2019 ASPAP CONFERENCE

Making World-Class Public Administration (PA) Higher Educational Institutions (HEIs) in the Philippines by Revamping Philippine PA

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A DISCUSSION OVERVIEW

- Significance of the "World-Class HEIs" Trend and its Definition
- Marriage of Public Administration Theory and Practice and the Philippine Public Administration Identity
- Making PA HEIs in the Philippines World-Class through its Identity

Significance of the "World-Class HEIs" Trend

LEGITIMACY AND COMPETITIVENESS OF HEIS

Need for reliable information on how much benefit a HEI can provide to its students, funders, etc.



Significance of the "World-Class HEIs" Trend

3 HEI TRANSPARENCY TOOLS*



RANKING ACCREDITATION

*reflects various dimensions of quality, performance, and public value of HEIs

PERFORMANCE CONTRACT

This trend "reflect(s) the general recognition that economic growth and global competitiveness are increasingly driven by knowledge and that universities play a key role in that context".

(Salmi, 2009)

The application of knowledge generated by HEIs are expected to result to more efficient ways of producing goods and services – allowing more effective service delivery at lower costs to a greater number of people.



Definition of "World-Class HEIs"

IT IS NOT A MODERN PHENOMENON. It is only being highlighted more now due to increasing connectedness of the world.

ITS DEFINITION IS DEPENDENT ON SUBJECTIVE JUDGMENT. HEIs are judged based on outputs that are visible and invisible.

VARIABLES

Highly qualified faculty, excellence in research, quality teaching, high levels of government and non-government sources of funding, international and highly talented students academic freedom, well-defined autonomous governance structures, and well-equipped facilities for teaching, research, administration, and student life

There is no universal formula for making a world-class university.



PATH TO TRANSFORMATION MUST INSTEAD BE CONSIDERED FROM TWO COMPLIMENTARY PERSPECTIVES

- Role of Government (creation of favorable environment)
- Role of Individual Institutions (vision for excellence)

(Ouda & Ahmed, 2015)



"Excellence is not just about achieving outstanding results with outstanding students but should also be how much added value is given by the institution in addressing specific learning needs of an increasingly diverse population.".

(SALMI, 2009)





Caveats to the Notion of World-Class HEIs

REINFORCEMENT OF INSTITUTIONAL HEIRARCHY, ELITISM, AND FOSTERS 'UNREALISTIC EXPECTATIONS'

è Institutions should help foster and develop leading departments and schools which specialize in disciplines relevant at national and regional levels.



WORLD-CLASS PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION HEIS IN THE PH?

Does Philippine Public Administration have an identity? How can Ph PA HEIs be developed to become globally competitive?

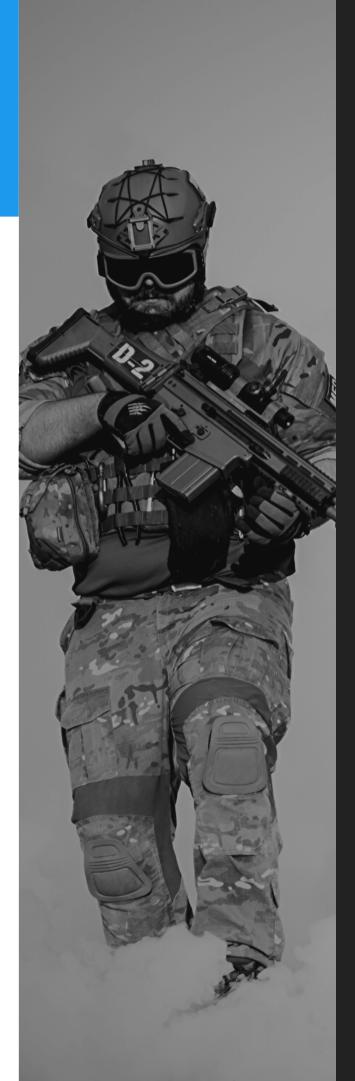
Marriage of Public Administration Theory and Practice

"ACADEMICS ARE KNOWLEDGE PRODUCERS" (OUTPUT)



"PRACTITIONERS ARE KNOWLEDGE USERS". (INPUT)





Analogy with the Defense Sector

FORCE PROVIDER



"Responsible for development, organization, training, equipping, maintenance and sustainment of combat forces, combat service forces, technical and administrative service, and combat service support forces."

*dynamics between the 2 is a critical feature in the chain-of command practice in the military

FORCE EMPLOYER



"Responsible for decentralized execution of joint operations to achieve maximum operational efficiency within the military."

(S.B. 1734, 2018)



"Practitioners are interested in usable knowledge while academics are concerned with producing and advancing knowledge. It also means that if the knowledge produced by academics is not used by practitioners, it is good for nothing, but to be cast out into the waste basket, dust-bin, or disposal."

(ODEZAH, 2016)



"There is a war raging between Public Administration academics and practitioners." (ODEZAH, 2016)

Consequences of the Disjunct between PA Scholars & Practitioners







Deteriorating Study - in theory and practice Clashing of scholar vs. practitioners' egos, personalities, boundaries

Retreat of Practitioners from Participation in Activities & Conferences of "pracademic" organizations



Identity crisis of Philippine Public Administration*

(ODEZAH, 2016) *(BRILLANTES & FERNANDEZ, 2013)



"Identity crisis of PA in the Philippines is because of the perception that the discipline has had little impact on the efforts to bring about responsive PA structures, processes and behavior in the bureaucracy"

(BRILLANTES & FERNANDEZ, 2013)



"Theory without practice is living in an ivory tower; but practice without theory is living without meaning and ideology. There has to be a healthy blend between theory and practice. Teaching of public administration should be more grounded, more realistic, less theoretical and more applied. After all that is what the discipline of public administration is all about: an applied science."

(BRILLANTES & FERNANDEZ, 2013)

"Knowledge is Power" (Francis Bacon, 1597)

For him, the purpose of science is common good.

In the same way:

The purpose to seek more knowledge is to be in the position to prescribe how we could improve governance and the prospects for a more just society and world order.





How can this idea be normatively applied in the context of Philippine Public Administration?

How can revamping the study of Philippine Public Administration help in contributing to socioeconomic development?

How can improving the identity of this study in the country come to be considered world-class?

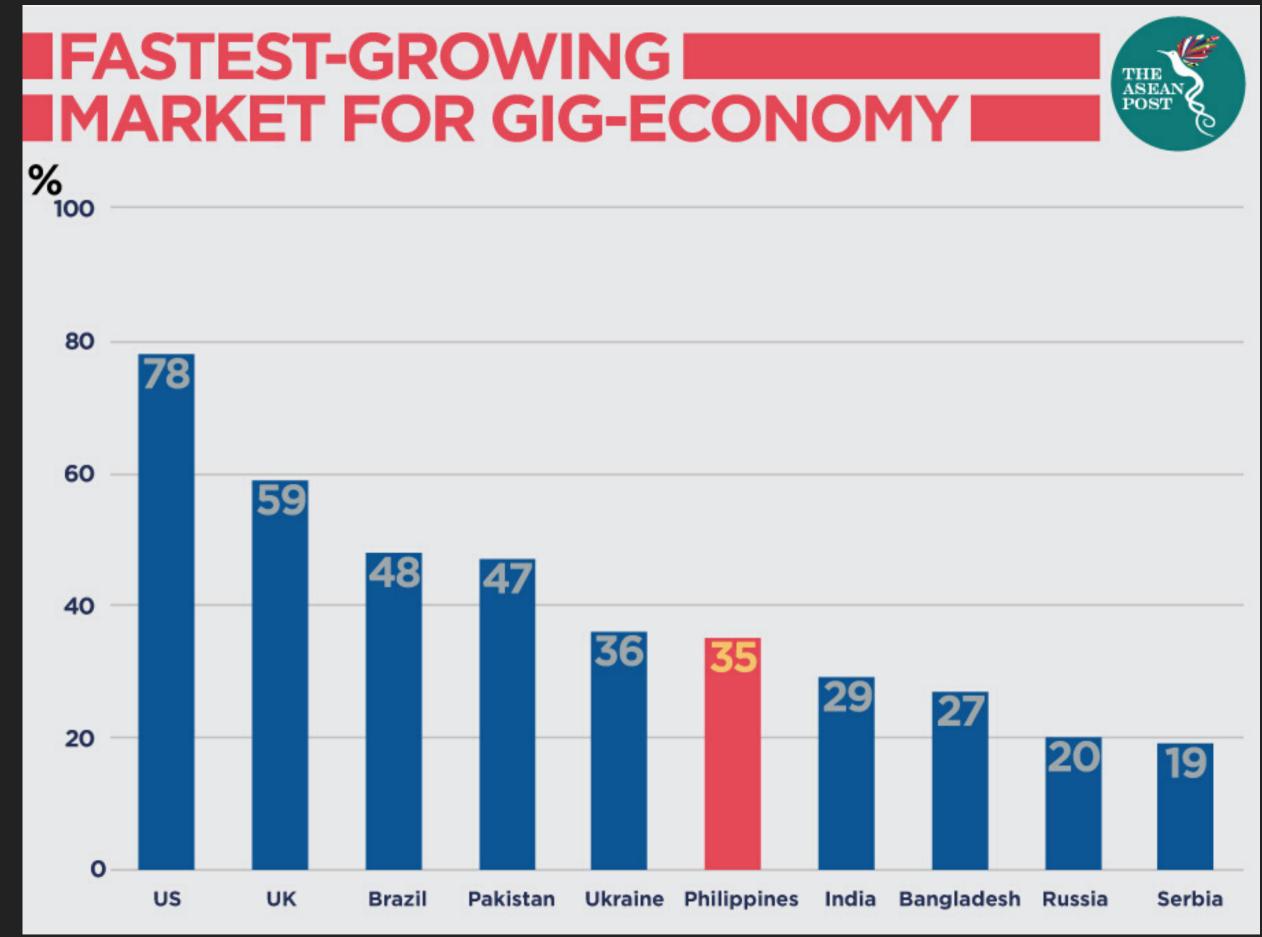


Refers to "an economy where organizations and businesses rely more on freelancer and independent workers, contracted on short-term basis, than they do on permanent staff" (Riley, 2018).

- Gets its name from the type of work being akin to an individual 'gig' (doling tasks out in bits and pieces)
- Non-standard form of employment; hole-in-the-wall
- Not entirely techonology/app-based; examples of it include UBER, Grab, Airbnb, UpWork

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IFASTEST-GROWING



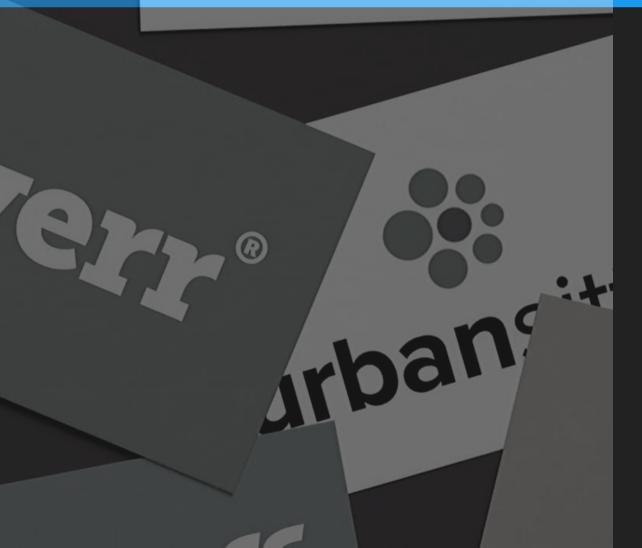
*Payoneer, a financial services company, surveyed 300,000 freelances in their network.

(Pofeldt, 2019)



PROS

work flexibility; prospects of higher income



2% (1.5 M) of the Philippine population are said to be freelancers.

75% of this are aged between 24-39 years old - mostly millenials.

CONS

no security/stability, or safety nets because it is largely unregulated



(Pofeldt, 2019)

WHAT ARE THE NEEDS OF THE ECONOMY?

WHAT ARE THE NEEDS OF THE CHANGED AND CHANGING WORLD ORDER?

FOR THE EXAMPLE GIVEN:

We need to ask questions like "Should the populations' mindset be changed? What about the importance of job security/retirement? How significant is e-commerce today and what is its impact on jobs?"



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