

PRESS RELEASE

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Miriam College Holds 10th International Women's Human Rights Summer Course

On April 14-19, 2008 Miriam College will hold the 10th year anniversary of the **International Women's Human Rights (IWHR) Summer Course**. Spearheaded by the Women and Gender Institute of Miriam College, IWHR is the first academic-based women's human rights course offered in the Philippines .

The IWHR examines the use of international human rights instruments from both gender and Asian perspectives. The training is designed for educators, NGO workers, technical staff of legislators and mid-level public servants from national agencies and other professionals from the Philippines and other countries who seek to deepen their understanding of women's human rights issues and challenges and endeavor to work on the practical application of human rights instruments in their respective professions. For the past 9 years, the IWHR had trained more than 300 participants from the Philippines , Indonesia , Cambodia , Mexico , Thailand , Tibet , Iran , Korea , and the US .

Over the years, IWHR module has expanded to include current issues and dilemmas on women's human rights such as migration and trafficking, domestic violence, media and ICT, gender and Islam, peace and security, gender and trade, reproductive rights, and the environment. The course also brings together some of the most distinguished women's human rights advocates including Ambassador Rosario Manalo, former chairperson of the UN Committee on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination Against Women; Atty. Eleanor Conda, international expert on women's human rights; Atty. Myrna Feliciano, Director of the Mandatory Continuing Legal Education ; Justice Zenaida Elepaño, Senior Deputy Court Administrator of the Supreme Court; Prof. Aurora de Dios, WAGI Executive Director and former chair of the National Commission on the Role of Filipino Women; Atty. Albert Muyot, Associate Professor of the UP College of Law.

This year's seminar will also feature Dr. Hamid Barra of Mindanao State University (Gender and Islam) Atty. Elizabeth Pangalanan (Reproductive Rights); Rina Jimenez David (Gender and ICT) and Karen Tanada (Gender and Peace)

An exposure trip to selected women NGOs and international development agencies is scheduled towards the end of the course wherein the participants can interact and engage with women's rights advocate.

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