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**PCED** | Philippine Center for  
Economic Development

*present a seminar on*

**“Rights and Capabilities in the Magna Carta on Women?”**

**Dr. Marina Fe B. Durano**

*Assistant Professor, UP School of Economics*

**21 February 2014, Friday**

**4:00 p.m. – Room 303**

***Abstract:***

The capabilities approach is used to assess R.A. 7910 or the Magna Carta on Women potential for contributing to human development in the Philippines. Sen argues that inequality evaluation must be undertaken in the space of capabilities. The Magna Carta on Women identifies two sources of inequality and these are discrimination and marginalization. The law identifies rights entitlements in response to these inequalities as well as the provision of social protection to address vulnerability. The difference between the two approaches is that human rights are ethical demands while freedoms in the sense of capabilities characterize the conditions of persons. In addition, there is an absence of reference in the Magna Carta on Women to care and the caring nature of society, which has been argued as essential to gender justice. On these two counts, the Magna Carta falls short of what the capabilities approach hopes to see in pursuing human development.

***About the speaker:***

**Marina Fe B. Durano** is Assistant Professor at the University of the Philippines School of Economics, where she teaches development economics.

Her recent work includes a chapter entitled "Gender-equitable public policy: challenges to policy design amidst contestations in a multi-polar world" in the book *New Visions for Market Governance: Crisis and Reinvention* published in 2012 by Routledge. She has contributed chapters to the 2013 Philippine Human Development Report and the 1997 Philippine Human Development Report. She also published articles in the *Journal of Gender Studies* (Ochanomizu University), *Development*, and the *Philippine Review of Economics*.



**Free and open to the public**

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