

The Third World Studies Center in Its 40th Year: An International Conference
University of the Philippines, Diliman, Quezon City
9-10 February 2017

RATIONALE

At forty, the Third World Studies Center (TWSC) gathers in this multidisciplinary conference its vast and resilient network of scholars and public intellectuals, academics and activists, advocates and bearers of unorthodox views from different parts of the globe. The conference aim is twofold. First, it is a time to reflect on the Center's enduring history and its contributions to critical scholarship on Philippine, regional, and global issues. The Center has encompassed anti-authoritarian scholarship and social movements, peace studies and human security, democratization and critical articulations of the nation, political economy of transnational corporations and the history of mass transit, and digital piracy and cybersex--pioneering research efforts that established the center as a premier social science research center. Second, the conference will extend the role of the Center as meeting point for established intellectuals and young, emerging scholars. It renews a space that fosters the development of critical, alternative paradigms to promote progressive scholarship and action for change.

The conference themes are the following: political economy and globalization, social movements, authoritarianism and democratic governance, peace and human security, culture and identity, (new) media and technology.

Illustrious scholars who have been engaged in the Center's long history in two keynote speeches: Professor Emeritus Randolph David of the Department of Sociology, University of the Philippines-Diliman, and Dr. Alfred McCoy, Harrington Professor of History at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, will be invited as keynote speakers. Two (2) plenary sessions will be set aside for the Center's former Directors and respected scholars whose long academic histories have included doing research in the Philippines as TWSC visiting research fellows. Prospective panelists include former Directors Dr. Maria Ela Atienza, Dr. Teresa Encarnacion Tadem, Professor Miriam Coronel-Ferrer, and Professor Alexander Magno of the Department of Political Science and Dr. Maria Serena Diokno of the Department of History, University of the Philippines-Diliman, Dr. Dominique Caouette of the Universite de Montreal, Dr. Rosanne Rutten of the University of Amsterdam, Dr. Caroline Hau of Kyoto University, and Dr. Mark R. Thompson of the City University of Hong Kong. Paper presentations will be distributed across twelve (12) panels in parallel sessions. The conference hopes to attract former TWSC visiting research fellows, contributors to the Center's official publication, *Kasarinlan: Philippine Journal of Third World Studies*, and other networks as presenters and participants.