

# Visayas Peacebuilding Institute 2009

April 19 – 25, 2009

*Balay Kalinungan, University of St. La Salle  
Bacolod City, Negros Occidental, Philippines*

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*Jointly Sponsored and Organized by:*  
**Institute for Negros Development (University of St. La Salle)**  
**Peace and Conflict Journalism Network (to be confirmed)**  
**Pax Christi Pilipinas and Pax Christi Negros**

## BACKGROUND

The Visayas is an archipelago where conflicts are often seen in the context of its geographic givens and confines. Much have been studied and tried in the areas of development work but very few in the field of conflict transformation and peacebuilding.

Pax Christi Pilipinas started an Institute for Conflict Transformation, Peacebuilding and Reconciliation three years ago in Bacolod City, island of Negros in the Philippines. The appreciation and value for the Institute was well articulated by its many partners and participants. Given that the present programs are annual in time frame, the idea for an intensive one week program came up to address the need of people who may otherwise not be able to attend an annual program. Likewise, neighboring islands have made requests to avail of said training services. It is in this spirit that we are launching the first Visayas Peacebuilding Institute.

The Visayas Peacebuilding Institute (VPI) is a collaborative effort between Pax Christi, the Institute for Negros Development of the University of St. La Salle and the Peace and Conflict Journalism network inspired by the successes of the Mindanao Peacebuilding Institute (MPI) and the Annual Peacebuilding and Reconciliation Program (APRP) initiated in Luzon three years ago. It is also a response to the call for Christian Peacebuilding from the Lasallian Justice and Peace Commission.

The VPI, will attempt to provide the foundational thinking and tools on Conflict Transformation and Peacebuilding as it brings together a wide range of people with vast experiences, knowledge and skills in peace-related work. The heart of the Summer Peacebuilding Institute will be the sharing and learning processes that will be provided which will hopefully make the participants committed, skilled and oriented to the principles, tools and passion for conflict transformation and peacebuilding.

It will draw upon the teachings, writings and peace works of Johan Galtung and John Paul Lederach and the lived and worked experiences of the resource persons that will be invited to facilitate the different courses.

The following vision, mission, and objectives guide the VPI:

**Vision**                    Equitable and sustainable peace in communities in the Visayas

**Mission**                Build a pool of conflict workers and peacebuilders in the Visayas committed to building equitable and sustainable peace communities that will be capable to handle the conflict fabric of Visayas society

**Objectives**

- 1) Provide a training venue for the education of individuals and their institutions in the theories and praxis of conflict transformation, peacebuilding and reconciliation
- 2) Equip the participants with the foundational knowledge, skills and orientation in Conflict Transformation, Peacebuilding and Reconciliation
- 3) Bring together people from diverse sectors of the Visayas society who are involved in the promotion of equitable and sustainable peace that can netweave their commitment and passion for peacebuilding.

## Course Description

**Nature** The Visayas Peacebuilding Institute is an annual training-workshop that aims to capacitate the participants to handle conflict from a transformative and holistic peacebuilding perspective.

The participants will undergo an intensive 6 days of training-workshop in their chosen field of peace work namely, transformative mediation, peace education, peace and conflict sensitive journalism and, resource conflict and sustainable development. The first two days will be devoted to the foundational perspective of Conflict Analysis and Transformation while the next three days will be devoted in the special field of peacebuilding.

### April 19-21 **Foundation Course**

#### ***INTRODUCTION to CONFLICT ANALYSIS AND TRANSFORMATION***

*(Cesar and Jo Villanueva)*

*This course will introduce the participants to tools of conflict analysis and the thoughts and meanings of conflict transformation from the people who originally conceived them and based on the ground experiences of the resource persons.*

### April 22-25 **Specialization Courses**

#### ***TRANSFORMATIVE MEDIATION***

*(Ed Jalbuena & Cesar Villanueva)*

*The basic principles and steps of Mediation will be thoroughly discussed through role plays and case studies. A special session on community mediation will be conducted and will discuss mediation in the local government code. The concept of transformative mediation will also be argued for its relevance and practicality. Graduates of this course will be equipped to handle basic mediation cases in their school and community. Discipline officers and barangay officials involved on conflict resolution work will benefit from this course.*

#### ***PEACE EDUCATION***

*(Dr. Jasmin Nario-Galace & Jo Villanueva)*

*The course introduces the basic knowledge, tools and value-orientations pertinent to education for a culture of peace. It will introduce participants to peaceable teaching-learning processes, strategies and approaches both in the formal and non-formal settings. The course provides an opportunity for educators and community trainers to design lesson plans or training modules for use in their specific context.*

#### ***PEACE & CONFLICT JOURNALISM***

*(Jean Lee Patindol & Ryan Rosauro)*

*The course introduces young campus and community journalist/reporters to the basic principles and strategies of Peace and Conflict Sensitive Journalism/news coverage-reporting. Participants may opt to apply for the more intensive second level trainings offered on Conflict Sensitive Journalism by the Peace and Conflict Journalism Network (PECOJON) after they finish this course.*

#### ***RESOURCE CONFLICTS & SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT***

*(Rhoderick Samonte)*

*This course will guide participants in the understanding of resource conflicts and its impact on sustainable human development. It will use a mix of academic analysis and practical experiences to reflect upon while working to resolve conflicts driven by natural resource use and the pursuit of development. It will provide a holistic framework for endowing people with a comprehensive approach to operate in resource conflict situations in ways that are both effective and respectful*

## Proposed Schedule

DATE	TIME	ACTIVITY			
April 19	1400 – 1600	Arrival / Settling Down Registration Billeting			
	1600 – 1900	Introduction of Participants General Orientation			
April 20	0830 – 1200	<i>Foundation Course: Conflict Analysis</i>			
April 21	1330 – 1800	Conflict Transformation			
April 22-24	0830 – 1200 1330 – 1800	<i>Specialization Courses</i>			
		Transformative Mediation	Peace Education	Peace and Conflict Journalism	Resource Conflicts and Sustainable Development
April 25	0830 – 1100	Class Presentation			
	1100 – 1200	Closing Program			
	1200 – 1300	Agape Lunch			
	1300	Departure			

## General Information

### Admissions Criteria

- Presently engaged in peace work or in related areas of human development
- With clarity of purpose and commitment to fully participate and finish the course
- Ready and willing to share and listen to exchange of ideas
- Able to communicate in both written and oral English and the local dialect

### Course Fee and Inclusions

	<b>Live-In</b>	<b>Live-Out</b>
Board	all meals provided	lunch provided
Lodging	dormitory type	x
Course Materials	√	√
Registration Fee*	Php 500.00	Php 500.00
Course Fee*	Php 4,000.00	Php 2,000.00

\* to be paid by April 7, 2009 upon acceptance of participation. This is non-refundable.

\*\* to be paid on or before April 19, 2009.

### Scholarship

Limited financial assistance will be offered on per need and first come basis. A formal letter of request briefly stating circumstances must be attached to the application form and received by March 25, 2009.

### Deadline and Contact Details

All applications must be received by March 31, 2009 and will be reviewed by the Admissions Committee. Accepted, waitlisted and disapproved applications will be notified formally via e-mail or fax by April 3, 2009.

For further inquiries please feel free to contact any of the following:

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