian Research Center, Inc.

Professor Talamera-Sandico, who has extensive field experience working with at risk military Amerasians and a partner and co-author of several international conference research papers and journal articles on the military Filipino Amerasian Diaspora with PARC Director P.C. "Pete" Kutschera, PhD, was listed on the application filing as President/Chair of the Board of Trustees. "Professor Grace confirmed we have a NPO registration certification and number; this approval goes a long way towards qualifying PARC as eligible for making formal, official applications for research and scholarship grants and stipends. Another goal is to eventually become eligible to

receive tax deductible donations from foundations, the private corporate sector, government organizations and individual citizens who believe in what we are attempting to do to advance the cause of Filipino and Pan Amerasian evidence-based research,” Dr. Kutschera stated.

The Philippine SEC trustee membership filing also listed Professor Jose Maria G. Pelayo III, PARC’s deputy director, who heads SPCF’s Social and Psychological Research Unit (SPRU), as Treasurer/Chief Financial Officer, and Ms. Maria Blessilda Bascon, an R.N. who has held several key administrative posts at SPCF’s Colleges of Nursing, Social Work and most recently Human Resources Department as Board of Trustees Secretariat. Rounding out the five member trustee panel is Roman Goce, long time senior manager and chief operations officer at the Philippine Children’s Fund of America, Clark Economic Development Zone, and a Sacramento, California USA.-based social service organization long active in Amerasian humanitarian causes, and Dr. Kutschera, PARC’s Director who is a U.S. citizen and permanent resident of the Philippines. Professors Talamera-Sandico and Pelayo and Ms. Bascon are Angeles City residents; Mr. Goce resides in Bacolor, Pampanga and Dr. Kutschera lists his Philippine home of residence as Metro Cebu in the Visayas.

Dr. Kutschera maintained that the mission, goals and objectives listed in the PARC SEC filing are similar to those contained in the NPO registration certificate approved by the New York Department of State in May, 2012 for the non-profit ARN, Ltd. Both PARC and ARN, Ltd. – who have a Memorandum of Understanding - are committed to promoting public information and public knowledge of adverse human conditions facing many military Filipino Amerasians and Pan Amerasians, not only in the archipelago, but in scattered Amerasian enclaves across East/Southeast Asia and the Pacific Islands. Both organizations listed striving for development of empirical and evidence-based research on military Amerasians and to serve as a forum for exchange of research and information and initiatives with various academic, human rights, national and international humanitarian groups in an effort to improve military Amerasian quality of life, medical/mental health and social welfare.

“The PARC Philippine filing made note that the organization will always be committed and work to adhere to the human rights principles set forth in the Dec. 10, 1948 United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights signed at the Palais de Chaillot in Paris. The declaration set forth a list of at least 30 articles urging simple and basic principles for man and woman kind worldwide supporting freedom of individual human expression, religion and dignity along with freedom from want, fear, exploitation and oppression. Both the governments of the Philippines (which had received its independence only two years prior to the signing) and the United States were among the 48 original signors of the UN universal resolution,” Dr. Kutschera stated.

PARC, as an independent, specialized research unit located on the campus of SPCF College, was formally organized Dec. 6, 2011 in a unanimous vote of the college’s Board of Trustees. Then, PARC entered into an informal agreement with the National Amerasian Research Institute (Provisional), an unincorporated research group based in New York. In May, 2012 the Institute was renamed as the ARN, Ltd. when the New York Secretary of State approved its NPO status. The two organizations have a Memorandum of Understanding in which both actively engage in

a “strategic research partnership” aimed at promoting empirical research both in the Philippines, East/Southeast Asia, North America and globally. Both Professors Pelayo and Talamera-Sandico are members of the ARN, Ltd. official Advisory Board.

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