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RCTQ Updates

Online newsletter of the Philippine National Research Center for Teacher Quality

No. 9 - Philippines Australia Friendship Day Edition

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Top Stories

RCTQ celebrates Philippines-Australia Friendship Day



Sharing a strong commitment to evidence-based policy development, the Philippines and Australia came together in 2011 and jointly identified applied research on teacher quality as a priority area of cooperation. In 2012, this cooperation resulted in a partnership between the SIMERR National Research Centre at the University of New England (UNE) in Australia and the Philippine Normal University (PNU). [Read More & Share](#)

#FilAussieDay Throwback: 3NS presidents as Australia Awards Fellows



With support from the Australian Government, the RCTQ Director and the university presidents belonging to the National Network of Normal Schools (3NS) gained learning experiences down under in 2018 when they took leadership courses at the University of New England in New South Wales, Australia as recipients of the Australia Awards Fellowships. [Read More & Share](#)

Reflections on the legacies of Australian education and training

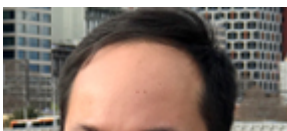
How would the Australian education and training make an impact to Filipinos? The RCTQ Director shares her insights after earning her Post-doctoral Fellowship, and completing her Australia Awards Fellowship at the University of New England (UNE) Australia. Two RCTQ senior managers share valuable reflections from their time in Australian universities and their experiences living in the Australian society:



Dr. Gina O. Gonong
Director, RCTQ

Postdoctoral Fellow, 2019
Honorary Doctor of Letters (HonDLitt), 2018
Australia Awards Fellow, 2018
University of New England, Australia

“I have had very meaningful experiences from my time in Australia particularly at the University of New England, especially on research, leadership and management. I like how I learned to improve my professional practice through the power of reframing, or seeing things from various perspectives. I figured out how to work smarter than harder. I learned the value of diversity in opinions. We could debate and differ in perspectives, but at the end of the day, we could harmoniously work with one another and build consensus. It was truly enriching, indeed.”



Dr. Allen A. Espinosa
Senior Program Manager, RCTQ

PhD in Biochemistry Education, University of Melbourne



Australia, 2017

“Living and studying in Australia is a life-changing and enlightening experience for me. I have three key takeaways from my exposure to Australian society and culture. (1) With a very diverse society, Australia promotes the idea of fairness for all. Here, they champion social justice and inclusion, which makes living in a foreign land easy and bearable. (2) Australian universities are conducive for learning and have a well-established student support system. They support their students every step of the way, and they also care about the overall well-being of both their staff and students. (3) Australians have a relaxed approach to life. They live in a stress-free and friendly society.”



Arvin D. Yana

Senior Manager for Communications & Advocacy, RCTQ

Bachelor of Arts in Communication Studies (Public Relations), University of Newcastle Australia, 1999

“In Australia, I realized that by living in another culture, one can appreciate the distinctiveness of his own. I was made to admire the uniqueness of my own cultural heritage; my language for one thing and some genuine Filipino values. I also learned to confront many ironies in myself and my society.

The IT-oriented mass communication curriculum at the University of Newcastle made me a well-rounded communicator and encouraged my creative potential.”

Send feedback or queries to communications@rctq.ph.

The Philippine National Research Center for Teacher Quality (RCTQ) is a partnership between the [Philippine Normal University](#) and the [University of New England Australia-SiMERR National Research Centre](#), and is supported by the [Australian Government](#).

