

# SHORT BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH



**Dr. Clarence M. Batan, PhD (Sociology)** graduated from Dalhousie University at Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada under the scholarship grants from the Government of Canada and Dalhousie's Faculty of Graduate Studies. His main research interests are sociology of children and youth; education, work and development; information and communication technology; and mixed-methods research. He is an *Associate Professor* of the Faculty of Arts and Letters, a *Professorial Lecturer* at the Graduate School, and the *Director* of the Research Center on Culture, Education and Social Issues (RCESI) at the University of Santo Tomas (UST) (Manila, Philippines). He has experience in teaching, development work, and short documentary film-making. Since 2011, he was appointed as a committee member, and last August 2013, as Chair of the Technical Committee for Sociology by the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) to review and develop guidelines for the teaching of Sociology in colleges and universities in the country. Last June 2012, Dr. Batan joined the top tier international researchers in the field of population and development for a two-week intense workshop at Brown University, USA, during the *2012 Brown International Advanced Research Institutes (BIARI)* where he presented his research on a loosely-organized sector of relatively young Filipinos who are "waiting for employment", generally known as "istambays" (on standbys) in the Philippines. The following year,

2013, he won two academic awards, first, the *BIARI Residency Award* for Spring 2013, which gave him the opportunity to return to Brown University from April to June 2013 and continued his research on the Filipino istambay; and second, as contributor to the best book/monograph in the field of Social Sciences conferred to the *Philippine Sociological Review, Volume 60*, by the National Academy of Science and Technology, on his conceptual articulation of istambay phenomenon in the Philippines. In 2014, he served (a) as one of the international reviewers of the BIARI-initiated book project entitled, *Young Voices from the Global South: Stories of Vulnerabilities and Resilience* organized by Brown University & Universidad Militar Nueva Granada held at Bogota, Colombia; (b) as a paper presenter and session organizer during the *XVIII World Congress of Sociology* under the Research Committee of the Sociology of Youth, International Sociological Association held at Yokohama, Japan; and (c) as a keynote speaker during the *Invitational Symposium on Youth Outside the Northern Metropole* organized by the University of Newcastle at Newcastle, Australia.

Clarence is fondly known to his friends, colleagues and students as "Doc Yayet". He was born and raised in Binangonan, Rizal where he took his primary and secondary education. He earned his *Bachelor of Arts in Sociology* at the University of Santo Tomas (1995), *Magna Cum Laude*, with all the major university awards including the highest award given to a Thomasian student, the *Santo Tomas Aquinas Award*. He was named *One of the Ten Outstanding Students of the Philippines (TOSP)* conferred by President Fidel V. Ramos in 1995. Yayet earned his *Master of Arts in Sociology* at the University of the Philippines (Diliman) in 1999.

At present, Clarence holds the positions of *Vice President for Asia of the Research Committee 34 – Sociology of Youth, International Sociological Association (ISA)* (2014-2018) and *Vice President of the Philippine Sociological Society* (2014-2015).

Clarence has published in local refereed-journals, and produced an ethnographic book on Filipino rural youths in a fishing village from Talim Island, Binangonan, Rizal, entitled, *TALIM: Mga Kwento ng Sampung Kabataan* (TALIM: Life Stories of Ten Young People)(2000). His research work on youth and mobile phone technology was part of the international book, *Contemporary Youth Research: Local Expressions and Global Connections* (2005). In 2010, he published a creative non-fiction family auto-biography in Filipino entitled, *Batong-bahay: Naratibo ng Kahirapan at Tagumpay ng Isang Karaniwang Pamilyang Pilipino* (Stone house: A Filipino family's narrative of poverty and success) published by the UST Publishing House. He now embarks in producing books, scientific articles and creative works in Sociology, specifically about the istambays, and the peoples and cultures in his ethnographic areas: Talim Island, Binangonan Rizal; Tondo, Manila; and, Bay and Calamba, Laguna.

What keeps Yayet inspired are his creative dealings and intellectual articulations of the various contemporary social issues involving the Philippines and the global world; his community services especially with the marginalized Filipino children and youth; and his frequent encounters with books, poems, songs and films that portray and represent fascinating aspects of the Filipino culture. But what keeps Yayet grounded is his love and care for his family where he continuously experiences the tensions and meanings of life and of living.