

EDITORIAL

Research generates technology advancement and innovations that have made life a lot easier today than in the distant past. Our ancestors' unrelenting quest for new knowledge and the systematic means of passing it on to the next generations, have brought us into where we are today. Shared information helps us understand the past, appreciate the present, and make a plan for a better future.

Sharing of knowledge especially in the form of publication is essential in problem solving and shaping our lives. We should be thankful to those authors who without a second thought, shared what they found in their quest for truth. The great philosophers and scientists like Socrates, Plato, Charles Darwin, Carolus Linnaeus and Isaac Newton, to mention a few, had established solid educational foundations and were immortalized by their theories, inventions and published works. They will forever be remembered generations after generations for their great contributions to the body of knowledge.

The onset of advanced digital technology at the early part of the 21st century has made the sharing of information reaches a broader audience. It becomes accessible and is almost at everybody's fingertips. While we recognize that many information remained unshared, the Western Philippines University (WPU) supports and encourages the sharing of information and technology through publication in its internationally recognized, peer-reviewed multi-disciplinary research journal, *The Palawan Scientist*.

The whole world continues to struggle in overcoming the challenges brought by the COVID-19 pandemic which cause severe social and economic repercussions. One of the 10 articles in this 13th volume provided spread estimates of the said virus with or without measures, which can aid our policy makers in making sound decisions. The other nine equally interesting original papers are filling in essential information gaps in the fields of education, engineering, environment, biodiversity, and aquatic sciences. All these 10 articles are authored by 38 researchers coming from 18 organizations and institutions. Five authors are associated with institutions outside the Philippines. These authors form a pillar of their respective organizations. They help build a body of knowledge in their respective fields.

WPU has a strong drive for quality education, research and innovations, and will continue to provide researchers with a stable and dependable platform for the global accessibility of peer reviewed publications. As the current WPU President and as a Technical Adviser of the Palawan Scientist Journal, I assure our readers and contributors of our strong commitment and continued quest for excellence.

Mabuhay!

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