

PBRC-SPONSERED SUMMER 2013 STUDENT ACTIVITIES

QUEZON, PHILIPPINES



Mabuhay from Quezon City, Philippines!

By Ian Osburn and Angelica Habulan

After over forty years of armed conflict, the Philippine south might finally realize peaceful relations with the national government. The Muslim Filipino (Moro) struggle has taken on many faces, from the leftist Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) leadership, to the more religious Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF). This summer, Ian Osburn and Angelica Habulan, International Studies majors at SUA, received a PBRC grant to study the conflict from an angle rarely explored, the perspective of the military and the Christian north. Through their research, the students hope to understand how the majority see the conflict waged by the Muslim minority. They spent many hours in the National Library as well as the libraries of Ateneo de Manila University, University of the Philippines, where they have been working on coding local newspapers covering a span of over fifteen years.

Angelica is a Filipino citizen with a background in Philippine history, but seeks to understand the rich history of the Philippine south. Through this research grant, she developed a deeper knowledge of the MILF issue that has divided her country for decades. For Ian, this trip was his

first time in a developing country, providing him with firsthand experience in Southeast Asia.

Ian and Angelica would like to thank the Center whose generous funding has made this project possible. The PBRC staff has provided guidance crucial to the development and direction of this study. From both of us, thank you and *paalam!*



Student Awards

The PBRC provides summer grants to SUA students on a competitive basis to travel to conferences, institutes, workshops, or to conduct field research in developing countries.

2012-13 Award Recipients

- Angelica Habulan
- Yukio Ichinose
- Nobuku Kuroda

Leia Marasovich

Kenichi Obata

Ian Osburn

Eri Tamura

Akiko Toya