Confronted today by complex and unprecedented issues, scholars on the Philippines need to respond in ways that not only unsettle many of the assumptions that continue to shape knowledge production in and about the Philippines, but also reframe and extend the scope of scholarly engagement. For this reason, the construct “Philippine Studies” needs to be seen less as a confined area of academic interest (with all its associated debates and controversies) and more as a strategic point of convergence for an inclusive range of scholarly endeavors.

As the leading umbrella organization of scholars on the Philippines (and things Filipino), the Philippine Studies Association (PSA) is committed to creating opportunities for the scholarly community to address this general challenge.

In this regard, the Association is organizing a national conference from 12-14 November 2014 to be held at the National Museum of the Philippines, the City of Manila.

Participants from all disciplinary areas are welcome, including traditional Philippine Studies areas, as well as applied and developmental areas. Also welcome are participants with specialized knowledge on areas of continuing importance, such as, but certainly not limited to, the Philippine economy and the problem of inequality, prospects for reform in Philippine public life, the peace process, and the anticipated as well as demonstrated effects of global climate change on the country.

A special invitation is being extended to scholars whose abstracts were accepted for the 2012 ICOPHIL-9 conference in Michigan but who, for one reason or another, were not able to attend the said conference and present their papers.

All papers, to include those originally submitted for ICOPHIL-9, should be original works that have not been published or presented elsewhere. Most panels will run for 2 hours, including at least 30 minutes for audience discussion. Conference paper abstracts and panel proposals will be vetted by the Program and Review Committee based in Manila, and should be addressed to:

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Suggested themes for both individual paper and panel presentations:

Transforming politics: Prospects for constitutional reform, democratic citizenship, and ICT-enabled governance

Civil society, social movements, and democratic values in the age of social media

Disasters and calamities: Risk reduction, recovery, and rehabilitation

The other dimensions of climate change: Political economy, anthropology, and sociology

Media ethics, media literacy, and freedom of information

Exporting the "Filipino": Telenovelas, noontime shows, and music

The promise of Philippine cinema

Engaging the Filipino diaspora(s)

Exploring the indigenous

Understanding the peace process in Mindanao

ASEAN 2015: Prospects and pitfalls

Maritime flashpoints in the South China Sea and the East China Sea

Economic growth and chronic inequality: Aquino’s legacy?

Investigating official corruption: Revisiting “daang matuwid”

Art initiatives in crisis situations

 Tradition and change in Philippine arts

Reforming Philippine education: Trends and travails

Philippine studies: Assessing the state of the field

Please Note:

1. The PSA Review Committee is also open to submissions from the applied sciences, engineering, sports, and tourism.

2. The regular conference registration fee is PhP 3,500.00 for Filipinos and US$ 150 for foreign participants, with a 10% discount for those who will pay the PSA membership fee of P750.00. A discounted “early bird” rate of PhP 2,500 is also available until 12 September 2014.

3. Submission of abstracts and panel proposals: 1 May 2014

4. Notice of acceptance: 1 July 2014

5. Submission of conference paper and PowerPoint presentations (where applicable): 15 October 2014