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## The 1<sup>st</sup> Salindunong International Conference and Ika-11 Pambansang and Kumperensiya sa Filipion 11<sup>th</sup> National Conference in Filipino: Wika, Panitikan, at Multidisiplinaryong Pananaliksik Tungo so Integrasyong Kultural. Language, Literature, and Multidisciplinary, 2–4.04.2018. Cagayan de Oro City. Philippines

Cultural integration is one of the key notions in the modern world which can be viewed from various perspectives. In April 2018, Mindanao State University – Iligan Institute of Technology, Xavier University – Ateneo de Cagayan, Central Mindanao University (Philippines) and Universitas Airlangga (Indonesia) organized an international conference focused on the role of language, literature and multidisciplinary research. The conference lasted three days and took place in Cagayan de Oro City.

On the first day of the conference, the opening program began with the Philippine national anthem sung by the Xavier University Glee Club. The program included the welcome addresses and messages of the authorities of the universities involved in the preparation of the conference: Sukarno D. Tanggol Franco, Gaite Teves, Jinky B. Bornales, Marie Joy D. Banawa (MSU – Iligan Institute of Technology), Roberto C. Yap, Juliet Q. Dalagan (Xavier University – Ateneo de Cagayan), Maria Luisa R. Soliven (Central Mindanao University), Diah Ariani Arimbi (Universitas Airlangga). The entertainment was provided by Kariyala sa Ranaw. Special messages were delivered by Allan G. Farnazo (DepEd X) and Zenaida G. Gersana (CHEDRO X). Conference director, Mary Ann S. Sandoval, then provided the participants with relevant information concerning the organization of the event. The welcome addresses were followed by the keynote speech delivered by Joi Barrios-LeBlanc (University of California, Berkley) who discussed the language of precolonial poetry with a view to demonstrating that the trope of interdependence found in poetry enables language users to understand and interrogate the concept of cultural integration in contemporary Philippine society. The lecture was followed by the first plenary speech: Shigeru Yamada (Waseda University, Tokyo) gave a talk on recent changes in English-Japanese and Japanese-English dictionaries. The second plenary lecture was delivered by Joanna Szerszunowicz (The University of Bialystok) who focused on figurative language and cultural symbols, presenting these issues from a Polish perspective. After the keynote and plenary speeches, papers were read in eight parallel sessions: *Language Teaching, Discourse Studies, Literary Criticism, Language Registers, Language and Sustainability, Translation Studies, Folklore, Language Policy.* 

Day Two began with Anthony L. Tan's plenary lecture on indigenous Tausug gnomic verses, proverbs and riddles, in particular with their physical and cultural provenance. The participants then enjoyed the performance of the Bidlisiw Dance Troupe (Central Mindanao University) who presented Philippine folk dances. The next plenary speaker was Hai Xu (Guandgong University of Foreign Studies, Guangzhou) who analysed internationalism and anglocentrism in English learners' dictionaries. The third plenary speaker for that day was Margot Brereton who discussed bringing transdisciplinary design research to literacy, culture and language in the digital era. The lectures were followed by parallel presentations in the following sessions: Language and Media, Discourse Studies, Cultural Studies, Language and Politics, Literary Criticism, Language Studies, Language Policy, Language and Society.

The second keynote speech was delivered on the third day of the conference. Dany Kwary devoted his talk to the representation of Australian, Philippine and Indonesian culturally-bound terms in English dictionaries. His lecture was followed by the closing ceremony chaired by Irish Mae G. Fernandez: Rosario B. Dizon (Mindanao State University – Iligan Institute of Technology) who began it with a prayer, then special messages were read by Elisao M. Maribao (DepEd X) and Natalie T. Igot (CHEDRO X). The Xavier University Cultural Dance Troupe gave a performance. Finally, closing remarks were made by Jinky B. Bornales (Mindanao State University – Iligan Institute of Technology) and the certificates were distributed. At the end of the celebration, Julie Ann A. Orobia (Central Mindanao University) and Roderick Z. Ocangas (Xavier University – Ateneo de Cagayan) read special messages of thanks. The international meeting of scientists from Asia, Australia and Europe was perfectly organized thanks to the engagement and skills of the teams of the universities involved in the preparation of the event. The conference offered the participants who specialize in various disciplines the possibility of sharing their research experience. Moreover, it was an excellent opportunity to create an international network of researchers with a view to future cooperation.

The conference enabled the participants not only to exchange their views on different phenomena, but also to learn about the Philippine culture, see national dances and taste traditional dishes. All persons who took part in the event were impressed by the scientific and cultural programs. It can be concluded that the conference was an important and memorable event for scholars dealing with cultural integration through language, literature and multidisciplinary research.