

Welcome Address
for the
Official Opening of the CERN Philippines School 2014
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Greetings!

Four years ago, a formal framework for scientific, technical and educational cooperation was drafted when two professors from the European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN), Professors Emmanuel Tsesmelis and Albert De Roeck, visited the country and met with DOST Officials. As a result of such cooperation, five of our students, particularly from the National Institute of Physics, were able to visit CERN from 2010 to 2013, under its 6-week summer internship program and learn on High Energy Physics (HEP).

Under the program, students were provided opportunity to participate in the day-to-day activities of CERN research teams, participating in various experiments at CERN, Geneva Switzerland. This is an extremely enriching personal experience in a multidisciplinary and multi-cultural environment; a once in a lifetime experience and opportunity to develop valuable and long-lasting network with other students and experts/ scientists from all over Europe.

The collaboration was further reinforced by a Memorandum of Understanding signed by CMS,NIP and CERN in 2011, to which DOST expressed its support.

Now, we are into the next phase – the realization of the CERN School Philippines 2014 where more students, not just from the National Institute of Physics but also from other universities all over the country, could learn and benefit from the partnership. This is indeed a great venue for collision and cohesion of minds as our local and foreign experts share their expertise to our undergraduate and graduate students thru lectures and seminars.

Consistent with our Human Resource Development Program, we at PCIEERD, extend our support to this undertaking in the hope that with the awareness of CERN programs and activities, our researchers and students would be able to forge collaboration with CERN researchers to come up with projects utilizing CERN expertise and if possible, facilities that will have applications and relevance to our National Research Agenda. We therefore take this opportunity to thank our colleagues from CERN for bringing in their expertise as well as experts from different cooperating institutions and participating universities who devoted their time and resources for making the CERN School Philippines 2014, a reality.

So dear students, let us take advantage of this opportunity; grasp all you can learn from the school and be able to integrate them in your respective laboratories/ field of study.

Let us all make a difference in the lives of our people thru science and technology.