MARIA ELENA PABLO RIVERA-BECKSTROM

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EDUCATION:

- **Ph.D. in Sociology** — Expected, Spring 2011
  New School for Social Research
  New York, NY

  Dissertation: *The United States and the Philippines: Colonial and Post-colonial Philippine Constitutional Politics*. Employing path dependency and textual analyses, I study how the colonial context influenced Philippine constitutional politics in 1934-47. This period signifies the formal culmination of the United States' 'exceptional' colonial mission of tutelage on democratic self-governance, and the founding of the Philippines as a sovereign nation. I argue that the colonial conditions and politics that were at work during the critical juncture, the making of the 1935 Philippine Constitution, elicited a pragmatic form of Filipino nationalism. This nationalism conceded much to the colonial power, but also asserted a nationalist agenda through distinct and important constitutional choices. This juncture set a pattern for instrumental, and later, flexible constitutional politics where legal principles such as the rule of law and separation of powers are, at times, undermined.

  Committee: Andrew Arato (Chair), Carlos Forment and Vince Boudreau

- **Master of Arts in Sociology** — May 2002
  New School for Social Research
  New York, NY 10003

- **Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration** — May 1988
  Maryknoll College
  Quezon City, Philippines

AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS:

- Conference Travel Grant, New School for Social Research — Summer/Fall 2009
- Chiune Sugihara Dissertation Fellowship — 2008-2009
  New School for Social Research
- Conference Travel Grant, New School for Social Research — Spring 2008
- Bordin/Gillette Researcher Travel Fellowship — October 2007
  Bentley Historical Library, University of Michigan
- Student Research Travel Fund, New School for Social Research — Fall 2005
- International Fellowship — 2002-2003
  American Association of University Women (wait-listed)
- Residency Grant, Toyota Foundation, International House — 1999 to 2002
- Tuition Scholarship, New School for Social Research — 1999-2003
- Education Travel Grant, Ford Foundation — January 1999

- Finalist (with co-authors), National Book Awards, Social Sciences Category
  Manila Critics Circle September 1997

PUBLICATIONS:

- **Book:**

1996. *[De]Scribing Elections: A Study of Elections in the Lifeworld of San Isidro*. Quezon City: Institute for Popular Democracy. Co-author with Myrna Alejo and Noel Valencia.

- **Book Chapter:**

2010. "The Colonial Condition and the Philippine Constitution making of 1934-35." Edited by Julian Go. *More American Than We Admit*. Manila: Vibal Foundation.

- **Articles:**

1997. "*Dagyaw* and Its Role in the Accumulation of Social Capital." *Work in Progress Series*. Quezon City: Institute for Popular Democracy.
1996. "Some Reflections on Alternative Development." *Conjuncture* 8:3. Quezon City: Institute for Popular.
1996. "Looking Back, Looking Forward: Ten Years of IPD, interview with Joel Rocamora and Ed dela Torre." *Conjuncture* 7:6. Quezon City: Institute for Popular Democracy. With Noel Valencia.

- **Book Reviews:**

Robert Putnam. *Making Democracy Work: Civic Traditions in Modern Italy*. In *Conjuncture* Vol.7 No.5, February 1996. Quezon City: Institute for Popular Democracy.
Chantal Mouffe (Ed.). *Dimensions of Radical Democracy*. In *Conjuncture* Vol.7 No.2, July-Aug. 1995. Quezon City: Institute for Popular Democracy.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS:

- "Colonialism and Constitutionalism: The Philippine Case." Comparative Historical Sociology Session. American Sociological Association Annual Meeting. August 14, 2010.

- "On Legality and Dictatorship: The Philippine Case." Comparative Historical Sociology Session. American Sociological Association Annual Meeting, San Francisco, August 8-11, 2009.

- "Colonial-Metropolitan Impetus in the Philippine Constitution-making of 1934-35." Association for Asian Studies, Chicago, March 26-29, 2009.

- "Truth and Freedom in a Controlled Public Sphere: The Philippine Case." First Forum of the International Sociology Association, Barcelona, Spain, September 5-8, 2008.

- "Colonial Impetus and Post-colonial Constitution-making in the Philippines." First Forum of the International Sociology Association, Barcelona, Spain, September 5-8, 2008.

- "The Philippines and the United States: Post-colonial Constitutional Politics." Annual Meeting of the Association for Asian Studies, Atlanta, April 3-6, 2008.

- "The Forces of Globalization in the Philippine Experience." Annual Meeting of the Eastern Sociological Society, New York, February 21-24, 2008.

- "The Philippine Social Imaginary: Continuities and Changes." Asian Studies on the Pacific Coast, Honolulu, June 15, 2007.

***TEACHING EXPERIENCE*:**
Responsible for developing the syllabi, conducting classes, advising and evaluating students.

- **Part-time Lecturer** Spring 2004 to Spring 2010
  Rutgers University, Newark, New Jersey
  Law and Society, Social Change, Classical Sociological Theory (Writing-intensive Course), *Contemporary Social Theory, Social Movements, American Society, Social Problems* and *Introduction to Sociology*

- **Adjunct Assistant Professor** Fall 2005 to Fall 2009
  Long Island University, Brooklyn, New York
  Introduction to Sociology, Social Inequalities, Social Movements

- **Adjunct Instructor** Fall 2003
  Drew University, Madison, New Jersey
  Introduction to Sociology

- **Adjunct Instructor** Fall 2002 & Fall 2001
  Manhattan College, New York
  Introduction to Sociology

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE:

- **Research Assistant to Prof. Alfred McCoy** January 2000 to December 2002
  University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin
  Conducted archival research on a brewing company in Brooklyn, NY and a genealogical research on the family-owners of the same company.

- **Research Assistant to Jose Eliseo Rocamora, Ph.D.** July to December 1999
  Institute for Popular Democracy, Quezon City, Philippines
  Conducted a study on governance and democratization discourse in the Philippines.

- **Assistant Policy Analyst** October 1997 to June 1998
  Institute of Philippine Culture, Ateneo de Manila University, Quezon City, Philippines
  Conducted policy research on watershed management and community forestry.

- **Research Associate** July 1990 to September 1997
  Institute for Popular Democracy, Quezon City, Philippines
  Conducted social and political-cultural research; conducted fora and trainings; organized lectures and study groups; wrote articles for publication; and, engaged in political advocacies.

- **University Research Associate** January 1990 to June 1990
  Sentro ng Wikang Filipino, University of the Philippines System, Quezon City, Philippines
  Liaised with the different units of the University system, monitored and documented the implementation process of the university's language policy, and assisted in the Filipino language educational campaign workshops and seminars.

- **Research Assistant** October 1988 to December 1989
  Office of the Peace Commissioner, Office of the Philippine President, Manila, Philippines
  Conducted research on social issues in Zamboanga del Sur, Mindanao; assisted in coordinating dialogue/fora between Non-Profit Organizations, People's Organizations and government agencies; and assisted in facilitating the resolution of the researched social issues concerning the Subanen indigenous people.

INVITED PRESENTATIONS:

- "The Philippine-American War." Andrew Arato and Orville Lee's course on *Symbolic Violence*, New School for Social Research, New York, Spring 2003. (Not registered for the course.)
- "The Fall of the Weimar Republic." Andrew Arato's course on *Problems of Democracy and Dictatorship II*, New School for Social Research, New York, Fall 2000. (Not registered for the course.)
- "Community Ethos and Political Judgments." EMPOWER and the Department of Agrarian Reform, Nueva Ecija, Philippines, 1996.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE and WORKSHOPS:

- Panel Organizer, "Postcolonial Constitutionalism and Politics in Asia." Annual Meeting of the Association for Asian Studies, Atlanta, April 3-6, 2008.
- Participant, "Writing Across the Curriculum Colloquium" (A workshop on teaching writing-intensive courses). Rutgers University, Newark, May 12, 2005.
- Coordinator, Critical Studies Group, Institute for Popular Democracy, Quezon City, Philippines 1994-1996.
- Facilitator, "People-Centered Development Seminar-Training." Non-Government Organization (NGO) Liaison Department, Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Davao City, Philippines, 1993.
- Facilitator, "Community Leaders' Life History Workshop." Education for Life Foundation, Quezon City, Philippines, 1993.
- Facilitator, "First Upland Farmers' Congress." Philippine Association for Intercultural Development, Manila, Philippines, 1991.
- Facilitator, "Urban Labor Union Leaders' Workshop." Institute for Popular Democracy and Ecumenical Institute for Labor Education and Research, Manila, Philippines, 1991.

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE:

- Supervisor, University Computing Center, New School University, New York, Spring 2001 to Spring 2006.
- Student Liaison, Sociology Department and Graduate Faculty Admissions Office, New School for Social Research, New York, Fall 2002 to Spring 2005.

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONAL MEMBERSHIPS:

- International Sociological Association
- American Sociological Association
- Law and Society Association
- Social Science History Association
- Association for Asian Studies