

Regional Advisory No. 130, s. 2021



October 18, 2021

In compliance with DepEd Order (DO) No. 8, s. 2001,
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INVITATION TO JOIN THE 7th MINDANAO PEACE STUDIES CONFERENCE

Father Saturnino Urios University (FSUU) will be hosting the seventh installment of the Mindanao Peace Studies Conference (MPSC7) with the theme **Keeping Peace in Mindanao**. The event will be live-streamed through the official FB page of FSUU on November 22-24, 2021.

In line with this, The MPSC7 is inviting paper presenters. The submission of proposals is extended until October 30, 2021. Please see attached call to paper information bulletin.

For more details, please contact 085-3421830 local 4102 or email at mpsc@urios.edu.ph.

For your information and guidance

HRD/ea/c
10/18/2021



2021-10-13026

DCC No. DepEdRO13-F-REC-008/R3/2-18-2020



MINDANAO

PEACE STUDIES CONFERENCE

November 22-24, 2021



CALL FOR PAPERS

Theme:
Keeping and Sharing Peace in Mindanao

The year 2021 commemorates the quincentenary of the first global circumnavigation marking the coming of the Spanish colonizers and missionaries, and the initial resistance at the battle of Mactan that resulted in the death of Fernando Magallanes in April 1521. Set against the backdrop of this historical drama and other narratives of resistance, negotiation or acceptance, we reflect on conflict transformation and peacebuilding today and hope to thresh out lessons, acknowledge the violence of colonization while at the same time highlight stories of peacebuilding. This context is also significant to the Father Saturnino Urios University because the institution sees itself as continuing the legacy of peacebuilding of its founder Fr. Urios who is regarded as the apostle of the Agusan.

Given this overall historical ambit of this year's conference, academics, advocates, peace practitioners are given the opportunity to share and reflect on frameworks, narratives and practices of peacebuilding that will contribute to the overall thrust of keeping and sharing peace in Mindanao. Conversations on **frameworks** of reading and interpreting historical facts are essential in order to unmask revisionist agenda while articulating historical injustices that may help provide impulse in transforming present day conflicts. Corollary to this is the need to discuss frameworks of identity formation and knowledge construction from postcolonial and/or decolonial perspectives to go beyond 'imported' epistemologies towards stimulating indigenous capacities and resources for conflict transformation. Decolonial epistemics is intended to also provide the Filipino youth a chance at familiarizing themselves with the dynamics of "soft" colonization present in cultural homogenization present in the globalized information, communication and social media platforms.

Sharing of stories and **narratives** of conflict and their transformation can be a very effective method in keeping and sharing peace. Grand narratives supported by ideologies tend to mute and delete the stories on the ground. In creating spaces for peace, stories and narratives of peacebuilding and conflict resolution create lasting impact among stakeholders. Sharing of stories creates opportunities to empower those who are most affected by conflict, especially youth belonging to vulnerable groups such as IP communities. Through stories, participants in the peacebuilding process articulate and ascribe the most pressing issues and the most meaningful approaches towards peacebuilding. Narratives on the ground are also tools that can greatly benefit the young to counter disinformation and fake news as we move inevitably towards digital peacebuilding.

Peace is not just a stage in history or an instance of ending the undesired condition of conflict and violence. It is a dynamic process that involves **practices** that create and support the infrastructure for peacebuilding (Lederach, Building Peace, 1997: 84-85). This involves forging relationships, creating structures and processes that support peacebuilding. In Mindanao, this is concretized in the creation of the BARMM; Semi and non-government initiatives and other dialogical practices initiated by various sectors including the religious serving the IPs and conflict affected communities. Peace education and digital peace initiatives are important practices that need emphasis as they provide the youth tools to discern violent and conflictive narratives and empower them to be active participants in the on-going task of conflict transformation.

With the above-mentioned points, paper proposals maybe submitted on these topics or topics relevant and related to the following:

- Colonization and Pacification
- Religion and colonization
- Resistance, engagement, erasure and other dynamics of cultural encounters
- Narratives of injustice, violence and peacebuilding
- Fr. Saturnino Urios and Mindanao Missions: Appraisals and Reflections
- Gender and Intersectionality: narratives of peace and conflict
- Interreligious encounters, liminal and sub-altern discourses
- Decolonial epistemologies
- Local and Indigenous resources of conflict transformation
- Negotiating common truths and common grounds amidst cultural diversity
- Digital Peacebuilding
- Peace Education
- Cultural Intelligence and Multicultural Navigation of Educators
- Narratives and practices of Peacebuilding during COVID-19 Pandemic
- Resilience-building and Public safety in communities for Peace-Building during Pandemic
- Countering disinformation and fake news
- Conflict sensitive use of digital platforms
- Inclusive youth leadership in a Multicultural context

Accepted paper proposals will be delivered in breakout sessions during the Peace Conference. The length of proposals may be between **250-300 words**.

The **Deadline for Submission** is on **October 10, 2021** through **Email** at mpsc@urios.edu.ph.

For more inquiries:
Email: mpsc.secretariat@urios.edu.ph Call: (085) 342-1830 local 4102

