



CONSULATE GENERAL OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES CHICAGO

PRESS RELEASE NO.119-2018

PARTNERSHIPS WITH OKLAHOMA'S ACADEMIC AND RESEARCH COMMUNITY, A DRIVING FORCE FOR ENHANCED COOPERATION



Consul General Gina A. Jamoralin discusses PH-OK trade relationship with officials from the Oklahoma Department of Commerce in Oklahoma City on Friday, Oct. 26.

Academic partnerships can drive the Philippines' economic cooperation with the State of Oklahoma to much farther and higher levels, Consul General Gina A. Jamoralin noted in her meeting with Mr. Jesse Garcia, Global Project Manager, and Mr. Aldwyn Sappleton, Deputy Director for Research and Economic Analysis of the Oklahoma Department of Commerce.

MOUs have been established by the Oklahoma State University with four Philippine universities since 1997 focusing on research and exchange study programs in agricultural sciences and natural resources. The University of Oklahoma's renowned School of Meteorology also has a relationship with UP Diliman's Meteorology and Oceanography Department.

The Consul General has suggested a Sister State or Province relationship with Oklahoma with a view to facilitating closer cooperation not only in academic or scientific research in agriculture and weather, but also in two-way trade and investments. Oklahoma's strength in the aerospace and defense industries, biosciences, energy, information and financial services, manufacturing and transportation and distribution can be explored by potential investors from the Philippines.

As of August 2018, the Philippines ranks as Oklahoma's 66th export destination and 17th source of imports. Both can look forward to expanding trade in commodities with a foot in the door through existing academic cooperation and a possible Sister State/Province relationship. **END.**

