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○ UPLAW

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Gender & Law

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE GENDER AND LAW WORKSHOP HELD ON MAY 11, 2009 AT THE MARCO POLO HOTEL IN CEBU CITY

The Gender & Law Forum was made possible by the Office of the Dean, UP College of Law with the goal of conducting a forum for exchange on teaching gender in the law curriculum. The forum included a sharing on the Model Syllabi integrating women's rights developed by Prof. Carolina S. Ruiz Austria and Dean Marvic Leonen in 2007-2008, with the support of UNIFEM.

Teaching and Talking about Gender in Law

Highlights of the Presentation

The gathering was intended to be a forum for sharing and feedback among those who are interested and doing work on gender and women's rights. In addition, the UNIFEM Project called CEDAW Legal Education and Gender Integrated Syllabus: Curriculum Review, Educational and Teaching Support Project or CEDAW-LEGIS CURRENTS model syllabi developed by Prof. Carolina S. Ruiz Austria under the project were presented. Prof. Ruiz Austria gave a background of the UNIFEM's collaborative work with the UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA, UN-HABITAT which make-up the UN Joint Program on the CEDAW Concluding Comments. In her main

presentation, she highlighted that 'Sex/Gender' are foundational in feminist analysis but while using the analysis to demonstrate women's subordinate status and position in society remains relevant, it has gone well beyond the male/female analysis of gender hierarchies. The three model syllabi integrating gender and women's rights were developed for the Gender and Law elective, the human rights elective and the core course on Persons and Family Relations. The gender and law website maintained by Prof. Ruiz Austria was also presented and a supplemental CD of resources was distributed to the participants.



Carolina S. Ruiz Austria,
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University of the Philippines

<http://genderandlaw.wordpress.com>



The presentations may be accessed at genderandlaw.wordpress.com.



The Participants and Guests

Dean Marvic M.V.F. Leonen, Prof. Elizabeth A. Pangalangan, Prof. Carolina R. Austria, Prof. Rowena V. Guanzon, Dr. Rhodora Bucoy, UP Cebu, Prof. Lourdes Barcenas, UP Cebu, Prof. Portia Dacanas, UP Cebu, Atty. Catherine Alvarez, UP Cebu/Univ. of Cebu College of Law, Dr. Rosario Asong, UP Iloilo, Atty. Magdalena Daymeg Lepiten, formerly from Children's Legal Bureau, Prof. Joan Sanieel, University of San Carlos College of Law, Liza, President, Legal Alternatives, Che, Children's Legal Bureau, Dean Estenzo, Univ. of Cebu College of Law Prof. Sophie Logarta



Resources from the Law Faculty

Several Faculty members of the UP College of Law share an interest in integrating women's rights into the law curriculum.

Several Faculty members of the UP College of Law share an ongoing interest in the integration of women's human rights into the law curriculum. Prof. Elizabeth Pangalangan who is the Director of the Center for Integrative Studies (UP-CIDS) also heads the Center for Reproductive Health and Ethics (Reprocen), which is one of the pioneer academic programs in reproductive health, law, and

medical ethics. Professor Carolina S. Ruiz Austria was the founding director of Women's Legal Education, Advocacy and Defense Foundation, Inc. and has been teaching feminist legal theory at the College of Law for six years. She has also lectured at the graduate studies department of the Women and Development Program at UP CSWCD and is currently the Research Coordinator for the Development Alternatives for

Women in a New Era (DAWN) project on Sexual Rights and Reproductive Health. Professor Rowena Guanzon teaches Local Government, has served as a City Mayor and handles VAW cases. Other UP-Law Professors who integrate gender and feminist theory into their courses are Dean Raul V. Pangalangan, Prof. Tony La Vina, Prof. Florin Hilbay, Prof. Dan Gatmaytan, Prof. Evalyn Ursua and Dean Marvic Leonen.

At the forum, the College of Law committed to make additional resources for teaching gender and law to the participants.

TEXT/LAY-OUT: CSRA JULY 2009

Gender & the Law UP COLLEGE OF LAW DEAN'S MESSAGE



The UP College of Law is in a unique position to lead and initiate teacher-training, faculty-development seminars as well as facilitate forums for exchange in teaching. Subjects like Gender and Law, Human Rights, with a gender perspective require a catalyst to drumbeat support from the law schools. In the coming years, UP Law hopes to make additional resources available on its website as well as develop MCLE accredited courses on the theme of gender.

Discussion Points

1. Collaboration with UP College of Law in Faculty Development, MCLE accredited lectures on gender and women's rights
2. Resource Sharing through the UP College of Law Website and complimentary publications
3. Maintaining conversation between academe and practitioners; bridging theory/practice
4. Integrating locally produced articles and resources into the course materials
5. Integrating gender and women's rights into other courses (e.g. labor)



The activity would not have been a success without the hard work of Dean Marvic Leonen's staff and student assistants, Owen and Sophie.(CSRA)