

# CALL FOR PARTICIPATION

2011 National Conference of the Philippine Sociological Society  
Ateneo de Naga University, Naga City  
14-15 October 2011

## **“Technology Reshaping Society: Society Shaping Technology?”**

To what extent have technologies reshaped Philippine society? What are the meanings of adopting the latest technological devices? Are Filipinos shapers, not just users, of technology? What is the place of technology in human affairs?

The lives of most Filipinos are now inextricably bound with the latest technological developments. Computer-mediated communications technologies are pervasive, affecting society as a whole down to social relationships in dyads, families, networks, and communities. These technologies have altered the mass media, social advocacies, transnational engagements, and mass movements. Other domains of social life have not remained untouched by technological innovations: kitchen technologies (rice cookers and the microwave oven); agriculture (hybrid crop varieties); medical practice (ultrasound is commonplace); classroom instruction (from OHP to LCD projectors and computer labs and courses); legal conventions (email as admissible evidence); weather forecasting and disaster risk management; religious practices; assistance to the disabled; and so on.

Sociology compels us to ask: Does technology determine human action? In the West, the sociology of scientific knowledge asserts the embeddedness of technology in a social context, of society shaping technology. Because the Philippines imports technologies, are there grounds for the social construction of technology?

Papers that deal with the sociology of the following topics and as exemplified in different social domains are welcome:

- \* makers of technology, brokers of diffusion
- \* policies and programs of science and technology
- \* political economy of technology
- \* meanings and contingencies of technological choice and adoption
- \* interest groups, public discourse, and technology
- \* programmers, technologists, engineers, and related professions
- \* repairers and maintainers of advanced gadgets
- \* social conflict, conflict resolution, and technology

Abstracts of proposed papers should not exceed 200 words, and should state clearly the research question and key arguments.

Please send abstracts to the PSS Secretariat via email to [projects@pssc.org.ph](mailto:projects@pssc.org.ph) or send a fax to (02) 9244178.

Deadline of abstracts and panel proposals is on 15 June 2011.

Deadline for submission of complete papers for those who wish to be considered for financial assistance for travel, and/or accommodation and board, and/or conference registration fee is on 15 July 2011.

For more details, please visit the PSS website: [www.dsa-ateneo.net/pss](http://www.dsa-ateneo.net/pss)