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Philippine Center for
Economic Development

present a seminar on

'Policies for Industrial Progress', not 'Industry Policy': Lessons from Southeast Asia

by

Prof. Hal Hill

9 December 2015, Wednesday

4:00-5:00 p.m. – Room 303

Abstract:

This paper surveys Southeast Asia's experience with industry policy. We do so with reference to the theme implied in our title, that is, designing policies for industrial progress, rather than industry policy, the latter defined as policies that deliberately introduce non-neutral inter-industry incentives. We adopt a case study approach, investigating cases of sector-specific successes in several countries, and the factors underpinning the success. Examples include the Thai automotive industry, Malaysian higher education, the Philippine BPO's and the Cambodian garments industry. We also examine the special case of Indonesia, a country that has achieved episodes of rapid industrialization, but in which the general policy environment rather than sector-specific factors have been the major drivers of growth. We conclude by drawing out the broader analytical and policy implications of these case studies.

About the speaker:

Hal Hill is the H.W. Arndt Professor of Southeast Asian Economies at the Australian National University. His general research interests are the economies of ASEAN, including country case studies and thematic, comparative work; industrialization and foreign investment in East Asia; regional (sub-national) development; and the political economy of development. He is the author or editor of 18 books and has written about 150 academic papers and book chapters. He is an occasional op-ed contributor to Australian and Asian newspapers and magazines, and a radio/TV commentator. He has worked as a consultant for the Australian Government, the Indonesian Government, the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank, and several United Nations agencies. He has held visiting appointments at Gadjah Mada University, the University of the Philippines, the Institute of Southeast Asian Studies, the University of Oxford, the International University of Japan, the Tinbergen Institute, Columbia University, University of Freiburg, and the National University of Malaysia. He serves on the editorial board of 13 academic journals.



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For group attendance, please contact Ms. Gloria Lambino, UPSE Economics Research Center
Phone: 632-9205465, Email: gdlambino@econ.upd.edu.ph