

## FOREWORD

With this issue, the *Philippine Political Science Journal* is back in circulation. There are a number of reasons for the moribund state of the *Journal* since 1983. Much of it is because of financial difficulties. The subsidy granted to the *Journal* by the National Science and Development Board (the forerunner of the present Department of Science and Technology) had been discontinued and the subscription fees of the members of the Philippine Political Science Association could not cope with the rising costs of publication. Philippine political scientists were also preoccupied with the volatile political situation during the intervening period. Many of the political scientists, like the other social scientists, were heavily involved in policy advocacy and political activism which were designed to help bring about a change in the Marcos regime. That momentous change finally took place in February 1986 at the Edsa "revolution". But the Edsa affair has not really brought about the fundamental changes that were expected by the participants of that event. Many of the issues during the past regime have been carried over to the present. In this issue of the *Journal*, the reader will thus get a glimpse of some of these continuing issues.

The article by Dr. Remigio E. Agpalo, "Marcos vs. Manglapus" focuses on the erstwhile debate on whether former President Marcos and his wife should be allowed to return to the country. The issue became moot and academic in the case of Mr. Marcos who passed away on 28 September 1989. Still, the debate on whether the Aquino Administration is justified or not in refusing the return of the Marcoses continued. The debate was expected to be settled by the Supreme Court but as Dr. Agpalo points out the court's decision has shifted the debate to another plane.

Carmencita Aguilar's "The Sugar Bloc: Problems and Opportunities" focuses on a powerful interest group which in the past had played a vital role in determining the outcome of Philippine politics. As the market for Philippine sugar has become volatile, so have the fortunes and prospects of the sugar bloc become uncertain. The article provides us with some data and analysis on the prospects of the sugar bloc.

Emmanuel Lallana's article on "Political Parties, Political Clans and the Prospects for Philippine Democracy," attempts to look at the changing composition and strategies of political parties since the restoration of Philippine elections under the Constitution of 1987. It remains to be seen

whether the newly restored democracy will survive the seemingly unchanging traditional political powerplay that had existed up to 1972.

A new theme that has been emerging in Philippine politics and administration is the feminist movement. In this issue, the *Journal* presents two articles on this theme. Belinda A. Aquino's "Women in the Workplace" focuses on the problem of sexual harassment in the United States. Socorro L. Reyes' article, "Legislation on Women's Issues in the Philippines," takes a look at the new Philippine Congress and whether there is an emerging feminist consciousness among legislators.

The last two articles in the *Journal* presents readers with a review article by Joaquin L. Gonzalez and book notes by Cecilia Hidalgo focusing on Philippine government and politics.

Finally, we reproduce the recently adopted "Code of Ethics for Social Scientists." This was drafted under the auspices of the Philippine Social Science Council and can be traced to the experiences of social scientists during the past regime. The Code seeks to provide guidelines for social scientists on how to carry out their professional work under a regime that may attempt to co-opt them for its own purposes.

All in all it can be seen that Philippine political science continues to survive even though it struggles with the meager resources and competing demands for its services, i.e. academic, scholarly policy analysis and advocacy, and even political activism. The Editorial Board hopes that with this return of the *Journal*, our subscribers will also renew their support for it. With more support, the *Journal* may yet be able to come out with its back issues and close the gap between the last number in 1982 and the present one.

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Editor