University of the Philippines Diliman
–
Joint Computer Science Master’s Concept Presentation

Bruce Spencer
UNB Adjunct Professor
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The Philippines and Canada

- Tagalog is the fastest growing language in Canada.
  - 2011 Canadian Census

- “Filipinos used to flock to America ... but have discovered there’s a better pasture north of the United States.”
  - Philippines’ Ambassador Leslie Gatan

- Joint commission for bilateral co-operation.
  - MOU signed June 21 2012

- Harper is the first G8 Leader to visit Aquino since he took office in 2010
  - Nov 10, 2012
Introductions UPD

- UPD’s is the premier CS program in the Philippines
  - 553 undergraduate, 89 graduate students, 27 faculty
  - Chair Adrian Roy Valdez

- Areas of research
  - Algorithms and Complexity Laboratory
    - Henry Adorna and Jaime DL Caro
  - Computer Security
    - Susan Pancho-Festin
  - Web Science
    - Rommel Feria
  - Computer Vision and Machine Intelligence Group
    - Prospero Naval Jr.
  - Networks and Distributed Systems Group
    - Cedric Angelo Festin
  - Scientific Computing Laboratory
    - Vena Pearl Bongolan, and Adrian Roy Valdez
Introductions: UNB

- MCS established 1968
- BCS established 1972
- First Faculty of CS in Canada 1990
- First CS COOP in Atlantic Canada
- Information Security Center of Excellence
- IBM Center for Advanced Studies Atlantic
- Often tops in Atlantic Canada programming competitions

http://www.unb.ca/fredericton/cs/about/research/

Ali Ghorbani, Dean of CS
Arrangement as discussed so far

- **UPD program**
  - Terms are June – Oct and Nov – March
  - Load is 4 courses per term in first year
  - Require 8 courses plus thesis

- **Joint program proposal**
  - UPD students 1.3 years in Manila (June-Aug) one year in Fredericton (Sept – Aug)
  - Three UPD course credits transferred to UNB
  - Two UNB course credits transferred to UPD
  - UNB courses delivered
    - In person in Manila (possibly via adjunct)
    - Through distance education
    - When students are in Fredericton

- **Budget**
  - For Students: ERDT offers $14,000 for Canada (to be confirmed)
    - Additional support or Master’s COOP
    - Obliged to return for about 3 years
  - For Professors visiting Manila
    - ERDT provides travel, insurance and expenses of about $200 per day for 3 weeks
    - Accommodation estimated at $200 per week
    - Restaurant prices about half of Canadian prices
    - This is available even without joint program
    - Nov-May is the best time to visit (amihan)
Positive Impressions

- UNB is rated 4th comprehensive university
  - Part of the success: the proportion of graduate students from outside Canada up five per cent

  https://blogs.unb.ca/newsroom/2012/11/02/unb-moves-up-two-spots-to-fourth-in-macleans-university-rankings/

- Dr. Valdez and Dr. Ghorbani – strong support
- My impressions
  - Highly sought graduates: independent confirmation
  - Filipino friendliness and resilience
Life in Fredericton

• Fredericton often places high in the international “Smart City” competition
  – Free WIFI throughout the downtown core, 10th yr
  – Major IT employers: IBM/Q1 Labs, IBM/CAS Atlantic, Salesforce.com/Radian6, RIM, Siemens, CAE
  – Many IT SME’s
  – National Research Council Canada: Information Technology Lab
  – Among lowest cost of living, highest educated population, highest density of engineers in Canada
  – COOP employers
    • Fredericton: Caris, Professional Quality Assurance, NB Dept of Supply and Services, UNB FCS, NRC.
    • Elsewhere: RIM, Alcatel-Lucent, ExxonMobile