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HSBC spearheads Principals LEAD conference

Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corp. (HSBC) brought together select NCR elementary school principals for a two-weekend Leadership Enhancement and Development (LEAD) Program at the Ateneo de Manila University (ADMU). The Principals LEAD Program, held at the ADMU's Social Science Building, started on Sept. 20-21, and will end tomorrow, Sept. 28.

Education and management gurus were invited to help the participants in rekindling their passion to lead their respective schools.

Former ADMU Grade School headmaster Tito Caluag, SJ, discussed leadership as a vocation during the first day of the workshop series.

"It makes you feel that you can follow your dream, that you can go back to it," declared Ligaya Capco of Capt. H. Francisco Elementary School, about the first day of the workshop series. "We were able to reconnect to our personal stories on how important being an educator is."

On the second day of the conference, Dr. Fe Hidalgo, former Department of Education (DepEd) OIC,

challenged the principals to rethink their school purpose. She guided the principals in formulating mission-vision statements and in listing down core values which define the identity of every school.

Principals were allowed to unleash their creativity while contemplating their visions. Like the pupils in their own schools, they drew using crayons, dramatized their ideas, and even danced just for the sake of fun.

The conference will resume today and tomorrow. Director of Ateneo Teacher Center, Dr. Ma. Celeste Gonzales, will speak on "Leading the Way: Creating a School-Based Training Plan and Instructional Leadership" while Prof. Mario Antonio Lopez from the Asian Institute of Management will enlighten the participants on "Steps Towards Leadership: Managing Your School."

HSBC has engaged Sa Aklat Sisikat to implement this project. Both organizations have been working together to uplift the quality of Philippine education through book donations, reading programs and teacher training to public schools since 2003.

