Dear Colleagues,

Warm greetings from the UP Center for Women’s Studies (UPCWS)!

The International Institute of Social Studies of Erasmus University, Netherlands (ISS/EUR, The Hague), in collaboration with Psychosocial Support and Children's Rights Resource Center (PSTCRRC) and UPCWS, is organizing an International Refresher’s Course on Gender and Generation in Sexual & Reproductive Health & Rights: The New Agenda of Population and Development Research and Policymaking that will be held from 24 October to 4 November 2011 at the University of the Philippines, Quezon City and Tagaytay City. The two-week course aims to refresh and strengthen the participants’ capacities regarding knowledge of sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR), gender analysis, generation analysis, and challenges and lessons learned regarding SRHR policy and program development, with a focus on young people and special reference to the situation in the Southeast Asian region. Moreover, the participants are selected ASEAN nationals that include alumni/alumnae of ISS/EUR (The Hague) and professionals involved in development studies, gender, sexuality and reproductive health and rights.

As collaborator of the International Refresher’s Course, UPCWS is allotted 10 slots to the program. However, qualified individuals from UPCWS are considered paying participants who will assume expenses for transportation, accommodation, and food. The total cost per participant for the accommodation and food at the hotel during the course period ranges from P13,915.00 (plus other expenses) to P21,910.00. Please refer to attachment on budget (Annex Budgets A and B) for details. Meanwhile, the air and land transportation expense varies, depending on the person’s place of origin.

The minimum requirements for joining the program are: at least master’s degree; work experience in development studies, human rights and reproductive rights; and, international exposure. All participants and members of the organizing team are expected to arrive in UP on October 23, Sunday, as a ceremonial dinner will be hosted to welcome guests and participants.

Attached for your perusal are announcement for the course, application form, and computation for the expense (Annex Budgets A and B). Despite the cost it will incur for participating the course, we strongly encourage you, your colleague or your staff to join the program. On the side of UPCWS, although we have budgetary constraints, we will do our best to assist you in whatever way we can. However, we also strongly encourage you to please initially and primarily access UP scholarship/training funds for faculty and staff for assistance in shouldering the expenditure.

A member of our training team will follow up with you on this matter to discuss and finalize the details. If you have any concerns or clarifications, please feel free to contact Ms. Gina Chan at telephone numbers 9206880 / 9206950 or email her at grcchal@yahoo.com.

Thank you. Again, we hope that you or someone from your campus will participate in the international course.

Respectfully yours,

Sylvia Estrada Claudio, MD, PhD
Director