THE INTERNATIONAL FILIPINO CENTENNIAL
CONFERENCE HOSTED BY THE FILIPINO CENTENNIAL
COMMISSION AND
THE CENTER FOR PHILIPPINE STUDIES

(A Report Submitted To: Elias T. Beniga, Chair, Filipino Centennial
Celebration Commission, Honolulu, Hawaii, by the International
Conference Committee of the Commission)

By: Belinda A. Aquino and Federico V. Magdalena
April 2007

The Filipino Century Beyond Hawaii

International Conference on the Hawaii Filipino Centennial

December 13 - 17, 2006
Ala Moana Hotel
Honolulu, Hawaii
U.S.A.

CENTER FOR
PHILIPPINE STUDIES
School of Hawaiian, Asian and Pacific Studies
UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT MANOA
The Filipino Century Beyond Hawaii

International Conference on the Hawaii Filipino Centennial
December 13-17, 2006
Ala Moana Hotel
Honolulu, Hawaii
U.S.A.
FILIPINO CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION COMMISSION
(Act 159, Session Laws of Hawaii 2002)

Introduction

The main objective of the International Conference on the Hawaii Filipino Centennial on 13-17 Dec. 2006 was to highlight the significance of the Filipino experience in the past 100 years starting with the arrival of the first 15 sakadas (migrant farm workers), who were recruited to work on Hawaii’s sugar plantations in 1906 by the Hawaiian Sugar Planters’ Association (HSPA).

This centennial experience has been the most defining moment for the Filipino community in Hawaii, now constituting (including part-Filipino) nearly 23 percent of the state population after a hundred years. The experience was fraught with pain, suffering, loneliness, endurance and endless work, but it was a story of human triumph in the end.

What better way to capture the salience of the centennial than through an international conference to enable future generations to understand and appreciate that life-affirming experience! Conferences and dialogues provide opportunities for reflection and a deeper understanding of the past as a basis for appreciating the present and creating a desirable future. This was the major significance of this conference, which dealt with the various facets of the Filipino centennial experience in Hawaii and beyond. It was a coming together of various issues of substance and meaning, so that the experience could be institutionalized for generations to come.

Sponsors

The Center for Philippine Studies (CPS), University of Hawaii at Manoa, hosted the Conference, in cooperation with the Filipino Centennial Celebration Commission (FCCC). The latter, in turn, which played the lead role in the Filipino Centennial celebration, was in partnership with the First Hawaiian Bank, the major funding source from the private sector of the Commission’s yearlong (2006) activities. The Commission also received grants from the state government, the state legislature, the City and County of Honolulu, the Neighbor Island Counties, and private donations.

c/o 1617 Palama St.
Honolulu, Hawaii 96817
www.filipinosinhawaii100.org
Participants

Attended by 150 international, national and local participants and guests, the conference was part of the closing ceremonies of the Hawaii Filipino Centennial observance in 2006. One hundred four (104) abstracts were approved. Of this number, 90 actually presented papers in 33 different panels, ranging in topic from the life experiences of Filipinos on the Hawaii plantations to the contemporary Filipino diaspora, which has seen mass movements of Filipino labor to more than 120 countries. Four roundtable discussions on the sakada, labor history, mass communication (radio), and three video presentations (more below) were also undertaken to complement the more academic aspects of the overseas Filipino experience.

The participants came from different parts of the world, mostly from the United States and the Philippines. Some were from Canada, Japan and Europe. Academics, professionals, civic leaders, advocates, and entrepreneurs constituted the majority of presentors during the 2-day conference. A panel composed mostly of students from the University of the Philippines, and another by students from the U.S. mainland, discussed language and immigration issues involving Filipino-Americans.

Conference Speakers

Ah Quon McElrath graced the conference as the keynote speaker. A famous labor leader in Hawaii, she spoke on the significance of the 1946 sugar strike in Hawaii and its implications for the 21st century. McElrath, a retired member of the University of Hawaii Board of Regents, worked for many years as a social worker of the International Longshore and Warehouse Union (ILWU), the labor union to which most of the Filipino sakadas belonged. Of Chinese ancestry, McElrath’s name is always associated with the creation of a permanent labor movement in Hawaii. In her speech, she stressed the need for cooperation and unity that should go beyond the confines of ethnic and racial identity. During the 1946 strike, she noted that Filipinos and Japanese on the plantations set aside their cultural differences and worked for common goals. That was more so for Filipinos, who, despite their being fragmented by linguistic and regional ties, developed a sense of solidarity that gave them a growing degree of empowerment. If this solidarity continues to the present, McElrath noted, the Filipinos of Hawaii would advance much more in their quest for a good place in this island state.

Another speaker who set the tone for the conference was Stephanie J. Castillo, Emmy Award-winning filmmaker based in Hawaii. She presented a video and powerpoint lecture discussing two documentaries especially prepared for the centennial, Remember the Boys and
Strange Land. Remember the Boys captures the inspiring, true story of Filipino-American Domingo Los Baños, a chaplain to his war buddies. Los Baños was a WWII soldier who went to war in the Philippines as a young adult with some 50 other “Hawaii boys,” of Filipino ancestry who were drafted by the U.S. army.

The other documentary, Strange Land, is about Stephanie’s mother Norma Vega Castillo, who came to Hawaii as a WWII war bride from the Philippines after marrying a Hawaii Filipino “soldier boy.” In both narratives, Castillo offered a glimpse into the personal lives of two unique Filipino-Americans and their poignant journeys in Hawaii within the broader Filipino-American experience.

Topics

Using the theme “The Filipino Century Beyond Hawaii,” the conference elicited a wide spectrum of presentations during two full days at Ala Moana Hotel. The diversity of conference participation can be seen from the various topics: Who is a Sakada? The Sakada Connection; 100 Years of Filipino Migration; Ethnicity and Nationhood in Migrant Narratives in the U.S.; Hawaii and the Philippines in 1898; Maui Filipino Labor History; Filipino-American Identity; Pedagogy and History of Philippine Education; Philippine Studies on the Rise in Northern California; From Nations to Territories; Contested Identity; Americanism and Filipino Diaspora; Economic Issues; English and Ilocano Languages; Human Trafficking; Colonialism and Balikbayan Boxes; Military/Security Issues and the Mindanao Conflict; Filipino Service Workers in the Hotel Industry; Family/Identity and other Social Issues in Filipino Overseas Communities; The Silent Natives of Fuga; Communicating with the Filipino Community through Radio; Political Mobilization in the Filipino Diaspora; The Hanapepe Massacre Revisited; Filipino Migration to the U.S.; The Filipino Community in Canada; Filipino-American Issues in the U.S. Legal Profession; Philippine-American Relations; Health and Healing; Consuelo: Foundation of Little Miracles; Singgalot: The Ties that Bind; and Individual Papers on Philippine History and Culture (see Appendix A for a complete list of the topics).

The conference topics may be classified into the following broad categories:

1) Sakada experience and labor history—Questions like, who the sakadas were, what experiences they had, and how they coped with life on the plantations, were among those raised in some panels and roundtable discussions. Another group discussed labor history issues and narratives of success and failure.

2) Filipino diaspora and overseas migration—The 21st century is marked by globalization, which has in turn impacted the Filipinos economically. It partly
explains the rise of outmigration and the phenomenon called *diaspora*, which has led to their “dispersion” in more than 100 countries. This later outmigration consists of professionals and technicians, particularly in Industrial Technologies (ITs) and health industries, where thousands have found employment abroad. Panels discussed the implications of this large-scale movement to overseas Filipinos, and to the Philippines as a nation.

3) Ethnicity and identity issues – Filipinos in Hawaii, like any other group, are stratified in terms of family, ethnic and linguistic divisions. How such differences have translated into unity, cooperation and empowerment, as well as tension, was the subject of much discussion.

4) Philippine history, language, society and culture – Issues on the Ilokano language, both at home and in the host country, were discussed. Implications to social adjustment, assimilation and participation were also taken up, particularly with respect to discrimination in the workplace.

5) Economic benefits from Filipino international migration – Opportunities overseas continue to attract a large number of Filipinos, who remit the much needed foreign currency that buoys up the Philippine economy today. It is estimated that $12 billion are sent to the Philippines by Filipinos overseas in annual remittances. This has, of course, resulted in major social costs.

6) Philippine Studies – Focus on interdisciplinary Philippine studies abroad, both in the academic and professional sense, is put forward by scholars who have conducted research on various aspects of Fil-American/Canadian life, or on other Filipino international communities. More academic programs with the Philippines/Filipinos as focus are now available in various institutions.

7) Empowerment issues – The kinds of opportunities generalized as “empowerment” available for Filipino social mobility and recognition as a community, including certain legal issues affecting their lives, were discussed in this rubric.

8) Colonialism, Philippine-American relations and education – Aspects of the long and at times contentious relationship between the Philippines and the United States, Philippine education, Philippine development and ethnic issues were discussed.

9) Politics of memory – As in all diasporic experiences, the past is evoked or re-examined. One such event was the Hanapepe massacre, which was considered a taboo for sometime. “War brides” is another such phenomenon that has only been
recently brought out into the open. These topics have now become part of academic and other discourses on the Filipino experience beyond the Philippines.

Four video presentations need special mention, namely, Turumba, Nation Within, Singgalot: The Ties that Bind, and the Silent Natives of Fuga. They added to the rich and diverse texture of the conference. Turumba (presented by Ruth Mabanglo) features religious festivities in a Philippine village and how it became economically involved in making papier-mâché animals. Nation Within (presented by Sheila Forman) analyzes the historical significance of Hawaii in the growing U.S. empire in the Pacific. Dean Alegado presented Singgalot, a 2-year project supported by Smithsonian Institution that he curated showing the many faces of Filipino-Americans: a cultural group in New York, World War II veterans in San Francisco, college students in Norfolk, Va. and so on. Singgalot is made up of 30 4-by-8-foot panels with photos and narratives on Filipino-American issues such as civil rights and citizenship, as well as their contributions in agribusiness, military and healthcare fields. Silent Natives of Fuga is based on the award-winning documentary produced by Karie Garnier of Canada, who discussed the plight of the marginalized Ilokano settlers on Fuga, a small island off Batanes in northern Philippines. These settlers were being displaced by a tourism development project. The video was also presented before faculty and students at UH Manoa.

A Library Exhibit put together by Alice Mak entitled "Filipinos in Hawaii: The First 100 Years," was on display at the Hamilton Library, UH Manoa. The exhibit complemented Singgalot: The Ties that Bind, which was also on display at the same library.

Belinda A. Aquino, professor of Political Science and Asian Studies, and director of the Center for Philippine Studies, was the conference chair. She was assisted by Federico Magdalena, Clemen Montero and Rose Churma, and university junior faculty and students.

In July 2006, Aquino was invited by the Commission on Filipinos Overseas (CFO) in Manila to give a series of lectures based on the theme "From Plantation Camp to Global Village," to stress the significance of the centennial celebration. Her lectures, which attracted hundreds, were delivered in eight universities and institutions in the Philippines from Laoag in the north to Cebu in the south. The CFO was designated by President Arroyo as the lead agency in the Philippines to commemorate the Hawaii centennial by holding lectures, conducting literary/art contests, poster-making and other cultural activities.
Funding
Details regarding financial arrangements are in a separate report. All the registration fees collected from participants in the amount of $11,260 were turned over to the Commission for accounting purposes.

Registration fees were waived or reduced for certain classes of participants/guests like Commission members, guest speakers, and students, and those who wanted to attend just one or a few conference panels.

Reactions
The significance and success of the Centennial International Conference may be gleaned from letters of commendation by scholars who participated in this event (see Appendix B).

Pictorial
The substance and spirit of the conference were captured by photos taken by some of the participants (see Appendix C).

Conclusion
The following conclusions can be drawn from the conference:

1) It highlighted the intersections of Philippine Studies, Filipino-American Studies, the Filipino diaspora, and the Filipino experience in Hawaii. It was a broad-based eclectic conference, not a narrowly focused or specialized one, which would have appealed only to a few. Salient dimensions of Philippine culture, history, languages, socio-economic and political issues came together with the more international aspects of immigration, Filipino overseas communities, the emergence of Filipino newer immigrants known as the “professionals and workers of the world,” and globalization.

2) Hawaii, and even the Philippines itself, have become more aware of the Filipino community in the U. S. and in the State of Hawaii. The conference, being part of the centennial observance, analyzed the significant contributions of Filipinos in Hawaii since 1906. The Hawaii community has grown not only in numbers but also in stature in the past five decades.
3) Heretofore unknown events like the Hanapepe massacre (Kauai), early plantation life hardships (Big Island), and labor history (Maui), and issues of present-day industrial workers in Honolulu came to light. Without romanticizing or demonizing the past, speakers revealed little-known or forgotten episodes in the history of Filipinos in Hawaii, so those living at present will recall them and be guided in the future. As research progresses, much more will be unraveled, however disconcerting. As Emme Tomimbang rhetorically asked about the Hanapepe massacre: “Was (the 1924 Hanapepe incident) shrouded in mystery and cloaked in secrecy, for protection, for shame?”

4) After the centennial, what’s next? This was the question that resonated in many of the discussions. How will the Filipinos sustain the gains they have achieved, and promote the image of this rapidly growing community not only for its benefit but for the Philippine nation as well?

5) The joint undertaking between the Center for Philippine Studies and the Filipino Centennial Celebration Commission exemplifies a meeting of “town and gown,” in which academic and community values can be synthesized and utilized for mutual benefit. Institutions in the Philippines itself were involved as well. The Center has a broad outreach program in the larger Hawaii community fulfilling part of the university’s service mission to the world outside.

6) The conference papers constitute a rich archive of historical and current material that will significantly advance academic and applied research on the Filipino experience internationally and Philippine area studies.

7) The centennial was not simply a time of nostalgia and remembrance of things past. It was a singular learning experience, a realization that despite previous adversity, Filipinos and Filipino-Americans have been able to participate in Hawaii’s revolutionary progress towards equality and opportunity for all in an increasingly multicultural society.

A Final Note:
The complete Conference Program in printed and CD-ROM format is available at the Center for Philippine Studies, University of Hawaii at Manoa, 1890 East-West Road, Honolulu, HI 96816, Tel: (808) 956-6086, Fax: (808) 956-2682, Email: cps@hawaii.edu. The program can also be accessed online at http://www.hawaii.edu/cps/centennial-conference.html.
APPENDICES

A - LIST OF PRESENTATIONS AND PAPER TOPICS, 9

B - REACTIONS FROM PARTICIPANTS, 15

C - THE CONFERENCE AS CAPTURED BY PHOTOS, 18
Appendix A

LIST OF PRESENTATIONS AND PAPER TOPICS
(Names in parentheses are chairs and brackets are the panel locations)

December 14, 2006 (Thursday)

PLENARY: “FILIPINO PERSONAL NARRATIVES THROUGH DOCUMENTARY FILMS” (Stephanie Castillo, Opening Speaker)

- Panel 1 [Anthurium] - Who is a Sakada? (Roundtable: Carolyn Weygan-Hildebrand)
  1) Lyna Burian – The Sakada Activities of Filipino Association of University Women (FAUW)
  2) Charlene Cuaresma – The Sakada Legacy Recognition Project

- Panel 2 [Plumeria] – 100 Years of Filipino Migration: Continuities & Disjunctures (Virginia A. Miralao)
  Discussant: Virginia A. Miralao
  1) Ma. Cecilia G. Conaco - “Filipino Social Identity Metamorphosis in the Context of Migration
  3) Stella P. Go - The International Movement of Filipinos: To the United States and Beyond

- Panel 3 [Carnation] – Ethnicity and Nationhood in Migrant Narratives in the U.S. (Erlinda K. Alburro)
  1) Macrina Abenosa - Lucky Come Hawaii! Life Satisfaction among Cebuano-Speaking Elderly Filipinos on Oahu
  2) Jackie Pias Carlin - Conditions on the Sugar Plantations on Maui
  3) Erlinda Kintanar-Alburro - Plantation Life in Hawaii and the Politics of Representation

  1) Romel Dela Cruz - Under the Bough of a Salamagi Tree: The Legacy of the 1946 Sakadas
  2) Fred Soriano- Tata Gorio: The Unveiling of a Sakada Statue
  3) Jay Sasan - Final harvest: From ‘Cut Caneniro’ to Plantation Manager

- Panel 5 [Gardenia] – Hawaii and Philippines in 1898 – Tom Coffman’s Nation Within (Sheila Forman)
  Discussant: Marcus Daniel

- Panel 6 [Hilma] – Ilocano Language, Change and Empowerment (Josie Clausen)
  1) April Joy Cipriano & Olivia Ang - Bilingualism in Pangasinan: A Good Thing or a Bad Thing?
  2) Darlene Marie E. Mortel - 45 Kaliber Proof: Reading Resistance to Create Change
  3) Lorie B. Sibolboro, Estephanie G. Celi & Alicia Corpuz-Nague - Voice Affixes in Ilocano
  4) Alma M.O. Trinidad - The Places of Empowerment for Fil-Am Young Adults: Extra Curricular Activities and Mental Health Promotion
• Panel 7 [Gardenia] - Maui Filipino Labor History
   (Roundtable: Artemio Baxa)
   1) Gilbert Coloma Agaran & Fred Evangelista - Oral History, Myths and Legends in the Developing Sakada Saga
   2) Vince G. Bagoyo - Contributions of Filipinos to Maui Labor History
   3) Antonio V. Ramil - Filipinos in the News: The First 10 Years, 1906-1916

• Panel 8 [Plumeria] - Filipino American Identity (Jonathan Y. Okamura)
   1) Maria Eufrecina P. Barros - Ilocanos PlusHawaii Dot Com: Identities and Images on Cyberspace
   2) Purificacion G. Delima - Ilocano (Filipino) Identity in the English Language: Tracing Generations of Acculturation
   3) Jonathan Y. Okamura - A Century of Misrepresenting Filipino Americans in Hawaii
   4) Ma. Socorro Q. Perez - Ilocano Immigrants' Renegotiation of Space

• Panel 9 [Anthurium] - Pedagogy and History of Philippine Education (Virgie Chattergy)
   1) Pia Arboleda - Gaikoku chin Kyoushi ga Manabu (The Foreign Teacher Learns): Reflections on Teaching Filipino in Japan
   2) Virgie Chattergy - Education of Filipinos - The Colonial Years: Comparative Description of Spanish and American Educational Orientation
   3) Anthony Medrano - Filipinos in Hawaii: Education in Colonial Times

• Panel 10 [Pakalana] - Akyat: Philippine Studies on the Rise in Northern California (Joaquin Jay Gonzalez III)
   Discussant: Belinda A. Aquino
   1) Joaquin Jay Gonzalez III - Prayers to Pera: A Remittance Survey of 1500 Filipino-American Catholics in the San Francisco Bay Area
   2) Evelyn I. Rodriguez - Primerang Bituin: Philippines-Mexico Relations at the Dawn of the Pacific Rim Century
   3) Marie Lorraine Mallare and Aethel Cruz - Voices of the Past: The Plight and Struggle of Filipino WWII Veterans in the United States.

• Panel 11 [Carnation] - Race, Representation and Subjectivity in Filipina/o Studies (CANCELLED)

• Panel 12 [Ilima] - From Nations to Territories: Hawaii, the Philippines and the U.S. Empire in the Pacific (Vina Lanzona)
   Discussant: Jon Osorio
   1) Kimberly Alidio - The Temperate and the Torrid: Early-Twentieth-Century American Comparisons of Hawaii and the Philippines
   2) Paul Kramer - Empire and Exclusion: Race, Migration and State-Building in Philippine-American History
   3) JoAnna Poblete-Cross - Colonial Challenges: Puerto Rican and Filipino labor complaints in Hawaii, 1900 to 1940
• **Panel 13** "Pakalana" - Saga of Filipino International Communities (Gerard Finin)
  1) Adelamar N. Alcantara - Filipinos in the United States: In Pursuit of the American Dream
  2) Gerard A. Finin - Filipinos in the Pacific Islands
  3) Takefumi Terada - Filipino Catholic Communities in Japan

• **Panel 14** "Anthurium" - Contested Identity, Americanism and Filipino Diaspora (Allan Punzalan Isaac)
  1) Aurelio S. Agcaoili - Tropes of Tensions in the Land of Exile: Filipino Labor and Race Relations in Philippine-American Literature
  2) Allan Punzalan Isaac - Gold Star Mothers and the Filipino American Politics of Mourning
  3) Federico V. Magdalena - Global Pinoy, Global Village: Disenchanting the Enchanted

• **Panel 15** "Plumeria" - Archiving/Preserving Filipino Culture (William Richter)
  1) Christine Balmes - The Philippine Collections of the Frank Murphy Museum
  2) Matthew Kester - Reconstructing the Sakada through the Hawaiian Sugar Planters' Association's Archives

• **Panel 16** "Carnation" - Economic Issues: Labor Policy and Care Home Industry (Ernesto C. Lucas)
  1) Darlyne Bautista - The Philippine Labor Export Policy: Development or Underdevelopment?
  2) Ernesto C. Lucas - The Structure, Conduct and Performance of the Care Home Industry in Hawaii

• **Panel 17** "Gardenia" - Special Presentation: Turumba Revisited (Speaker: Ruth Mabanglo)

• **Panel 18** "Ilima" - English and Ilocano: "Clash" of Linguistics (Michael L. Forman)
  1) Elizabeth A. Calinawagan - English and Ilocano: After 100 Years of Language Contact
  2) Josie P. Clausen - Ilokano Ideophones

December 15, 2006 (Friday)

• **Panel 19** "Carnation" - Human Trafficking, Colonialism & Balikbayan Boxes (Kathy Nadeau)
  1) Elena Clariza - Human Trafficking in Mindanao
  2) Karina Hof - Thinking Outside the Balikbayan Box: How Hospitality and Sacrifice Figure in the Philippine Diaspora.
  3) Theresa M. Ronquillo - Deconstructing Colonialism in the Borderlands: Identity Negotiation among Filipino Americans
  4) Jimiliz Maramba Valiente - Colonial Legacies: Filipino and American Presents/Presence in the Balikbayan Box

• **Panel 20** "Ilima" - Filipino Migration to the United States (Sonia L. Aranza)
1) Maria Fe Caces - Revisiting Filipino Immigration to Hawaii from the 1960s through the 1980s: Social Networks and Lessons

  1) Marconi M. Dioso - The U.S. Army's Use of Military Commissions in the Philippines during the Filipino-American War
  2) Eric D. Johnson - The Abu Sayyaf Group and Maritime Terrorism
  3) Anthony Medrano - Children, War and the 'Bare' Space of Mindanao

- **Panel 22 [Pakalana] - Family, Identity & Other Social Issues in Filipino Overseas Communities (Quirico S. Samonte, Jr.)**
  1) Romulo Aquino - The Philippine Studies Mission: Preserving the Filipino Immigrant Legacy
  2) Quirico S. Samonte - The Biography as Vehicle for Preserving the Legacy and Identity of Filipino Immigrants
  3) Adelwisa L. Agas Weller - Preserving Filipino Immigrant Legacy from a University Perspective: The Role of the Philippine Studies Group at the University of Michigan

- **Panel 23 [Anthurium] - Special Presentation: The Silent Natives of Fuga (Video: Karie Garnier)**

- **Panel 24 [Gardenia] - Communicating with the Filipino Community through Radio (Roundtable: Tony Sagayadoro)**
  1) Nie G. Musico - The Filipino Radio as Forum for Issues of the Day
  2) Tony L. Sagayadoro - Communicating with the Filipino community: The Radio as Medium
  3) Emme Tomimbang - Growing Up Filipino-American: My Media Roots in Radio

- **Panel 25 [Gardenia] - Humanitarianism and Empowerment (Cecile L. Motus)**
  1) Sonia Aranza - Hawaii on My Mind: Reflections on an Immigrant Childhood
  2) Potri Ranka Manis and Nonilon V. Queano - Looking Back, Moving Forward to an Empowered Filipino Community in the United States
  3) Cecile L. Motus - Is There Life After Living Aloha in Hawaii?

- **Panel 26 [Ulima] - Contesting the Philippine State across Transnational Political Space - Political Mobilization in the Filipino Diaspora (Dean T. Alegado)**
  1) Dean T. Alegado - People Power II and the Transnational Filipino Community: The Role of Transnational Community Network
  2) Geline Avila - The Legacy and Contributions of the Katipunan ng mga Demokratikong Pilipino to Filipino Transnational Activism
  3) Enrique de la Cruz - The Anti-Marcos Movement in the United States
  4) Jorge Emmanuel - FACES (Filipino American Coalition for Environmental Solidarity) and New Perspectives on Environmental Advocacy
• Panel 27 [Plumeria] - The Filipino Community in Canada  
  (Sheila Zamar)  
  1) Neneth Banas - Capacity Building among Filipino Youths in Canada  
  2) Maureen Cristin S. Justiniano - Filipinos in Winnipeg: The Impacts of Filipino  
     Migration on the Transformation of Canada's Landscape

• Panel 28 [Pakalana] - Hanapepe Revisited (Serafin Colmenares, Jr.)  
  Discussant: Chad K. Taniguchi  
  1) Belinda A. Aquino - Understanding the "Hanapepe Massacre"  
  2) Kristy Ringor - The War at Hanapepe  
  3) Emme Tomimbang - Documenting the 1924 Hanapepe Massacre

• Panel 29 - Filipino-American Issues in the U.S. Legal  
  Profession (Abelina Madrid Shaw)  
  1) Carlos Dequina - Buddy, Can You Spare A Billion? How to Achieve Tax-Exempt  
     Status for a Fil-Am Organization  
  2) David Forman - More than English Spoken Here  
  3) Abelina Madrid Shaw - Filipino Americans in the US Legal Professions

• Panel 30 [Anthurium] - Filipino Americans in Other Media  
  (Cancelled)

"THE IMPLICATIONS OF THE 1946 SUGAR STRIKE IN HAWAII TO  
THE 21ST CENTURY." (Ah Quon McElrath, Retired Social Worker  
and former Member of the Board of Regents, University of  
Hawaii, Keynote Speaker. Introduced by Dean T. Alegado)

• Panel 31 [Carnation] - The Immigrant Experience and Filipino  
  Professionals (Cancelled)

• Panel 32 [Ilima] - Philippine-American Relations: The  
  International Visitors Program (Teresita G. Bernales)  
  Teresita G. Bernales - The International Visitor Leadership Program: An Overview  
  1) Karen Kelley - IVLP Philippines: How IVs are Selected, What visitors learn, IVLP  
     Alumni in the Philippines, How Alumni Give Back  
  2) Rusyan Jill Mamit - Anecdotal Experience on How IVLP Impacted My Life

• Panel 33 [Anthurium] - Health and Healing in the Fil-Am  
  Community (Bienvenido R. Jongco)  
  1) Bienvenido R. Jongco - Promoting Health for All Filipinos: The UPMASA Legacy  
  2) Virgil J. Mayor Apostol - Revival and Reintroduction of Filipino Traditional Healing  
     Practices into Filipino-American Society

• Panel 34 [Gardenia] - Special Presentation: Singgalot -  
  The Ties that Bind (Dean T. Alegado)

• Panel 35 [Pakalana] - Consuelo: Foundation of Little  
  Miracles (Rose Cruz Churma)  
  1) Patti Lyons - Who was Consuelo Zobel Alger? Portrait of a Humanitarian
2) Geri Marullo - Charting the Future and Strengthening Links Between Hawaii and the Philippines
3) Ray Dean Salvosa - Together We Achieve the Ordinary: The Consuelo Partnership Model

- Panel 36 [Plumeria] - Individual Papers on Philippine History and Culture (Belinda A. Aquino)
  1) Ricardo D. Trimillos - Music and Ritual: Marking Filipino Identity
  3) Damon L. Woods - Vigan: Center of Hispanization and Commerce in the Ilocos
  4) Mila Alcazaren - Teaching the Filipino Language to Heritage Students on Guam
Dear Dr. Aquino:

Congratulations to the University of Hawaii, Manoa, and Center of Philippine Studies for successfully organizing and hosting the Filipino Centennial Conference held December 13-17, 2006. The University of Hawaii at Manoa is the best institution to have sponsored this conference because of the internationally recognized presence of the Philippine Studies Center. The conference was particularly innovative in terms of seeking the intersections of Philippine studies, as an area of study specific to the Philippines, Ethnic Studies, particularly, with reference to the Filipino experience in Hawaii over the past 100 years, and the Filipino diaspora phenomenon involving the deployment of Filipinos in the global job markets in more than 100 countries. This conference was especially helpful in terms of my own research and teaching preparations. My research and teaching interests strongly interconnect with Philippine Studies. I teach several Asian studies courses, including Filipino Cultural Expressions, Filipino American Experiences, Asian American Cultures, Asian Pacific Issues, and Peoples of Asia. Beginning Fall 2007, I will add two more new courses to my teaching repertoire: Asian Cultural Traditions and Integrative Asian Studies Seminar as part of our new Asian Studies minor program at California State University, San Bernardino. Your conference was extremely helpful in terms of helping me to increase my knowledge and expertise in Philippine and Filipino American Studies. As well, my research publications are in the field of Philippine Studies. I cannot thank you enough for providing such an intellectually rich and informative platform for promoting Philippine/Filipino American studies, and thereby, enriching our students’ educational experiences and professional development gained in the classroom.

I would like to add that I was particularly impressed by the outstanding preparations that were made in making this Centennial Conference honoring 100 years of Filipinos in Hawaii possible. It was a splendid conference that was not only intellectually rigorous and highly informative but delightfully presented. It struck me that every care was taken to make sure that all the panel sessions would commence smoothly, without interruption. At every session, there were student assistants in attendance, ready, to help with technologies, and even to keep the time! It was very comfortable to be on a panel with such competent and punctual support coming from the organizers. Also, I might mention that the dinner and buffets were absolutely and utterly delicious. This was one the best conferences that I have attended in my entire career and I cannot thank you enough for bringing this educational platform together.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Nadeau, Ph.D
Associate Professor of Anthropology
January 11, 2007

Ricardo D. Trimillos
Chair, Asian Studies
University of Hawai‘i at Manoa
1890 East-West Road, Moore Hall 412
Honolulu, HI 96822

Dear Professor Trimillos,

I trust that this finds you doing well after the excitement of the conference and an entire year of celebrating the centennial.

The conference was a wonderful experience for me. When Professor Aquino asked me to participate, I knew it was a replacement for my brother whose dissertation and research focused on the Ilocos region. But she convinced me to join and I am so glad that she did. I met various scholars, including some from my hometown, Baguio.

I enjoyed being on the same panel with you. Would it be possible to get a copy of your paper? One thing you said that stuck with me is the concept of dancing with an accent. It reminded me of a conference on Philippines Studies in southern Italy in 1998. There were about six Japanese undergrads who were studying with Joi Barrios at Oai Dai University. They were studying Tagalog and learning various Filipino folk dances as well. They performed some of those dances and there was something different about it, a certain stiffness. Later, my wife commented that their movements were reminiscent of anime, and she was right. They were, to use your phrase, dancing with an accent.

You mentioned that you would be coming to UCLA sometime in the spring. Please let me know and perhaps we can have lunch—my treat.

Take care,

Damon L. Woods
Jan. 20, 2007

Dr. Belinda Aquino  
Chair, International Conference on  
the Hawaii Filipino Centennial  
Honolulu, Hawaii

Dear Lindy:

Just a note to tell you how much I appreciated participating in the Philippine Studies-sponsored conference. I thought I knew a lot about Filipinos in the U.S., but I'd never heard of the Hanapepe Massacre, for instance, and I've spent so much time in Hawaii including those years in the 1960s. Tom Coffman's film, Nation Within, presented in another panel, on the end of the Hawaiian monarchy, fleshed out the antiseptic details we've always taught.

I think my panel went well - brought some new people into Philippine Studies. Bill (Richter) finally got to use his work with the Library of Congress on his panel on "Archiving/Preserving Filipino Culture."

Sorry, I haven't written sooner, but we went home to finals, which when graded allowed us to escape winter in Florida until the 16th.

Hope you got some rest between semesters.

Aloha!

Linda K. Richter  
Professor

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**Note from Stephanie Castillo**

Thank you for all your support & believing in me & my work! I so appreciate it!

Stephanie

Emmy Awardee Stephanie Castillo, Hawaii-based Filipino-American artist and filmmaker delivered the opening lecture showing parts of her two documentaries, *Remember the Boys* and *Strange Land*, specially produced for the Filipino Centennial.
Appendix C

THE CONFERENCE AS CAPTURED BY PHOTOS

Keynote speaker Ah Quon McElrath (left) being introduced by conference chair Belinda Aquino during the Opening Ceremonies (Dec. 15, 2006). Photo by Linda Richter.

Participants registering at Ala Moana Hotel, Dec. 14, 2006. This photo and subsequent ones were taken by Romy Aquino.

Left photo: Michigan participants Necie Aquino (right) and Judith Samonte during lunch break.
Right photo: The Smithsonian Singgolot exhibit curated by Dean Alegado at UH Hamilton Library, with Romy Aquino on the foreground.
Former Hawaii Gov. Ben Cayetano with participants during the Closing Ceremonies (Dec. 17, 2006).

*Left photo:* U.S. mainland participants Paul Kramer and Jorge Emmanuel during conference recess.

Members of the Hawaii Filipino Centennial Celebration Commission and Kauai officials led by Mayor Brian Baptiste at the unveiling of the Hanapepe massacre marker. The massacre was the topic of a conference panel.
UH professor Terry Ramos and Eastern Michigan Univ professor Ric Samonte conversing.

Right photo: Panelists Ric Trimillos, Belinda Aquino, Damon Woods and Mila Alcazaren discussing Philippine history and culture.

Center for Philippine Studies
University of Hawai‘i at Manoa
and
FILIPINO CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION COMMISSION
Honolulu, Hawai‘i

The University of Hawai‘i System
UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI‘I AT MĀNOA

April 19, 2007
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