

The Network Newsletter

SOUTHEAST ASIA - GERMAN SUMMER SCHOOL 2005 AND BEYOND

SS 2005 Newsletter No. 2, April 2006 Issue



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EDITORIAL

The Philippine partners of the Summer School 2005, (namely: Ms. Imelda Barrios Baleta, Ms. Imma Rae Gatuslao, Mr Horacio Factura, Dr. Robert Holmer, and Dr. Anselmo Mercado), are pleased to present this Second Newsletter of the Summer School 2005. It was only last January 2006 that we received our First Newsletter initiated by Ms. Adiyanti Sutandyo-Bucholz of Indonesia with help from our German partners. It was from their initiative and from their example of commitment and service that our Newsletter had “taken off the ground” and had flown to all our mailboxes. They also did a very fine job with the first Newsletter. We hope that this Second Newsletter will at least match the standard they had set for us to follow.

We invited our partners from the other countries to send any article they might wish to share in the Newsletter. Perhaps they were just so busy doing their primary tasks and responsibilities that they could not find time to share with us an article, or even just a line or two, for our Newsletter. Hence, the articles here are mainly from experiences and projects in the Philippines. The short write-up by Dr. Robert Holmer is about: (1) the expanding “allotment gardens” in Cagayan de Oro City, (2) the PUDSEA (Peri-urban Development in South East Asia) local network meeting in Cagayan de Oro, Philippines, and the bigger international network meeting in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. There is also an article about “Ecosan Toilets” sent by “Em-EM” Gatuslao, not written by her, but by a local journalist. I have a short poem about the City of Cagayan de Oro which I wrote sometime in February 2006.

Fresh from the Department of Geography, University of Cologne, is the publication of the Southeast Asian – German Summer School 2005 entitled “Urban and Peri-Urban Developments: Structures, Processes and Solutions.” I just received several copies of this publication sent by Ms Christine Knie through a personal courier, Dr. Robert Holmer, when they were in the PUDSEA network meeting in Phnom Penh. I thought it was very timely to put some excerpts from the editor’s Preface of this publication in our Newsletter.

We also included some photos I took during our Summer School 2005 in Cologne to bring back pleasant memories that we shared together. One of the most memorable moments was the last fellowship dinner we held in the very classroom where we had our academic discussions. We recall -- the classroom was ingenuously converted hastily into a party venue, with party decorations, bringing a party atmosphere, with good food and drinks, music, a happy company of participants, resource persons and some guests, and a short half-planned-half-spontaneous closing program. That was really very nice to end a Summer School that was academically rich, blended with practical excursions and run by a humanely caring staff. At that dinner we sang a song (to the tune of “Oh Susana”) that we composed relating our experiences. We dedicated the song to our wonderful hosts and Summer School staff led by Prof. Dr Kraas, Christine, Kirsten and Gerrit. I have included the copy of that song in our Newsletter.

We hope you will enjoy this Second Newsletter. We look forward to the Third!

EXCERPTS FROM THE PREFACE OF THE PUBLICATION “URBAN AND PERI-URBAN DEVELOPMENT: STRUCTURES, PROCESSES AND SOLUTIONS” (Department of Geography, University of Cologne, Germany, 16-29 October 2005)

By Ms. Christine Knie (Editor)

In the context of increasing globalization, worldwide processes of urbanization are of growing significance to university research and teaching, especially with regard to development policy and economic cooperation. Cities and metropolises have to be regarded as areas of economic and social potential as well as areas with considerable ecological and socio-economic challenges. ...

Within this framework, the Summer School has been used as an instrument to make an active contribution to the North-South-South dialogue in the conflict-ridden field of worldwide urbanization. With the financial support of the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) and the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) more than 20 experts ... from Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines...Thailand and Vietnam came to Germany and joined the 14-day Summer School programme at the Department of Geography, Cologne University, under the supervision of Pr. Dr. Frauke Kraas.

The pool of expertise and knowledge in the field of urban and peri-urban development led to an intensive dialogue and exchange of different experiences and viewpoints of political, religious or cultural nature. Accompanied by various excursions in the urban and peri-urban regions of Cologne, Bonn and Dusseldorf lively discussions with more than 35 presentations took place. Besides problem-oriented discussions of urbanization, its structures, processes and solutions, the colleagues presented examples of best practices in study programmes and development cooperation and exchanged and elaborated new ideas of future net-working.

We are grateful to DAAD and BMZ for their financial support which gave us the opportunity to host the Summer School here at the University of Cologne as well as to publish this volume containing a number of conference papers, programmes and abstracts of presentations and a review of the workshop written by one of the participants.

‘EcosanToilet’ Closes the Loop of the Waste Cycle

by Ian A. Fuentes

(City Information Office, Cagayan de Oro City)

At first glance, it may look like an ordinary nipa hut but you will be amazed to know that it is actually a toilet that sits behind a garden of full-grown vegetables and other agricultural crops. Curiously, you will wonder why a toilet is being constructed inside a beautiful, lush and green garden. What a stupid idea, you may think. You’ll probably ask - What’s the purpose behind its presence? What about its negative effects on the environment? How about the toxic contamination on the vegetables and crops and the underground water? How about the foul smell? Wouldn’t the toilet stink? These are some of the many questions that will come to your mind.

The small toilet is not an ordinary toilet, it is actually a “special” one. Inaugurated recently in the allotment garden in Macasandig, Cagayan de Oro City, this toilet is the ecological sanitation “ecosan” toilet which allows humans to reuse human waste into fertilizer, “closing the loop,” so to speak, of the waste cycle. The waste will be treated using tried and tested European technology, and will be used to fertilize fruit trees in the allotment garden.

When Vice Mayor Michelle Tagarda-Spiers was told to represent City Mayor Vicente Y. Emano during its turnover and inauguration last week, she was struck in disbelief upon learning that the affair that she would be gracing was the inauguration of a toilet. “I even had to look up the dictionary to double check if the word toilet has another meaning,” the lady vice-mayor admitted. But a toilet she did inaugurate together with the city’s project partners – the German Technology Center or GTZ represented by Andreas Kanzier (the program manager), Dr. Robert J. Holmer (director of the Peri-urban Vegetable Project, PUVeP) of Xavier University, who also represented Karin de Guerrero (development councilor of the German Embassy-Manila); Macasandig barangay chairman Aaron Neri; Dr. Anselmo B. Mercado (Outreach Program director of Xavier Science Foundation), and Mansueto Cadete (Macasandig allotment gardeners president). “This is the first toilet I’ve ever seen with a marker on it,” Spiers said in jest after the ceremonial ribbon cutting and unveiling of the project’s marker.

On a serious note, the vice mayor expressed the city’s gratefulness and appreciation that Cagayan de Oro has been chosen as Mindanao’s first recipient of the ecosan toilet project. “This is a revolutionary endeavor using new technology that allows us to reuse something which we traditionally think of as waste already,” Vice Mayor Spiers stressed, referring to the project’s concept and technology.

The ecosan toilet in the area is not only an innovative way at reusing human waste. It is also a technology that keeps human waste from seeping into the ground water level, thus, protecting our main water source from contamination. It aims to improve urban environmental and hygienic situation and support the food security program of the city government’s peri-urban development project.

For his part, Barangay (local government) chairman Neri vowed his all-out support to the project and bared his plans to replicate the ecosan toilet in some areas of Barangay Macasandig where a public toilet is still absent. Though admitting that it will take a lot of time and enormous effort to educate the people to accept the idea of the project, he is optimistic that community members will realize the positive impact of the project in the maintenance and sustainability of their allotment garden.

Aside from Macasandig, three other barangays will be tapped for the establishment of ecosan toilets because of the presence of allotment gardens in their respective areas. These barangays will be Carmen, Gusa and Lapasan. “The establishment of the ecosan toilet is a commendable project that the German Embassy is proud to support as it aims to improve the environmental and hygienic situation of the urban poor in the area,” Dr. Holmer quoted Karin Jahr de Guerrero, development councilor of the German Embassy-Manila. “We consider it a special project as it is a result of our financial assistance and the Germany Embassy appreciates your untiring efforts in looking for ways to improve the lives of poor Filipinos and contributing to a better environment,” the top German official concluded as she thanked everyone who contributed to the successful completion of the project.

To ensure its appropriate usage, staff from Xavier Science Foundation, who were earlier trained by the Swedish-based Stockholm Environmental Institute, will closely monitor the process, especially on the safe application to limited crops and vegetables in the allotment garden of Macasandig. Now, the implementers are busy in their active and continuing education and awareness campaign on the technology to ensure that the process is correctly applied, and communities accept it. They know fully well that even as the new technology closes the loop of the waste cycle, it will still be a well-informed community and brave implementers who will make this loop come full circle. Then and only then will the small nipa hut of a toilet mean a lot more to the residents and our environment. Just a toilet, it won't be.

Expansion of Allotment Gardens in Cagayan de Oro City

Dr. Robert Holmer

Last October 2005, during the Summer School in Cologne there were just four allotment gardens existing in Cagayan de Oro City. Meanwhile, a fifth allotment garden for 23 urban poor families has been inaugurated in barangay Kauswagan last January 18, 2006 and a 6th allotment garden is presently being set-up in another city district. Further, the German Embassy Manila has recently approved the expansion of an existing garden which is predominantly taken care of by garbage picker families of the city landfill site. In this garden, a small piggery will also be established to avail the gardeners of additional income. In addition, with financial assistance of the German Embassy allotment gardens will be set up in two elementary schools of the city which will be managed by community members to improve the nutritional status of the school children. All of the gardens will be equipped with so-called ecological sanitation toilets. With all of these developments, the number of families engaged in allotment gardening is expected to reach 90 by end of the year.

More info: www.puvep.com/allotment_garden.htm
www.puvep.com/ecosan.htm

Philippine PUDSEA Meeting Conducted

Last March 22, 2006, the Philippine members of the PUDSEA network conducted a meeting at SEARSOLIN. It was participated by 8 staff members of Cagayan de Oro city government representing different department, 7 faculty and staff of Xavier University College of Agriculture as well and six students. The objectives were (1) to formally organize the partnership between city government, Xavier University and urban poor communities, (2) to come up with plans for joint activities and (3) to strengthen the linkage of the PUDSEA network in the Philippines and in Southeast Asia.

Among the suggestions on how to strengthen linkages in Cagayan de Oro were:

- Joint researches and development projects (such as solid waste management, food processing and packaging)

- Develop joint strategies to get funding support to sustain and expand existing projects such as the allotment gardens and similar
- Policy development to support urban/peri-urban development issues
- On-the-job trainings of XU students at City Hall
- Tap Xavier University staff as experts for certain activities of the city government such as assisting in the “Lakbay Aral” (City Tourism) program for exposures of allotment gardens and ecosan projects

It was further proposed to link up with international partner agencies of PUVeP through

- Technology transfer (i.e. lactobacillus treatment of fresh vegetables and others);
- Publications
- Cross visits to partners (South-South exchange)
- Student and staff exchange programs (i.e. GIS city hall staff visits Regional Planning Authority in Yogyakarta)
- Human Resources Development through academic courses (South-North; South-South) a technical short term courses (South-North; South-South) with possible funding through Inwent, DAAD and other agencies.
- Joint projects

More info: www.pudsea.net

PUDSEA Network Conducts 8th International Workshop in Phnom Penh

Dr. Robert Holmer

The PUDSEA network conducted its 8th International Workshop “The Challenges of Peri-Urban Development in South-East Asia” from March 26 to April 1, 2006 in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. It was hosted by the Royal University of Agriculture (RUA) with financial assistance of the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) and participated by representatives of the Gadjia Mada University and the Regional Planning Authority of Yogyakarta (Indonesia), the Kasetsart University (Thailand), Xavier University College of Agriculture and the city government of Cagayan de Oro (Philippines), Justus-Liebig-University Giessen, Albert-Ludwigs-University Freiburg, University of Cologne (all Germany), Nebraska Wesleyan University (USA) as well as from the Royal University of Agriculture and the Ministry for Land Management, Phnom Penh (Cambodia).

Among the activities conducted were presentations about different urban and periurban topics of Cambodia, field trips and interactions with urban and periurban poor communities of Phnom Penh, including the visit to the Phnom Penh landfill site and an adjacent composting facility. It was further discussed on how to strengthen the existing linkages between partners and to sustain the network through joint projects, such as expanding the allotment garden model to other Southeast Asian countries and transferring the knowledge on postharvest treatment of vegetables from Indonesia and marketing (‘Q-shops’) from Thailand to the other countries.

Further, activities for the next meeting in Yogyakarta in November 2006 were discussed, which will include a youth camp. Three students from the Philippines, Thailand and Indonesia had several workshop sessions with their Cambodian counterparts and developed strategies on how to cooperate closer in the future through internet fora and possible student exchanges.

A visit to Cheung Ek Genocide Memorial, where 9000 skulls excavated from the adjacent mass graves are displayed, deeply affected all the participants as it showed the incredible sufferings of the Cambodian people during the communist Pol Pot regime. Almost 3 million out of an overall population of 7 million died in just a few years. It helped the participants to comprehend the extreme difficult socioeconomic conditions that Cambodia had and still has to endure since almost all intellectuals, including teachers were killed during this time.

That the PUDSEA conference was held in Cambodia was a direct output of the Southeast Asian Summer School in Cologne where Prof. Dr. Axel Drescher proposed this idea to Mr. Phann Sithan and Dr. Jan-Peter Mund. Both of them superbly organized this conference as recognized by all the participants who appreciated especially the warm hospitality of their Cambodian hosts

Email: puvep@philcom.ph

Website: <http://www.puvep.com>

About A Lady and Solid Waste – What Meaning Has It For Us?

Adiyanti Sutandyo-Buchholz

There was a place at a peri--urban area of Jakarta (Indonesia) where a middle-aged lady managed a waste business in a temporary waste disposal for about 2 ha large. Every day came 20 to 30 trucks loaded with organic and inorganic solid waste, meaning until 30 tons waste daily. Recyclable waste, mostly material made of plastic, was sorted and sold. She supervised 50 employees; most of them were male workers.

This illiterate lady, yet with many ideas to develop her business, managed the waste disposal since three years in amiably way, fairness and care to her employees. She built a well and simple huts for her workers and medical support for the sick employees. Apart of that this female chief afforded and gave her employees a chance for a credit of motorcycles without any supports from a bank. There were no conflicts, neither with the neighbours, nor with the local administrator during running of her business.

“Machonism” and “thuggery” (connected to hoodlum and extortion) which is often related to crimes highlight the hard life of waste business. A female manager like this lady in the waste business for Indonesian culture, which is still dominated by still strong patriarchal society, is not a common condition.

Anyway, the role of women in dealing with solid waste is not appreciated as a big potential which is able to motivate community in solving problems of waste and yet considering waste as resource.

In some places in Indonesia, for example, there are some activities which are initiated by most housewives. In kitchens they divide between organic and inorganic waste in separate bags. They sell recycled garbage, such as paper, tins and bottles to (private) waste collectors. Or else instead of selling, they make bags or handcrafts from this kind of garbage. Through a simple technique they make compos from organic waste and either they use it for their own

plants or sell to the next farmer. They organise, normally under the direction of the spouse of the neighbourhood unit's leader, an annual competition for all ages with topics of environment awareness. It is very common in Indonesia that there is a weekly-religion-meeting in a neighbourhood unit which is mainly organised and attended by women. In this meeting they have time to chat and discuss their ideas, among others about how to manage waste in their neighbourhood.

Hence, what does the topic above mean for us as scientists, educators or state/local administrators? What kind of actions could we do to make the community aware for a healthier environment? One approach is through roles of women, at least at the level of a community unit. Their role to deal with (household's) garbage should be socialised and recognised in the society. It means this habit should not be only the matters of women and children but also men and young generation.

As government officer we could support such kind of women activities in our district, either through providing facilities for their activities or financing support. As educators perhaps we can arrange a study related to the role of gender, which is at the same time to enhance environment awareness of students. For example a field study as a practical experience which support public servant projects in waste management through activities in households and neighbourhood. As researchers we may perhaps think about alternative options to solve problems of waste in research area by developing a simple method or technique to recycle waste. (Source: *Personal field report 2004 and Peri-urban Dynamic Journal Vol. II, Nov. 2005, ITI*)

A POEM

CAGAYAN DE ORO: A “MODEL” CITY

Anselmo B. Mercado

For decades I have lived in Cagayan de Oro City.
Growing in and with it, I've seen its continual novelty.
The city has charms a-plenty –
peaceful, progressive, endowed with nature's bounty.
It's northern boundary is shaped by calm Macajalar bay,
with beaches along its eastern and western coast way.
At the south part, near and distant, are hills of scenic beauty.
To build a home, raise a family – this is my kind of a city.

Churches are numerous, vibrant and alive,
serving the multitude who are spiritually responsive.
Educational institutions are many and competitive,
offering scholastic programs and standards that are varied,
molding the young and educating the intellectually active.
Business enterprises, big and small, cater to serve;
many thrive, others struggle to survive, some take a dive.
These and many more make the city luring and attractive.

The city has quite a distinct and unique culture – friendly, ready-to-please-others is a Kagayanon nature. “A City of Golden Friendship” Cagayan is noted for. A strong sense of community is also a Kagayanon character. “Kapayason” (a sense of pride) is a Kagayanon trait for sure. Its openness and appeal have made the city grow much more, putting grave pressures on its system of infrastructure, and creating major changes in the city’s life and culture.

A “model” city is watched by others to learn from. Cagayan has lots to offer, such as its awful traffic jams that test one’s temper and patience to stay calm. Effective, efficient traffic management has yet to come. “King-of-the-road” undisciplined drivers are a shame, like bees they swarm at an intersection and on a lane, their lack of road education gives the city a bad name. This “model” city has become embarrassingly a sham.

This “model” city teaches others another good lesson, especially on waste management and garbage collection. On sidewalks and roadsides waste and garbage are thrown, scavenger cats and dogs spread them all around until rundown government trucks make their round to collect them after days or weeks of stinky accumulation. This is Cagayan de Oro’s contribution to the body of knowledge about pollution.

Learn from the “model” city of Cagayan de Oro where vendors sell their wares on sidewalks with gusto. Residences and shops extend out into the sidewalks too, because the city government thinks this is the way to go to help the people especially the poor – a political lingo. No matter at what expense and the negative impact they do. No matter if they crowd out the streets and walkways too. This is a “model” city showing others what NOT to follow.

Cagayan de Oro’s territory includes the urban center extending to the outlying rural areas which are the greater. People eke out a living from the land and forests there. Much of the forests are gone, an environmental disaster. Rural areas and people do not get much attention and care. They’re not priority except during an election year. Rural roads and the transport system are unkind to the traveler. Rural schools, water system, health care are as bad as ever.

I am hopeful, in time, in spite of the current situation,
will emerge a leadership we can have faith and trust upon.
It cannot come from a government administration
whose leadership notion is to be a sweet-talking politician.
The city badly needs a government that has great vision,
with genuine principles, guts and effective implementation,
to make it a real model and a GREAT city beyond question,
progressive, green, clean, beautiful and peaceful to live in.



Aerial View of Cagayan de Oro City

The Southeast Asian Summer School Song 2005

Lovingly dedicated to Prof. Kraas, Christine, Gerrit and all the professors and other helpers

We left our hearts
In the city of Köln,
The people are very nice
And they are also very kind.
And very generous.

Oh Christine, Oh Oh Kirsten,
we all love you very much for treating us so well.
We all love you very much for treating us so well.

We have a very good Summer School
It's very well organized.
They bring us on excursions,
even through the rain,
And they treat us to very good lunch,
but very, very late.

Oh Prof. Kraas, Oh Oh Gerrit,
We all love you very much for treating us so well.
We all love you very much for treating us so well.

We wish for another Summer School in Germany,
Or in Cambodia, Malaysia, or Indonesia.
We also like in the Philippines or in Vietnam,
We also like in Thailand or anywhere else.

Oh Christine, Oh Oh Kirsten,
We all love you very much for treating us so well,
Oh Prof. Kraas, Oh Oh Gerrit,
We all love you very much for treating us so well.

We left our hearts in the city of Köln.



***Filipino participants with Ms.Christine,
Prof. Dr. Kraas & Ms.Kirsten Moller, Oct. 28/05***

The Southeast Asia-German Summer School 2005 in PICTURES



Lunch at the dining hall, Koln University, Oct. 17'05



The daily train ride to and from the hotel/school, Oct. 18/05



Excursion with Prof. Dr. Josef Nipper in downtown Cologne, Oct. 18/05



Monny's pose with Beethoven, at Beethoven Plaza in Bonn, Oct. 20/05



A street scene at downtown Bonn, October 20/05



A street scene at Bonn City during an excursion with Prof. Dr. Gunter Thieme, Oct 20/05



☞ *Prof. Dr. Kraas facilitating at the presentation of Ms. “Em-Em” Gatuslao, Oct. 22/05*

Prof. Dr. Kraas facilitating at Ms. Imelda (“ Little Sunshine”), Oct. 22/05 ☞



☞ *The presentation of Ms. Adi (“Charming Eyes”), Oct. 22/05*



☞ *Dr. Johannes Hambaber giving an orientation of Koln University and the Dept. of Geography, Koln University, Oct. 18/05*



A 'sweet break' at the Chocolate Museum, City of Koln, Oct. 23/05



☞ *The imposing Great Dom of Cologne, October 23/05*



☛ *A sumptuous lunch with Prof. Dr. Helmut Schneider & the Summer School coordinator Ms. Christine Knie, in a restaurant in Dusseldorf, Oct. 24/05*



☛ *Supper w/ our Muslim participants at a restaurant in Koln, Oct. 25/05*



☛ *The handsome Filipinos & German participants and friends having coffee at a restaurant in Koln, Oct. 26/05*



'Allotment Gardens' at the outskirts of Cologne, Oct. 27/05



Who's the fairest of them all? An outdoor photo in a park at the outskirts of Koln, October 27/05

"What are you doing?" while Prof. Kraas was lecturing? October 28/05



PERSONAL NOTES & MAIL

----- Original Message -----

From: เศรษฐสรรค์ ยงวณิชย์

Sent: Thursday, February 16, 2006 11:58 AM

Subject: Re: Second edition of the Network Newsletter?

Dear geographer/colleague,

Please help to pass this information on to other colleagues in your field/network/discipline.

Please visit <http://www.seaga.co.nr/> for details

SEAGA Conference 2006
Sustainability and Southeast Asia
28 to 30 Nov 2006
@ Nanyang Girls High School, Singapore

Special [Colloquium](#) for Educators on 29 Nov 2006

Jointly Organised by

SEAGA, the Southeast Asian Geography Association, celebrates its 16th year as an association of geographers and professionals in related fields like history, the geo and environmental sciences, urban planning and others in academia, education, government and the private sector in the region, in 2006. The SEAGA Conference 2006 is also the 8th conference that is being organised since the association was established in 1990.

SEAGA is inviting trans-disciplinary perspectives of sustainability from scholars, policy makers and entrepreneurs as well as researchers and teachers. The aim is to debate the progress which the Southeast Asian region has made towards sustainability. Such assessment concerns national governments, local processes in cities and the agricultural areas as well as the business sector. This debate should translate the concept of sustainability into terms relevant for all who have worked to advance the cause. Sustainability is however, a contested concept and there is an urgent need to provide the terms upon which citizens and governments alike, consumers and producers can engage effectively with processes of realising the goals that have been set.

Conference Theme

Sustainability and Southeast Asia is the conference theme in 2006 and we are inviting multidimensional perspectives of sustainability from scholars, policy makers and entrepreneurs as well as researchers and teachers. The aim of the conference is to debate the progress that has been made towards sustainability in the Southeast Asian region – by national governments, in cities and the agricultural areas and among its businesses. This debate should begin with the translation of the concept of sustainability into terms relevant for interested parties and vested interests. While recognising that sustainability is a contested concept, there is nonetheless the urgent need to provide the terms upon which citizens and governments alike, consumers and producers can engage effectively with processes of realising the goals set.

Second Call for Papers

This is a second call for papers on the following sub-themes within the larger area of sustainability in Southeast Asia. *Abstracts of papers are to be sent to SEAGA Conference Organising Committee at seaga@nie.edu.sg by 31 May 2006.*

from: [เสกสรรค์ ยงวณิชย์](#)

Sent: Sunday, March 19, 2006 7:22 AM

Subject: From Adi about Newsletter

Dear Adi and Ajan Lee

Thank you Adi that you are coordinator for our group.

Ajan Lee, how are you. I think you are also very busy. Our class finish last 3 weeks and I have to correct and give grades for students. I think it is very good from Adi that we try to be editor for Summer school news-letter.

sawatdee

sekson

From: [Adiyanti](#)

To: sekyon@kku.ac.th

Sent: Monday, March 20, 2006 11:21 PM

Subject: What a great response!

Dear Sekson

Thank you very much for your response. I am really glad for your positive response to the possibility of taking on the third Edition of our Newsletter. I believe, if Thailand (and I hope much that Malaysia too) agree to undertake the responsibility for the Newsletter in June, it would motivate the other participants of the Summer School 2005 to be active in the Newsletter as well.

I hope this year a Summer School 2006 will take place again, it does not matter where, either somewhere in Southeast Asia or in Germany. But I remember that Indonesian group offered us the opportunity to organise the next event in Indonesia and Jogjakarta respectively. For this I already sent an e-mail to my colleagues in Indonesia several days ago. Now I am waiting for their feed back. If the Indonesian group are ready to arrange the next Summer School, we could have some interesting materials for the fourth Edition of our Newsletter in September. Well, let us see then.

I wish you a nice day.

Take care!

Adi

Sometime ago, Dr Holmer wrote on email the following message. Yes, this should be interesting. Thank you Robert.

BoyM

=====

Dear All,

I encourage you to download the free Google Earth software (earth.google.com/download-earth.html). You have a satellite image of the whole globe and you can visit any place on the earth (such as) Cagayan de Oro City which can be nicely seen. You can easily identify the airport (of the city) and the SM (shopping mall) area.

I think it can also be helpful for some of the GIS lectures.

Enjoy

Robert Holmer

From: [Adiyanti](#)

Sent: Saturday, March 04, 2006 7:28 PM

Subject: From Adi

Dear Boy, Em-Em, Imelda

I was really glad to get Boy's e-mail with the willingness of "my dearly colleagues from the Philippines" to prepare the 2nd edition of the Newsletter. Thank you very much in advance, indeed!

How the Ecosan toilets work is very interesting. Will this project henceforth be converted in many places in Philippines?

Some ideas that maybe be considered for the 2nd edition:

1. What kind of activities funded by the DAAD can we accomplish up to May or June?
2. Which activities already done up to Dec.2005, are at the moment still ongoing or will be planned? --> Agendas of each country of participants.
3. Are there any new links in the meantime? Including your suggestion to set up a website in Yahoo for an internet communications.
4. Do you have interesting pictures/photos with explanations for the column "Chatting" (please see the 1st. edition, if you would like to put this column in the 2nd. edition)?
5. Whose turn for the third edition? --> It would be nice if in this edition we could already know who will like to anchor the 3rd edition, which should be issued in June. What do you think? I will ask all participants soon. Since Malaysia and Thailand are only "a single fighter ", it would be all right, in my opinion, if Lee and Sekson would like to join in preparing the Newsletter.

For contents of the number two maybe you can give a report about your project of an action research of the application of the "ABCD Approach". Partnership between SEARSOLIN, the Xavier Science Foundation and Canada. Sekson sent us an e-mail about SEAGA Conference 2006 in Singapore on 16 Feb (please see attachment). Maybe you can report it as well.

All The Best

Adi

SUSTAINABILITY

Anselmo B. Mercado

On one hand --

If we start wrongly on something,
the wrong will be continuing,
unless we do some correcting,
and strive to do the right thing,
to prevent further damaging.

On the other hand --

We may begin something rightly,
or do something correctly,
which may possibly go awry,
during a long run journey,
unless we aim for sustainability.

To be on the upper hand --

We must consistently be productive,
also be pro-active and innovative;
with an outlook that's positive,
qualities we should strive to live by and to give
in a world becoming more competitive.

Ultimately, we put ourselves in God's hand --

The Lord of creation, The Source of our motivation.
Sustainability, we know, looks for that long term vision,
not merely with shortsighted immediate gratification.
God surely provides us guidance and direction,
to the end of creation -- our Eternal Salvation.

JOKES

On marriages (taken from email) ---

Marriages are made in heaven. But, so are thunder and lightning.

If you want your wife to listen and pay strict attention to every word you say, talk in your sleep.

Married life can be very frustrating. In the first year of marriage, the man speaks and the woman listens. In the second year, the woman speaks and the man listens. In the third year, they both speak and the neighbors listen.

A man and woman are incomplete until they get married. After that, they are finished.

A long married couple came upon a wishing well. The wife leaned over, made a wish and threw in a penny. The husband decided to make a wish too. But he leaned over too much, fell into the well, and drowned. The wife was stunned for a moment but then smiled, "Wow! This stuff really works!"

Ah, yes, marriage is fascinating!!

However...(From Readers' Digest, March 2006) "Studies suggest that married men are less likely to have heart disease than single men; happily married women are less likely to develop heart disease than their unhappily married peers.

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More Jokes...

Have you heard of the song "Home on the Range"? The lyrics are:

"Oh give me a home, where the buffaloes roam, where the deer and the antelopes play. Where seldom is heard a discouraging word and the skies are not cloudy all day."

It's a very nice song. I like it. The animals are happy on the range until a tourist comes along and ruins the day for them.

From the Readers' Digest, March 2006, I read :

"Buffalo were roaming the range when a tourist passed by. "Those are the mangiest-looking beasts I've ever seen," he exclaimed. One buffalo turned to another and said, "I think I just heard a discouraging word."

Three guys were fishing when one of them hooked a mermaid. She promised to grant each of them a wish if they'd let her go. "It's a deal," the first fisherman said... "double my intelligence." Immediately he began to recite Shakespeare's *MacBeth*. The second guy exclaimed, "Triple my intelligence." Then he started spouting Einstein's equations on the theory of relativity. The third fisherman yelled, "Quintuple my intelligence!" "Are you sure?" the mermaid asked. "Just do it," the guy said. He closed his eyes to wait for the wish to be granted and – poof! – he became a woman. (Reader's Digest, March 2006)

A Prayer

By Anselmo B. Mercado

***We thank you, O Lord, for the people we meet.
We are grateful to you for the food we eat.
We thank you for the resources and facilities that give us a treat.
We are grateful to you for our hearts that continue to beat.***

***Lord, help us that our activities will deepen our friendship;
Our efforts will enrich our collaborative relationship.
May all these produce benefits for your people for theirs to keep.
How great you are, O Lord, You, we honor and worship.***

