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# FOREWORD

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A good number of quality research products, including processes that inform practices in Philippine education are at hand to influence the quest of the education system to achieve quality. Filipino researchers actively seek for processes, knowledge and products that may inform practices and may be implemented to boost our education system. Bringing back the culture of research and quality-in-research with a blend of quantity-in-research may be initiated by new paradigms, perspective and research frameworks of the university or education institution to augment quality. Currently, research products are expected to be shared and disseminated through research publications, which are eventually subjected to performance metrics such as publication count, citations, combined citation-publication count (e.g. h-index and i10-index), impact factor and patents. However, an emphasis on quantitative performance has ushered many tenacious, and unethical research practices in the academe. Seemingly, this trend surfaced due to the rise of quantitative performance metrics as means of measuring scientific productivity (Abbott, et al., 2010; Carpenter, et al., 2014; Edwards & Roy, 2017; Zetter, 2009). This current trend lends countries, research and funding agencies to look back and see how quantity-in-research must blend with quality-in-research to maintain research integrity, which emphasize altruistic motives and intentions and that include serving society and the community.

Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) nourish this blend of quality-in-research and quantity-in-research to best inform practices in the field. Significantly, the Philippine Normal University—Publication Office, along with other respected state colleges and universities, continuously contribute to this goal through scholarly and academic outputs and products of the faculty, staff and student, disseminated

through publication to showcase both in the national and international virtual research world, top-notch articles from authors of remarkable caliber across the Philippines. Currently, the Asia-Pacific Higher Education Research Journal (APHERJ) proudly presents six researches that may stimulate the minds of our patron readers on how these research products may benefit the country and be of help attain quality education.

The multidisciplinary nature of APHERJ is what sets it apart from other specialized journals recognizing the contribution of different disciplines in education. Featured in this journal issue are the following Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) that contributed greatly in solidifying research-based claims, paving the way for colleagues to venture the exciting world of research writing and how it may contribute to developing quality Philippine education—Batangas State University, Caraga State University, University of Santo Tomas, Philippine Normal University, Technological University of the Philippines, and Mariano Marcos State University. The participating researchers from the aforementioned HEIs have exhibited inner desire to provide knowledge and products to contribute to the thrust and vision of the Philippine education system through their competence and competitiveness in patiently tweaking and calibrating their work to make them fit for publication and dissemination.

A review of our manuscript submissions provides a glimpse of how research may inform practices in the society and the community to achieve education quality. Two of our researches feature the development of technology, which may be used for concretization of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) concepts. De Ocampo developed the data

acquisition model for daily light integral measurement. This product informs both practices in agriculture and agricultural education and concretization of theories in biology, specifically in photosynthetic process taught in the basic education. Similarly, Pacot designed a Mobile-based crime mapping and event geography analysis for Caraga, which models the use of technology for national and civil security. The same engineering and programming design may be utilized to simulate STEM integrative education.

Considerations in the quest for education quality include teacher well-being and student attitude. These two factors may be synonymous to the main actors of the two components of a curriculum: the enacted curriculum (played by the teacher) and the received curriculum (played by the student). It is believed that the teacher's ability to enact the intended curriculum defines the success of the curriculum, thus significantly considers the teacher's welfare in the successful enactment. One of our articles designed a Teacher Burnout Intervention Program (TIBP) based on the baseline study conducted. Pimentel explored the factors affecting Social Science teachers' burnout in identified state-owned Universities of the country. She further determined through a survey that teachers experience average "level of burnout" in terms of the three dimensions: reduced self-efficacy, exhaustion and pessimism, and negativity towards others and work. This average burnout rating may escalate though if not properly and sustainably monitored and addressed. Good teacher-student interaction may be contributory to a healthy well-being of both the teacher and the students. Ng and de Guzman used phenomenological inquiry to critically study undergraduate students' lived experiences of professionalism while in the liminal state. They claimed that significant findings may assist curriculum experts to emphasize student professionalism in designing professional courses and experiential learning tasks.

Language skills dictate acquisition of all learning including all elements of professionalism. Language education is a necessity to achieve a total package of learning. Our last two articles feature language education that may help our learners facilitate better acquisition of skills in learning the global language - English medium for internationalization purposes. Allam explored the proficiency of sophomore English majors on the pronunciation of the structural variants of "read" towards improved oral performance. She found that Filipino learners as second language learners (L2) exposed to remedial grammar instruction improved their oral execution of the verb. Study replication may result to Filipino learners' grammatical competence in many words. Complementing the study of Allam, the group of Pedronan designed an automatic recognition of correctly pronounced English words using machine learning. This technology directly influence language teaching and learning to help our learners improve their language skills and be competent in the world of work.

All these studies may help improve the Philippine quality of education in one way or another. As advocates of change and transformation, we look into research and knowledge dissemination as our way to evaluate and assess what we know and currently have (sensegiving) and act on the identified discrepancies and gaps. Awareness of what is presently existing and which are not, may trigger actions to fill in gaps within the context of quality assurance to achieve education quality.



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## FOCUS AND SCOPE

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### THE JOURNAL DESCRIPTION

The **Asia Pacific Higher Education Research Journal (APHERJ)**, an international multidisciplinary refereed journal, publishes quality and high impact researches addressing issues and concerns of education and teacher education, social sciences, engineering and technology and educational policy and business education in the Asia Pacific Rim. It provides a forum for dissemination of qualitative and quantitative researches on theory and instructional model building, product development, policy studies, internationalization as well as local responsiveness from different countries and cultures. It aims to bridge the gap between theory and practice through the publication of empirical research which are relevant and contributory to solving higher education problems.

### STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

This journal aims at providing the HEIs venue to:

1. Share researches that have national and international impact;
2. Open opportunities for faculty, staff, students to publish their research and increase their academic visibility through publication;
3. Strengthen the academic synergy among members of HEIs in the region and in the international arena for research collaboration; and
4. Promote , utilize, apply, and commercialize researches for the benefits of global communities



