



CONSULATE GENERAL OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES CHICAGO

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Conference Held on ASEAN's 50th Anniversary

Chicago, 25 September 2017 – Taking stock of ASEAN's successes and looking squarely at the challenges before it was the theme of a forum held at the Northern Illinois University in DeKalb last Monday.

“Since its founding on 08 August 1967, the Association of South East Asian Nations has emerged from the dark days of the Cold War and diverging ideologies and achieved cooperation in strengthening peace and security in the region and building one of the most vibrant and fastest-growing economies in the world.” Consul General Generoso D.G. Calonge, thus, prefaced his remarks on ASEAN's historical development and the highlights of the Philippines' chairmanship of the organization launched in January in Davao City.

Other participating panelists spoke on ASEAN-US relations and reflected on the geopolitical significance of the ten-member aggrupation during the first session moderated by Dr. John Brandon, Senior Director of The Asia Foundation.

A second panel composed of Dr. Alice Ba from the University of Delaware, Dr. Shaun Narine from St. Thomas University in New Brunswick, Canada, and Dr. John Ciorciari from the University of Michigan tackled the challenges posed by the South China Sea dispute, regional leadership competition and human rights issues, moderated by Dr. Aarie Glas of NIU.

Students and faculty members of NIU attended the seminar. Fellows of the Young South East Asian Leaders Initiative (YSEALI), with three Filipinos, were also in attendance.

For more information, contact the Philippine Consulate General at chicago.pcg@dfa.gov.ph. **END**



CG Calonge delivers his remarks at the ASEAN@50 Seminar at the Sky Room of NIU Holmes Student Center on 18 September 2017 with Consuls General Rosmalawati Chalid of Indonesia and Saksee Phromyothi of Thailand and Dr. John Brandon of The Asia Foundation. (Photo: DCG RV Israel Jr.)

