11th APRU Research Symposium on Multi-Hazards around the Pacific Rim

“Promoting Resilience and Biodiversity amidst Multi-Hazards”
Declaration at the University of the Philippines on the Occasion of the 11th APRU Research Symposium on Multi-Hazards around the Pacific Rim on 7-10 October 2015

“APRU MH2015 Symposium Declaration at U.P.”
Whereas we affirm* that universities and academia should commit to and need to work on:

1. supporting further technology development;
2. strengthening and encouraging innovative, creative, and interdisciplinary research in various fields related to disaster risk reduction and management;
3. making efforts to create and adopt the effective curricula and courses for disaster risk reduction and management;
4. supporting the development of links, platforms and opportunities for various stakeholders;
5. working with local stakeholders and encouraging their involvement and participation in disaster risk reduction and management process; and
6. strengthening our own capacity of disaster preparedness on campus;

*Based on “APRU Academic Contributions to Disaster Risk Reduction” by IRIDeS and APRU (2015)
Whereas we affirm* the Sendai Framework 2015-2030 recognition of stakeholder roles that:

“[W]hile States have the overall responsibility for reducing disaster risk, it is a shared responsibility between Governments and relevant stakeholders. …

Academia, scientific and research entities and networks [are to be encouraged by the States] to:

focus on the disaster risk factors and scenarios, including emerging disaster risks, in the medium and long term; increase research for regional, national and local application; support action by local communities and authorities; and support the interface between policy and science for decision-making…”

*Based on “Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030” (2015 March 18)
Whereas we support* the Sendai Framework 2015-2030 priority areas for action:

1. understanding disaster risk;
2. strengthening governance to manage disaster risk;
3. investing in disaster risk reduction and management for resilience; and
4. enhancing disaster preparedness for effective response, and to “build back better” in recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction;

*Based on “Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030” (2015 March 18)
Therefore we declare our sustained commitment to:

1. contributing to and harnessing the APRU MH network of researchers and academics through the MH symposium series and other APRU MH program activities;

2. collaborating across our various disciplines to publish, disseminate or deploy the outputs and outcomes of our academic works, including but not limited to such academic clusters as: arts and humanities; health, social sciences, and law; management and economics; science, technology, engineering, and agriculture; and

3. investing time, talent and treasure on academic institutions as long-term platforms for advancing and promoting disaster risk reduction and management within the whole society, including but not limited to the proposed “Resilience Institute” at the University of the Philippines.