

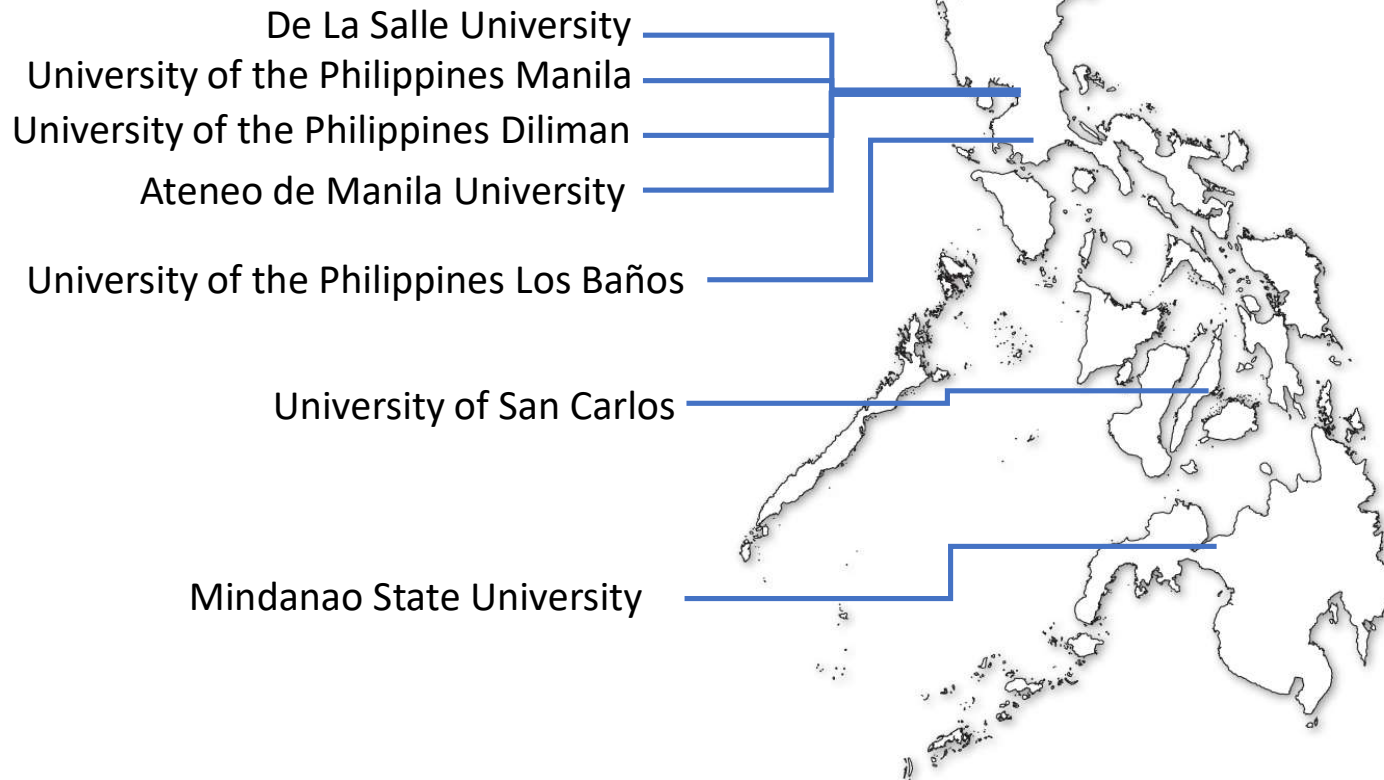
8<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Women in Physics



# Women in Physics in the Philippine Academe

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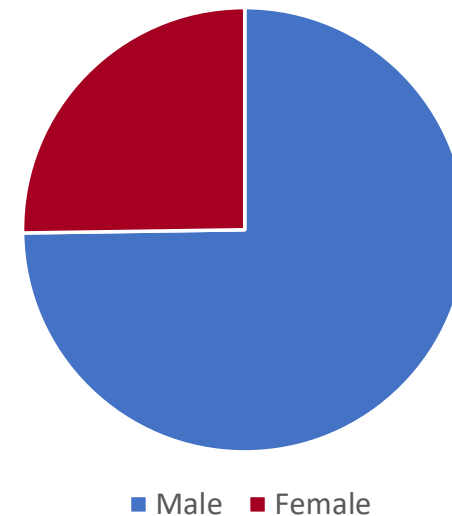
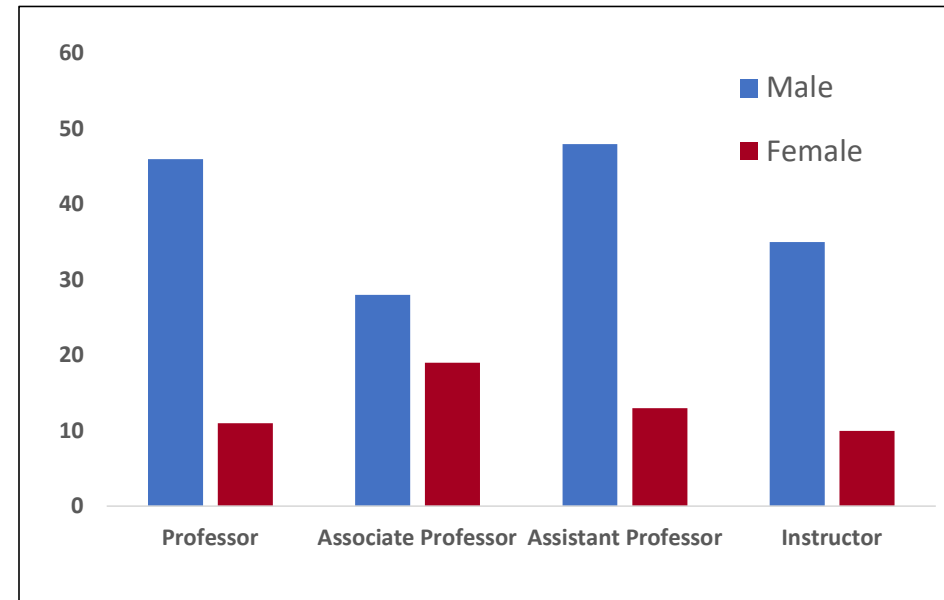
# Philippine Universities Offering Physics Graduate Programs



- There are 39 universities and colleges offering Physics and Applied Physics courses in the Philippines, 7 of which offer Physics graduate degree programs.

# Academic Profile

- Women constitute only 25.24% of the Physics community in the Philippine academe.
- There is a significant gender disparity across different academic ranks.
- Efforts are needed to ensure equal opportunities for women, especially in entry-level positions in Physics.
- While women in Physics may be underrepresented in the Philippines, some have been able to break through barriers and hold leadership positions within the field.



# Challenges

- **Underrepresentation:** Although the number of women pursuing degrees and careers in physics has increased through the years, they are still underrepresented at different academic and professional levels. This lack of representation can create a sense of isolation and limit opportunities for mentorship and collaboration.
- **Work-life balance:** Balancing family responsibilities and career aspirations can be particularly challenging for women in Physics. The demanding nature of research, long working hours, and lack of support for childcare can make it difficult for women to sustain their careers or progress in the field.
- **Cultural and societal expectations:** Cultural norms and societal expectations regarding gender roles can also impact women in Physics. Traditional expectations of women as primary caregivers or limited career choices may discourage women from pursuing careers in Physics or create barriers to their progress.

# Government Initiatives and Policies for women empowerment

- Republic Act 7192 “Women in Development and Nation Building Act” (1992)<sup>1</sup>
  - An Act promoting the integration of women as full and equal partners of men in development and nation building and for other purposes
- Magna Carta of Women (Republic Act No. 9710)<sup>2</sup>
  - A comprehensive women’s human rights law that seeks to eliminate discrimination against women by recognizing, protecting, fulfilling and promoting the rights of Filipino women, especially those in marginalized sector.
- Gender and Development (GAD) Plans and Budgets<sup>3</sup>
  - Government agencies are required to integrate gender perspectives and considerations into their policies, programs, and budgets.
  - Funding agencies implemented the GAD scoring to ensure gender-inclusive research projects
- Gender mainstreaming in education
  - The Philippine Commission on Higher Education (CHED) has issued guidelines to promote gender mainstreaming in higher education institutions
  - encourage universities and colleges to integrate gender perspectives in their curriculum, research, and policies to promote gender equality and address gender-based violence on campuses.

<sup>1</sup> AN ACT PROMOTING THE INTEGRATION OF WOMEN AS FULL AND EQUAL PARTNERS OF MEN IN DEVELOPMENT AND NATION BUILDING AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES <https://www.officialgazette.gov.ph/1992/02/12/republic-act-no-7192/>

<sup>2</sup> Magna Carta of Women (Republic Act No. 9710) <https://www.officialgazette.gov.ph/2009/08/14/republic-act-no-9710/>

<sup>3</sup> <https://web.coa.gov.ph/GAD/index.php/news/policies>

<sup>4</sup> Philippine Commission on Women <https://pcw.gov.ph/the-national-gender-and-resource-program/>

- Philippines is the most gender-equal country in Asia<sup>1</sup>
  - 16<sup>th</sup> out of 146 countries in the 2023 Global Gender Gap Index
  - 0.791 gender parity score

<sup>1</sup> World Economic Forum Global Gender Gap Report 2023 <https://www.weforum.org/reports/global-gender-gap-report-2023/>

# References

- Republic Act 7192 “Women in Development and Nation Building Act”.  
<https://www.officialgazette.gov.ph/1992/02/12/republic-act-no-7192/>
- Magna Carta of Women (Republic Act No. 9710)  
<https://www.officialgazette.gov.ph/2009/08/14/republic-act-no-9710/>
- <https://web.coa.gov.ph/GAD/index.php/news/policies>
- Philippine Commission on Women <https://pcw.gov.ph/the-national-gender-and-resource-program/>

# Acknowledgement

- B Egwolf, RV Janayon, JM Lazarte, MT Lim, RD Mero, NGT Uriarte-Resurreccion, KB Simbulan and R Violanda for their help in the data collection.