

TREEDC Holds Inaugural International Renewable Energy Forum in Manila



The Tennessee Renewable Energy and Economic Development Council (TREEDC) and the Renewable Energy Association of the Philippines (REAP) held its first international educational forum at Polytechnic University of the Philippines (PUP) on September 25, 2013. A total of 310 PUP Engineering students gathered together to hear presentations about Tennessee related renewable energy technologies such as solar, wind, waste to energy and biofuels. TREEDC President/Ducktown Mayor James Talley gave a motivational career in renewables speech to the students. The University of Tennessee Management Consultant Warren Nevad gave a progress report about the TREEDC-Philippine membership base and its goal to advance and connect renewable energy with the Philippines and Tennessee.

A highlight of the PUP Forum was the signing of a sister-university agreement with Tennessee Tech University (TTU) as part of the TREEDC International Exchange Program which is aimed to create information and technology exchange and to foster social responsibility programs relating to renewable energy in the Philippines. TREEDC International Consultant Douglas Jackson who works out of the TREEDC office in Mabalacat Pampanga reviewed the various social responsibility projects that TREEDC is contemplating in the Philippines. Dennis Tennant, Director of Outreach for Tennessee Tech University gave an overview of best practices in sustainability in U.S. campuses.

TREEDC is a non-profit network of cities, universities, and private businesses with the mission of providing leadership in promoting renewable energy and economic development for member organizations. TREEDC is affiliated with the University of Tennessee and currently includes 92 local governments, nine state and federal agencies, 23 colleges and universities, 60 commercial businesses and power utilities, and three international organizations. Philippine schools involved in the TREEDC International Exchange Program include the Central Bicol State University of Agriculture (CBSUA) in Camarines Sur, Central Philippines University (CPU) in Iloilo, University of Philippines Los Baños (UPLB) in Laguna, Philippine Electronics and Communication Institute of Technology (PECIT) in Agusan, Polytechnic University of the Philippines (PUP) in Manila, Systems Plus College Foundation in Pampanga and Technological University of the Philippines (TUP) in Manila. TREEDC's office in the Philippines is located in Mabalacat, Pampanga. The Chairman of TREEDC is University of Tennessee President Emeritus Dr. Joe Johnson. TREEDC was awarded the Governor's Excellence in Energy Leadership by the

State of Tennessee in 2012. For more information, visit the TREEDC website
www.treedc.us

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