



Dear Sir/Madam:

Greetings!

We cordially invite you to **The Great ASEAN Eco-Debates**, an inter-collegiate debate tournament that focuses on environmental issues affecting the ASEAN region that will be held on **7-12 April 2014** at **Silliman University, Dumaguete City, Philippines**. This event is organized by Study of the United States Institute (SUSI) Alumni, U.S. Department of State, and Silliman University, with the Southeast Asia Youth Environment Network (SEAYEN).

The Great ASEAN Eco-Debates aims to engage debaters from top universities in the ASEAN in Asian parliamentary-style debate regarding critical environmental issues. In the six days of the event, we expect to have 200 of the best debaters and adjudicators battling it out in the 5-preliminary rounds, and the best 16 teams will advance to a four-round Final series.

Aside from the debates, a day trip to the **Dauin Marine Sanctuary** and **Apo Island** is also planned to make way for an activity where the debaters can come up with tangible solutions for existing environmental problems. Expect also to be enriched with special sessions with several world-renowned environmental personas. All this is what we have in store for you in this one-of-a-kind event.

If you have any questions or clarifications, just email us at ASEANecodebates@gmail.com. More details about the project may also be found in our website at <http://aseanecodebates.org>.

Thank you for your time and we look forward to seeing you in The Great ASEAN Eco-Debates.

Mabuhay!


WILLIAM ROBERT "ROBBIE" YASI

Founder and Project Leader

The Great ASEAN Eco-debates, Association (GAEA)

THE GREAT ASEAN ECO DEBATES

INCITING CHANGE THROUGH INTELLECTUAL EXCHANGE

What Is The Great ASEAN Eco-Debates?

The Great ASEAN Eco-Debates aims to engage debaters from top universities in the ASEAN in Asian parliamentary-style debate regarding critical environmental issues. Aside from the actual debates, a visit to wildlife sanctuaries is also planned to make way for an activity which would serve as a stepping stone for the debaters in coming up with tangible solutions for areas with similar environmental issues. This, along with several lecture sessions, is what we have in store for over **250 participants from all over Southeast Asia** who would be joining the tournament.

Unlike other debate tournaments, a special seminar on pressing environmental issues will be given during the opening program. And a keynote speech from a prominent environmentalist will also be given during the championship dinner.

All the motions will be focused on a specific, prominent environmental issue and will be debated on by both teams. (e.g. *This House Believes that the US government should not only provide full financial support for the rehabilitation, but also for the expansion and continuous protection of the Tubbataha Reefs*)

Quick Facts

Venue: **Silliman University, Dumaguete City, Philippines**

Dates: **7-12 April 2014**

Scope: **ASEAN-member states***

Format: **Asian Parliamentary**

Date: **7-12 April 2014**

Debate Rounds: **Five (5) Preliminary Rounds and Four (4) Finals Series Rounds**

Finals Series: **Break to Octofinals**

Tournament Cap: **50 teams**

Country Cap: **Five (5) teams per country****

Institution Cap: **One (1) team**

Adjudicator's Policy: **n Rule**

*<http://www.asean.org/asean/asean-member-states>

**In interest of allowing each member of the ASEAN to be represented, we would like to have at least one (1) representative per country. In cases where a country has less than five (5) representatives, the slots from that country will be forfeited in favor of teams in other countries that have more than five interested participating teams.

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REGISTRATION

Packages

Debaters and adjudicators

Php 8,000 per person, inclusive of:

- Breakfast, lunch, and dinner meals from 7-11 April 2014
- Accommodation in University dormitory
- Access to ALL Social Events and seminars
- Debate Kit
- One-day Eco-tour

Observers

Php 3,000 per person, inclusive of:

- Debate kit
- Access to social events and seminars

Steps

1st Step: Reservation of Team Slots -Opens on 11 November 2014

Please register your team slots at <http://www.aseanecodebates.org> using the online registration form.

- **Confirmed teams and wait list will be released on November 25.**
Confirmed teams will be sent an email stating further details for registration.
- **If wait list cannot accommodate slots left, registration will re-open on December 9** for unfilled Country slots (Country cap will be forgone)

Half (50%) of the team's registration fee must be paid no later than 24 January 2014.

2nd Step: Registration of Team Members

The three (3) debaters and one (1) adjudicator should be specified by 7 March 2014. The remaining registration fee must be paid by this time as well.

3rd Step: On-site registration

On 7 April 2014, participants must register upon arrival at Silliman University and will receive their debate kits and room assignments.

All payments should be sent to:

Bank of the Philippine Islands
Account name: William Robert Yasi
Account Number: 1359-5389-32
Branch number: 135 (Ayala Center Cebu 1)

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The Venue



Founded in 1901 by Presbyterian missionaries, Silliman University (SU) is the oldest American University in the Philippines. It is a private research university that emphasizes Christian values towards the well-being of society and the

environment. Producing some of the Philippines best students, SU has been designated as a Center of Excellence in Nursing Education and Teacher Education and a Center of Development in Biology, Information Technology Education and Accountancy. Several National Artists for the Arts and Literature have also hailed from Silliman.

More important for the debate is the dedication of Silliman University in maintaining environmental sustainability. Its programs on coastal resource-management has put the Philippines in spotlight for reviving Apo Island as one of the best diving spots in the world.

Silliman University is found in Dumaguete City, fondly considered by many as a "University Town", due to the presence of several educational institutions and the modest nature of the City. SU also hosts several museums that you may enjoy during your stay in the Eco-debates.



Eco-tour Site

What's a debate about the environment if we are not to appreciate it first hand?

Apo Island is a diver's paradise, visited by local and foreign diving enthusiasts as it boasts of one of the best community-managed marine sanctuaries in the Philippines, if not in the entire world.

It is a small island is located next to the Island of Negros, at the very south. 30 km south of the capital, Dumaguete City. It is only 3 km in diameter and the highest point reaches only 120m high, with a light house on top. It has a white stone beach, and an unusually vibrant coral reef, which has been protected as a fish sanctuary since 1982. Apo Island offers and extraordinary diving and snorkeling experience, with underwater visibility rivaled by only a few other places. The words used by even the most experinced of divers to describe it are awesome, spectacular and breathtaking!



Crystal blue waters surrounding Apo Island.
Photo credit: Mike (from Wikipedia).

On the other side of the island are rocky beaches and a marine resource of all kind of large fish species. One may also choose to explore the hiking trail to the top of the island where you can see a view of the sea and many different fruit trees.

(taken from <http://www.godumaguete.com>)

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Tournament Schedule

First Day (7 April 2014)		Fourth Day (10 April 2014)	
AM - 13:00	Participants Arrive	8:00 – 8:30	Convening
13:00 – 16:00	Registration	8:30 – 9:30	Breakfast
16:00 – 22:00	Opening Dinner	9:30 – 10:30	Assembly and Travel to field site
	Keynote Debate (<i>in place of Sample</i>)	09:30 – 14:00	Eco-tour to Apo Island/Dauin Sanctuary with lunch
	Adjudication Exam	14:00 – 17:00	Breakout Session
Second Day (8 April 2014)		19:00 – 20:00	Dinner
7:00 – 8:00	Breakfast	Fifth Day (11 April 2014)	
8:00 – 9:00	Adjudication Exam Results	7:00 – 7:30	Convening
9:00 – 10:00	Talk 1	7:30 – 8:30	Breakfast
10:00 – 10:30	Release of Match-Ups and Motion	8:30 – 9:00	Release of Octos Motion
10:30 – 12:30	Round 1	9:00 – 10:30	Octofinals
12:30 – 14:00	Lunch	10:30 – 11:00	Announcement of Advancing teams and Release of Quarters Motion
14:00 – 15:00	Talk 2	11:00 – 13:00	Quarterfinals
15:00 – 15:30	Release of Match-Ups and Motion	13:00 – 14:00	Lunch
15:30 – 17:30	Round 2	14:00 – 14:30	Announcement of Advancing teams and Release of Quarters Motion
17:30 – 19:00	Exhibit Time	14:30 – 16:00	Semi-Finals
19:00 – 20:00	Dinner	19:30 – 23:00	Championship Dinner & Final Round
Third Day (9 April 2014)		Whole Day	Announcements and Awarding of Winners
7:00 – 8:00	Breakfast		
8:00 – 9:00	Talk 3	Sixth Day (12 April 2014)	
9:00 – 9:30	Release of Match-Ups and Motion	Departure	
9:30 – 11:30	Round 3		
11:30 – 12:30	Lunch		
12:30 – 13:30	Talk 4		
13:30 – 14:00	Release of Match-Ups and Motion		
14:00 – 16:00	Round 4		
16:00 – 17:00	Talk 5		
17:00 – 17:30	Release of Match-Ups and Motion		
17:30 – 19:30	Round 5		
19:30 – 21:00	Preparation for Break Night		
21:00 – 0:00	Break Night Dinner		

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Getting to Dumaguete

The Philippines has several international airports, but most flights to the Philippines would go through Ninoy Aquino International Airport (NAIA) in Manila or the Mactan Cebu International Airport. From Manila, one may fly directly to Dumaguete. From Cebu, you may opt to take a plane or ride a ferry to Dumaguete City.



By Air

There are daily flights from Manila to Dumaguete (approximately 1 hour 15 minutes flying time) and Cebu to Dumaguete (approximately 40 minutes flying time). The most popular flight carriers are Philippine Airlines (PAL)/PAL Express and Cebu Pacific Air.

Philippine Airlines / PAL Express

Manila - Dumaguete -- flies twice daily, ETD 0840H and 1310H

Cebu Pacific Air

Manila - Dumaguete -- flies twice daily, ETD 0700H and 1500H from Manila

Cebu - Dumaguete -- daily at ETD 0620H, and every Thursdays and Saturdays at ETD 1200H

Flights from Manila are typically aboard Airbus A320s while flights from Cebu are ATR type planes.



By Sea

There are daily 4-hour ferry trips from Cebu City to Dumaguete, via Tagbilaran (Bohol).

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The Organizing Team

(more info about them in the official website at <http://aseanecodebates.org>)

William Robert Yasi (Robbie) - Founder and Overall Head - Philippines

John Dale Dianala (JD) - Philippines

Rungtip Junlah (Piao) - Thailand

Tawin Kim(Tawin) - Thailand

Gabrielle Paul Pascual (Gab) - Philippines

Institutional Partners

