

GAIN 2nd Annual Conference

by Dr. Peter P. Laurel

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Dusit Thani Makati

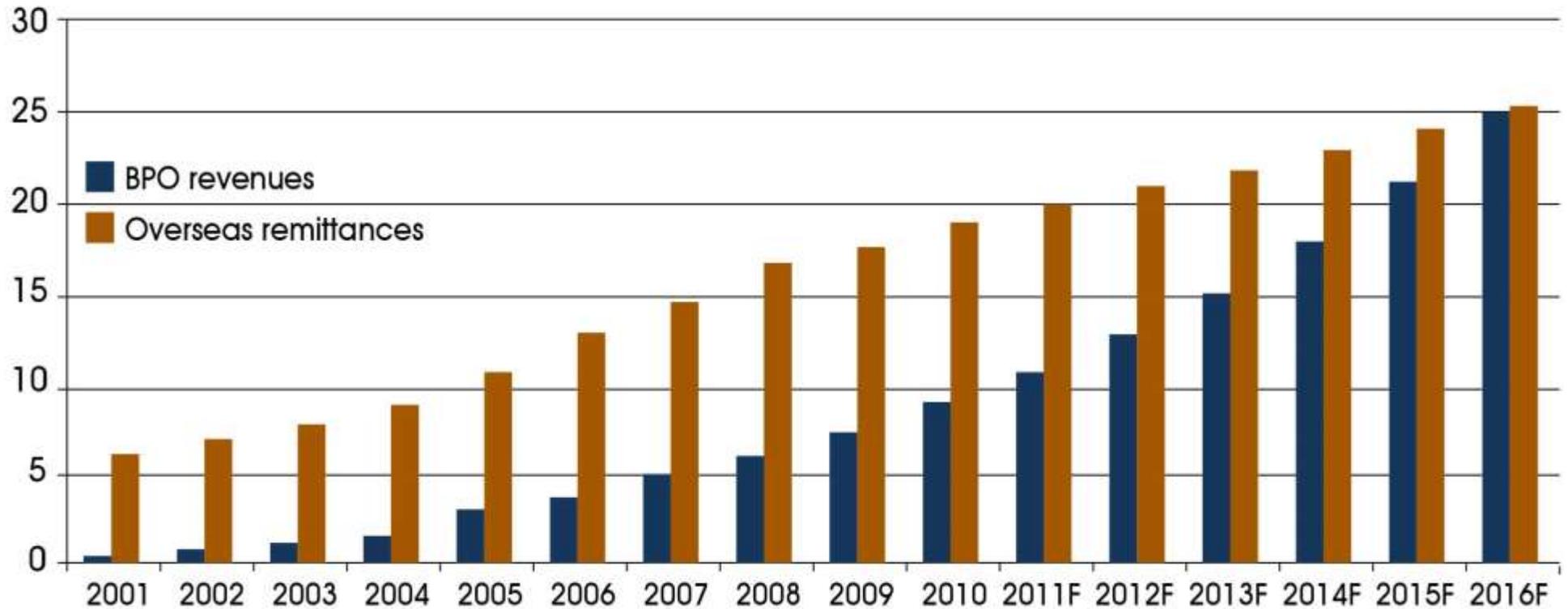
How we started

We started as a small group of people eager to make a difference and ensure that our graduates and workforce are ready for the industry needs today, and the future needs of tomorrow.

The importance of the English skills issue

The Philippines BPO and Overseas Remittances Should Each Grow to \$25 Billion

In billions of dollars



Source – CLSA Asia-Pacific Markets, BSP, Business Processing Association of the Philippines (BPAP)

Some Facts and Figures

(compiled in 2016) – last year's conference

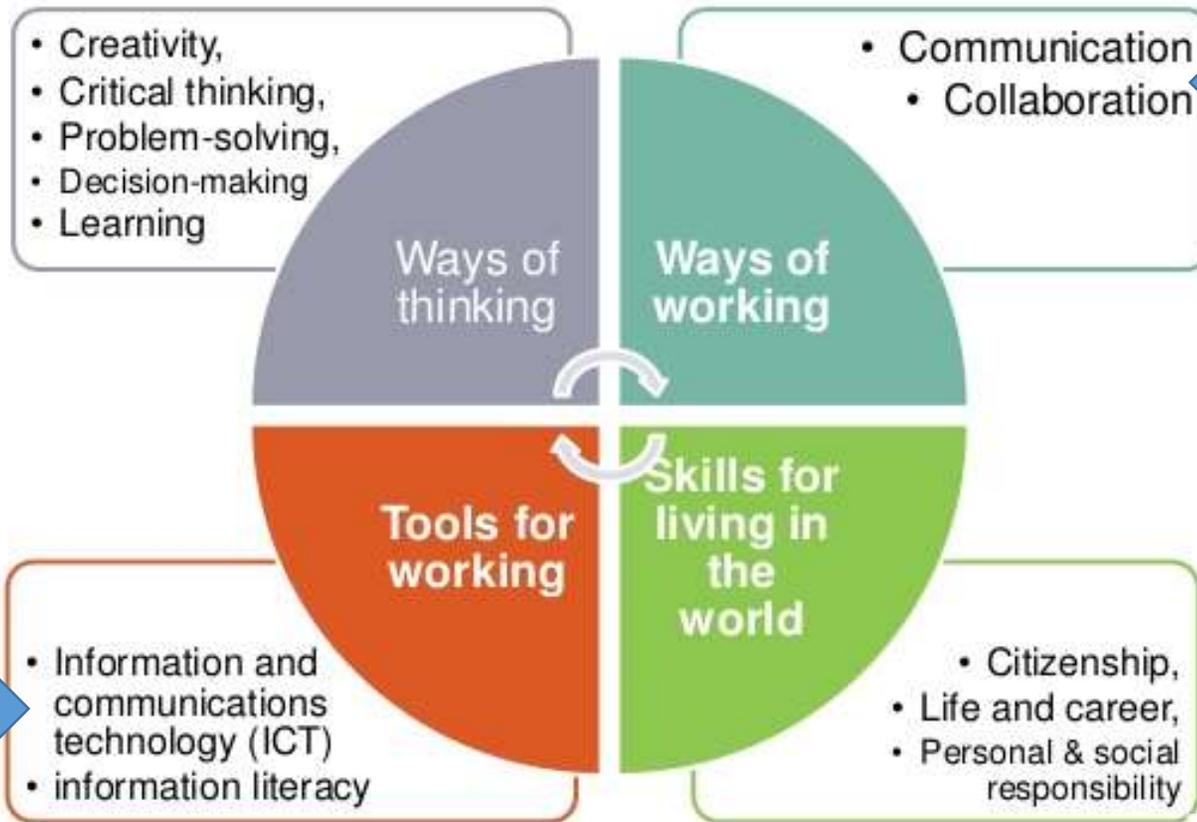
- ✓ 95 out of 100 graduates cannot be hired by the IT-BPM industry because of poor communication skills in English. English remains the number one reason why employers (not only IT-BPM e.g. Tourism, Healthcare) cannot hire graduates
- ✓ Singapore and Malaysia now outperform the Philippines with their college graduates in terms of English proficiency (comprehension and analytical skills)
- ✓ Malaysia now has declared that 52% of its public school English teachers meet the C1 CEFR standard, which is one of the highest standards for English proficiency, the highest being C2 (many Philippines college graduates are just B1 or lower)
- ✓ Malaysia, Thailand, Taiwan and Vietnam have adopted international English standards (CEFR Framework) by increasing their English language learning hours (from 2 hours to 5) in their curriculum in the past 2 years.

Achievements

- 2015-2017: Conducted and Sponsored the first Philippine Nation's English Report Card (Malaysia and Vietnam did the same research project where they spent \$5M+)
- 2017: Organized several workshops with industry, academe and government leaders (e.g. PACU, IBPAP, PMAP, CCAP, TESDA, etc)
- 2018: Held the first GAIN convention (Heritage Hotel, 300 participants) and drafted the first GAIN Resolution on English Proficiency (300+ signatures) on adopting the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (Used by 70+ countries)
- 2018: Media Coverage of ABS-CBN, GMA, Philippine Star, Inquirer on the GAIN Conference. Sen. Grace Poe filed SRN-622 (Inquiry on decline of English proficiency) as a result of the conference
- 2018: Co-organized with CHED the National English Roadmap for Global Competiveness Workshop with Sen. Pia Cayetano attending

Moving forward

FOUR CATEGORIES OF 21ST-CENTURY SKILLS



2018 GAIN Conference

2019 GAIN Conference

Importance of Digital Literacy

- Importance of protecting your own digital identity (Credit cards, E-mail, Scams, Phishing)
- Phenomenon of ‘Fake news’ and need for information discernment
- Learn new skills online (every training program from top institutions e.g. Harvard, MIT, Google are available for free or near free)
- Gen-Z are assumed to be technologically literate, but do not learn these skills automatically.

Initiatives of other countries

- Europe creating a common framework DigComp 2.0 for Digital Literacy
- United Nations included Digital Literacy as part of the Sustainable Development Goals (Indicator 4.4.2) and is developing a Global Framework for Digital literacy
- Singapore has launched a National ICT Masterplan and an office in-charge of digital readiness
- Computer science (which is a step higher than digitally literate) is becoming mandatory in several US states for K-12 including Texas, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Iowa, and Delaware.
- The Philippines has been credited as having integrated most of the Digital Literacy competencies successfully in the curriculum. However implementation and monitoring can still be improved.

Plans for 2019

- Propose National English Bill for Global Competitiveness (following the GAIN Resolution and the CHED workshop)
- Continue the resolutions of the 2018 GAIN Convention such as the implementation of the CHED National English Roadmap for Global Competitiveness
- Propose for the integration of global standards and 21st century skills into Quality assurance frameworks (e.g. PQF, Accreditation)
- Propose national digital literacy research as common frameworks start to standardize (DigComp – EU, ISTE – USA)
- (Open for proposals – based on Townhall Workshop Discussion today at 3pm)

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world.

Indeed, it’s the only thing that ever has.”

- Margaret Mead



Quotery.com