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**5<sup>th</sup> LEAD Council Meeting.** Members of LEAD Council traveled to Sendai, Japan on the 17<sup>th</sup> for its 5<sup>th</sup> meeting as part of its continuing education to understand the realities of the different sectors. May 18 was devoted to the sector with Br. Rodrigo, sector leader, orienting the members on the sector as well as La Salle Home. Br. Andre Labelle also made a presentation on Hakodate La Salle. In the afternoon of the 18<sup>th</sup>, Br. Antonio Cubillas drove some of the members of the council around Sendai and Miyagi Prefecture surveying the damage done by the earthquake and tsunami of 2011. The whole day of the 19<sup>th</sup> was devoted to the meeting.

I wish to thank Br. Rodrigo and the Brothers of Japan for all the preparations made to ensure the success of the council meeting in their sector. My gratitude as well to the members of the council for a fruitful meeting. To all of you: domo arigatou goizamashita!

**1<sup>st</sup> LEAD Directors' Workshop.** As mandated by the chapter, there will be a LEAD Directors' Workshop to be tentatively held in Kuala Lumpur sometime in January - February 2013. The council discussed this in Japan and we are in the process of finalizing dates and venue. It will be three full days. I am in contact with Sr. Miriam Ukeritis who is interested to be resource person for the workshop pending her availability of the dates we identify. Sr. Miriam is a leading researcher on religious life and co authored the groundbreaking "Future of Religious Life in the United States" in 1990. She was recently awarded by the highly respected Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate (CARA) at Georgetown University. We are hoping she will be available.

I will be working with the sector leaders in identifying the participants to the workshop. Will give you information as we finalize preparations.

**LEAD Personnel.** I wish to announce that **Br. Marco Rey Macatangay** has requested dispensation from vows. He was a member of the staff at the La Salle Novitiate and went home as the last group of novices departed. **Br. Wilson Gorosin**, novice, also withdrew his application for First Vows following his 30 day Ignatian retreat. The withdrawal of his application comes after a long discernment that began at the beginning of his novitiate. We wish Marco Rey and Wilson all the best as we keep them in our prayers.

**La Salle Novitiate.** We wish to welcome Br. Vincent Keating who will be Director of Novices for 2012 – 2013, filling in for Br. Cristy Croos of Sri Lanka who is on studies. Br. Vincent is an experienced formator not just in his own District of ANZPPNG but also in PARC. Allow me to take this opportunity to thank Br. Rory Higgins, Director of Novices for the last four years and prior to that, member of the Novitiate staff for three years. LEAD is deeply grateful for the accompaniment he has provided the novices of LEAD. More power to Brothers Vincent and Rory.

Fraternally,

**Br. Edmundo L. Fernandez FSC**  
LEAD Provincialate, Hong Kong