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ARTICLES IN THIS ISSUE

Some reflections on the state of development economics in Asia

The monkey in the mirror and other tales of central bank forward guidance

A BSP closer to the people: spreading the benefits of monetary and financial stability

Digit ratio and prosocial behavior: the role of innate aggression in public goods and trust games

A note on cooperative hunting: Holmstrom, Fabella, and the Dumagat of Tanay

The case against the case for land reform: transaction costs and misplaced exogeneity

Toward a fairer society: inequality and competition policy in developing Asia

Sovereign determination or disguised protectionism?: the vitamin C case

Recent trends in the gender gap in the labor market in the Philippines

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Public debt and the threat of

What the new institutional economics owes Marx

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 Orville C. Solon
- The case against the case for land reform: transaction costs and misplaced exogeneity

 Karl L. Jandoc

 James A. Roumasset
- 127 Toward a fairer society: inequality and competition policy in developing Asia

 Arsenio M. Balisacan

147	Sovereign determination or disguised protectionism?: the
	vitamin C case
	Ma. Joy V. Abrenica

173 Recent trends in the gender gap in the labor market in the Philippines

Mitzie Irene P. Conchada

Dominique Hannah A. Sy

Marites M. Tiongco

Alfredo R. Paloyo

187 Automation, gigs, and other labor market tales: the Philippines in the Fourth Industrial Revolution *Emmanuel F. Esguerra*

219 Revisiting the aid-growth nexus in light of the Sachs-Easterly debate

Sarah Lynne S. Daway-Ducanes

Irene Jo E. Arzadon

- Public debt and the threat of secession *Rhea M. Molato-Gayares*
- What the new institutional economics owes Marx Emmanuel S. de Dios

Festschrift for Raul V. Fabella



This special edition of the *Philippine Review* of Economics honors Dr. Raul V. Fabella in his 70th year and recognizes his invaluable contribution to the economics discipline and profession. This edition comprises 13 articles from his colleagues and several generations of former students inspired or mentored by Dr. Fabella who are themselves making their mark in economics. The broad spectrum of topics covered—agricultural economics, competition policy, contract theory, game theory, history of economic thought, international economics, issues in productivity, growth and development, monetary policy, political economy and rentseeking, public economics, and the theory of teams—are issues that Dr. Fabella himself has written on or taught his students during

his long, productive years as a Professor of Economics at the UP School of Economics, nurturing an "oasis of excellence" in his spheres of influence, as well as advocated as a roving academic in his later years, endeavoring to engage policymakers and the public in general, in pursuit of welfare-improving changes for a better Philippines.

The wide gamut of topics in this issue is a testament to Dr. Fabella's eclectic intellectual interests yet unwavering devotion to upholding a high standard of academic excellence. As his biographical sketch at the National Academy of Science and Technology summarizes:

Fabella's very development as a scholar and intellectual leader presents numerous paradoxes: a classicist turned mathematical economist; a rational-choice theorist who derives material and metaphor from both history and physics; a solitary thinker who agonizes over pedagogy; a pure theorist immersed in policy-debate; an inherently shy, private man who must deal with crowds. His career displays to the fullest the range of issues – from the mathematical to the moral – that economists can and must confront if they are to attain to that "cool head and warm heart" that was Marshall's ideal. A classicist, however, might simply recall Terentius: *Homo sum: humani nil a me alienum puto*.

Indeed, to Dr. Fabella, nothing related to human behavior is outside his interest. At 70 years of age, National Scientist of the National Academy of Science and Technology (Philippines) and Professor Emeritus at the University of the Philippines, he is yet to reach the zenith of his intellectual verve: Fabella the economist is transfiguring into Fabella the social scientist – one to whom *homo economicus* is no longer the norm, but the exception in the vast complexity of human interactions in society. It is thus unlikely that this will be the last festschrift in his honor.

Sarah Lynne S. Daway-Ducanes Emmanuel S. de Dios



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Over the years, the PES has served as one of the strongest networks of economists in the academe, government, and business sector.

Recognized in the international community of professional economic associations and a founding member of the Federation of ASEAN Economic Associations (FAEA), the PES continuously provides a venue for open and free discussions of a wide range of policy issues through its conferences and symposia.

Through its journal, the *Philippine Review of Economics* (PRE), which is jointly published with the UP School of Economics, the Society performs a major role in improving the standard of economic research in the country and in disseminating new research findings.

At present the society enjoys the membership of some 800 economists and professionals from the academe, government, and private sector.

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