



**Charlotte Kendra
Gotangco CASTILLO**

**Home Country
Philippines**

**Degree
PhD in Earth and
Atmospheric Sciences**

**Expertise
Earth and
Atmospheric Sciences**

**Research Focus
Climate Change and
Tropical Deforestation**

**Host University
Purdue University,
United States**

**Fellowship Awarded
2009**

Charlotte Kendra Gotangco Castillo was born and raised in Metro Manila, Philippines. Her family is comprised of scientists, engineers and educators as well as musicians and artists. Kendra chose a career in the sciences and she also enjoys dancing, singing and playing the flute.

At the University of the Philippines she was an Oblation Scholar, an honor given to top applicants in the country. She transferred to Ateneo de Manila University where she received numerous academic awards. In 2004, she received a BSc in physics and a minor in philosophy, graduating as class valedictorian and one of the Ten Outstanding Students of the Philippines. In 2007 she earned her MSc in environmental management jointly at Ateneo de Manila University and the University of San Francisco. She began her PhD at Purdue University in the United States as a Fulbright Scholar and was also a recipient of the Purdue Climate Change Research Center Ross Fellowship.

Kendra is researching climate change and tropical deforestation in South America, North Africa and Southeast Asia. She is investigating biogeophysical and biogeochemical feedbacks on climate of different deforestation scenarios through the use of an earth system model. She ultimately aims to include socio-economic factors into these scenarios.

Kendra's integrative approach will help to fill gaps in current research and assist in generating climate change scenarios through a more complete understanding of key feedbacks between the physical system and human society. Her work may lead to a deeper understanding of how the terrestrial biosphere and climate interact. This in turn may lead to better climate change projections and mitigation decisions as well as to better forest management strategies and policy responses to climate change and sustainable development issues.

Kendra plans to teach at Ateneo de Manila University.

