Dr Esther Care is a Senior Fellow at the Brookings Institution, and Professor at the University of Melbourne. She works to promote effective assessment practices that inform both policy and classroom practice. With the increasing focus globally on the need to promote generic skills, such as problem solving, critical thinking and collaboration, she researches how to incorporate these skills into the educational process. Esther has worked extensively in the Asia Pacific and Africa, and in the Philippines was the founding director of the Assessment Curriculum and Technology Research Centre, funded by Australia’s DFAT. She currently leads the Optimizing Assessment for All project which is designed to develop classroom assessment tasks to inform teaching and learning of 21st century skills, as well as highlight the alignment between assessment in the classroom and assessment at national level. Esther publishes primarily in the field of assessment of 21st century skills.

Dr Helyn Kim is a Post-Doctoral Fellow at the Brookings Institution. With a background in developmental and educational psychology, her research focuses on understanding and assessing a broad range of skills that contribute to learning and development. Her current work as part of Optimizing Assessment for All, seeks to build capacity among regional and national stakeholders for measuring and teaching 21st century skills, and address the alignment of assessment of 21st century skills with curriculum and pedagogy. She works with governments in Africa and Asia to support their education systems to improvement the assessment, teaching, and learning of 21st century skills. Helyn received her PhD in Education from the University of Virginia, where she studied multi-dimensional approaches to understanding the nature and interplay among the foundations of learning.

Dr Claire Scoular is a Research Fellow at ACER, working with the Global Educational Monitoring centre and contributing to the improvement of assessment practices in education. Her expertise is embedded in the application and statistical analysis of psychological measurement. Her specific interests centre around the assessment of 21st century skills, including traditional and automated test delivery systems as well as classroom based applications. At the University of Melbourne, her PhD identified a measurement methodology and test design systems for assessing collaboration in online automated environments. Her experience in psychometric assessment, intervention work and research spans across the UK, USA, New Zealand, Australia, the Philippines, and Vietnam.
Abelardo B. Medes

Abelardo B. Medes rose through the ranks at the Department of Education: from an Elementary classroom teacher to Master Teacher at the City Schools Division of Manila; and from an Education Program Specialist (EPS)-II, Senior and Supervising EPS at the former Bureau of Elementary Education to his current position as the Chief of the Education Assessment Division of the Bureau of Education Assessment (BEA). In November 2007 to April 2009, he worked as the Academic Director and Principal, of Millennium International School in Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. He was the DepEd’s country representative in a number of National and International trainings and workshops which involved online teacher course/training development and delivery; student and classroom assessment; and planning, policy, and standards. He was a curriculum writer and National Trainer/Lecturer for the K to 12 Basic Education Program and has authored books and workbooks in Grade School Mathematics. He received a number of prestigious awards, including the Dr. Juan Salcedo Jr. Science Education Award by the Department of Science and Technology (DOST), Outstanding Teacher of Manila in 1994, and Exemplary Mathematics Teacher, DepEd-MTAP in 1993. Presently, he is leading the BEA’s Education Assessment Division in the planning, formulation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of national assessment standards and policies, focusing on the 21st Century Skills.

Maria Angeles Guanzon Lapeña

Ms. Lapeña is an expert in the fields of psychometrics and social science research methodologies. A retired faculty member of De La Salle University where she taught for 30 years and twice served as Chair of the Psychology Department, Prof. Lapeña’s career in the academe actually started in the late 1970s, when she first started teaching at the University of the Philippines and the Ateneo de Manila University. Prof. Lapeña’s name is associated with the Pambansang Samahan sa Sikolohiyang Pilipino (PSSP), a national organization of Filipino psychology scientists and practitioners. She is well-known for her work on Dr. Virgilio G. Enriquez’s Panukat ng Ugali at Pagkatao, a locally developed Filipino multidimensional personality test inventory on Filipino personality. Ms. Lapeña has a number of published and unpublished work and serves as a resource person on Filipino personality, educational assessment, systems evaluation, and cognitive and affective test development. She has been active in the professional organizations as speaker and workshop facilitation, the most recent of which have been with the Philippines Guidance and Counseling Association as plenary speaker on action research in various counseling settings in 2018 and in 2019, as workshop facilitator for an advanced workshop on assessment in Guidance and Counseling. Prof. Lapeña is the current Chair of the Assessment Psychology Division of the Psychological Assessment of the Philippines.