



FPACC

PRESS RELEASE

28th July 2025

FPACC Global Business Conference “EAST MEETS WEST” Wraps Up with Resounding Success in Orlando, Florida

Orlando, FL – July 28, 2025 – The Federation of Philippine American Chambers of Commerce (FPACC) in collaboration with Philippine American Chamber of Commerce-Central Florida (PACC-CFL) is proud to announce the successful conclusion of its much-anticipated Global Business Conference: “East meets West,” held from June 19–22, 2025, at Rosen Shingle Creek in Orlando, Florida.

Bringing together a dynamic convergence of global entrepreneurs, innovators, venture capitalists, thought leaders and public-private stakeholders from across the globe—including representatives from Mexico, Europe, Canada, the Philippines, and the United States—the event showcased the power of cross-border collaboration and cultural exchange. Spanning four dynamic days with a global agenda that delivered impact, the conference featured sessions on: Breaking Barriers, Building Global Partners, Tourism and Trade, Innovation and Technology, and Cottage Industry. These discussions fostered forward-thinking partnerships, inspired sustainable business growth, and highlighted the entrepreneurial potential of emerging markets.

The summit featured keynote addresses and panels from distinguished leaders including Honorary Consul Sharol P. Noblejas from the State of Florida, Consul Eunina Mangio from Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PCCI), Orange County Mayor Jeffrey Demings, and Eric Bustamante of Philippine National Bank. The Trade Panel brought together international voices from Mexico, Spain, and the U.S., highlighting cross-border collaboration and economic growth.

In a journey through history and as a unique tribute, the event included an immersive segment honoring the historic 1565 Manila



Newly elected and sworn in FPACC Board of Directors



L-R: Ting Bouffard, FACC Central Florida President, Marie Cuning, FPACC President, Dr. Yolanda Stern, FPACC Founder & Chairman Emeritus and Lifetime Achievement Awardee, Consul Nina Mangio of PCCI and Brad Baldia, FPACC Executive Director



United in Purpose: FPACC attendees gather for a memorable moment at the "East meets West" Global Conference

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Galleon Trade, the original "East meets West" voyage of 1565, marking the launch of the Manila galleon trade route—a reminder of how global trade and mutual respect transcend centuries. Today's "tornaviaje" is not just a return route—it's a renewed commitment to shared prosperity as shared by PACC-CFL President Ting Bouffard. Rooted in the spirit of Filipino hospitality, the conference mission was clear: to create an inclusive and meaningful space for business and cultural communities to forge transformative connections. Participants embraced this vision wholeheartedly, building bridges between the East and West through shared purpose and innovation. Tourism and trade sessions were explored, with presentations from Megaworld International and Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority, followed by breakout sessions on real estate, farming, and education.

Innovation & Technology Panels covered telecommunications, medical tourism, Medicare portability, cybersecurity, and AI, with a compelling keynote by Ami Marayag, a high-ranking FBI official and proud Filipina American, who spoke on protecting businesses from physical and cyber threats along with Daniel Marney-Elkins on artificial intelligence's role in business transformation. Celebrating Cottage Industry & Women in Business, a special panel honored successful women including Dr. Yolanda Stern, Founder & Chairman Emeritus, FPACC, Marie Cuning, Federation of Philippine American Chambers of Commerce (FPACC) President, Consul Eunina Mangio of PCCI, Attorney Aurora Austriaco, Shareholder at Valentine, Austriaco, and Bueschel P.C. (VAB), Marylou Oro, DPN, CEO & Owner of Visiting Doctors Group of Companies, and Fleur Magbanua-Mansur, Owner and Clinical Resource Nurse of Grace Home Health Care, LLC., moderated by Charmel Dela Cruz, Vice President Special Projects and Jovie Calma, Vice President Global Communications.

The summit culminated in a dazzling Gala Night, featuring remarks from Asian Development Bank Ambassador Chantale Wong. It also proudly hosted the FPACC Awardees of the Year, spotlighting chambers and individuals whose extraordinary efforts have shaped communities and inspired global collaboration. Emceed with warmth and elegance by Jovie Calma, Vice President Global Communications, the awards celebrated a range of achievements: Rising Chamber of the Year: Filipino American Chamber of



Chamber of Commerce of the Year- Filipino American Chamber of Commerce of North Carolina (NC)



Rising Chamber of the Year Filipino American Chamber of Commerce Colorado (CO)



**Global Community Outreach of the Year Award
Filipino American Chamber of Commerce
of Greater Houston (TX)**



Chamber Leadership Award- Filipino American Chamber of Commerce Central Florida (FL)

the Year: Filipino American Chamber of Commerce Colorado, Global Community Outreach of the Year Award: Filipino American Chamber of Commerce of Greater Houston, Chamber Leadership Award: Filipino American Chamber of Commerce Central Florida, Chamber of Commerce of the Year: Filipino American Chamber of Commerce of North Carolina, Legacy Award: Eric Bustamante, 1st Vice President and General Manager of Philippine National Bank (PNB), Lifetime Achievement Awards: Maria Victoria Acosta, Senior Vice President of Megaworld and Dr. Yolanda Stern, Founder & Chairman Emeritus, Federation of Philippine American Chambers of Commerce (FPACC) and President of One World Institute. These awards reflected FPACC's enduring values and spotlighted the remarkable impact made across its network. The formal presentation and swearing-in of elected and appointed officers led by FPACC Elections Chair Minnie Palis marked a new chapter in FPACC's leadership journey.

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One of the highlights of the night was the Cultural Showcase: "A Flight Through Culture" curated by PACC-CFL, this breathtaking performance drew inspiration from the Manila Galleon Trade, illuminating heritage links across Spain, Mexico, and the Philippines. Highlights included: Don Soledad & Flamenco Dancers – Spain, Mexico Danza Orlando – Mexico, Filipino Student Association (UCF) & Philippine Performing Arts Company (PPAC) – Philippines and a Fashion Show from Jean Amour Collection – traditional textiles fused with global design aesthetics. This showcase served as a powerful reminder of how cultural exchange continues to bridge commerce, identity, and diplomacy.

Charting FPACC's future, FPACC President Marie Cunning delivered a stirring keynote that traced FPACC's remarkable journey of institutional growth—expanding from 12 to 38 chambers—while casting a bold vision for the future. Her address spotlighted the federation's strategic pillars: global partnerships, digital innovation, and community-driven service. Cuning underscored the importance of leadership continuity and structural reform, emphasizing the federation's commitment to sustainable progress and inclusive excellence. She also set the stage for the upcoming milestone celebration—the FPACC 30th Anniversary in North Carolina, promising a historic gathering of visionaries and changemakers. Her closing message resonated with the room, offering both inspiration and unity:

"Let us continue to grow, to serve, and to lead together."

FPACC extends heartfelt thanks to all speakers, sponsors, performers, and attendees for making the East Meets West Business Summit a resounding success. FPACC remains committed to nurturing this global network, accelerating inclusive economic growth, and shaping the future through dynamic partnerships. For post-conference insights, visit www.fpaccunited.com or contact fpaccpr@gmail.com.



Legacy Award Eric Bustamante, 1st Vice President and General Manager of Philippine National Bank (PNB)



FPACC President Marie Cunning (AZ) and Ting Bouffard American Chamber of Commerce Central Florida (FL)



Chamber of Commerce of the Year- Filipino American Chamber of Commerce of North Carolina (NC)