

TREEDC Holds International Renewable Energy Forum at TUP



The Tennessee Renewable Energy and Economic Development Council (TREEDC) and the Renewable Energy Association of the Philippines (REAP) held an educational forum for 200 students and faculty members at the Technological University of the Philippines (TUP) Manila campus on October 2, 2013. TUP President Dr. Olympio Caparas expressed his appreciation for REAP's and TREEDC's assistance to the university in creating more renewable energy awareness to TUP and the Philippines. REAP President Oly Serafica gave detailed presentations regarding the Philippine 2008 Renewable Energy Law and various solar lighting and pico hydro technologies in the Philippines. TREEDC President/Ducktown Mayor James Talley provided details about Ducktown, Tennessee solar and energy efficiency initiatives. 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 TUP Forum was the signing of an intent to become a sister-university with the University of Tennessee Chattanooga Engineering Department 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. TUP Forum Organizer Felipe Argamosa gave a presentation about TUP's biodiesel project with Jollibee Foods.

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

