



Tin-aw

GRADUATE SCHOOL BOOK OF ABSTRACTS
UNIVERSITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

VOLUME 6 | MAY 2026

PREFACE

The research landscape is fundamentally transformed as the demand for scientific discovery and technical innovation compels scholars to engage with increasingly complex, interconnected global needs. The latest volume of the Tin-aw Graduate School book of abstracts reflects the university's steadfast commitment to promoting a dynamic research ecosystem. In this volume, "Frontiers of Research: Navigating Emerging Challenges of Opportunities in a Rapidly Changing World", the Graduate student of UIC consolidated Intellectual curiosity, contributing varied methodological rigor, showcasing interdisciplinary collaboration with one goal. From meaningful to a more sustainable human development.

The studies presented in this volume exemplify the evolving role of graduate education in research. Tin-aw, a Visayan term that means "clear," symbolizes the clear pursuit of extending far beyond the traditional pursuit of knowledge. This volume illuminates the pathway toward a deeper understanding of not merely descriptive but also analytical, solution-oriented, and reflective. Tin-aw showcases the Graduate School's aspiration to nurture researchers representing diverse fields. These abstracts demonstrate how locally grounded investigations can generate insights with broader regional and global significance. Collectively, this volume affirms and reinforces the University of the Immaculate Conception's vision and advances research that catalyzes innovation and societal progress.

The Editorial Board extends its sincere appreciation to the graduate student researchers, faculty mentors, and institutional partners whose dedication and scholarly excellence have made this publication possible. This volume will serve not only as a record of emerging graduate scholarship but also as a source of intellectual engagement that inspires future investigations, fosters interdisciplinary dialogue, and encourages collaborative endeavors to address pressing challenges of our time. As readers engage with these abstracts, may they discover new perspectives, create meaningful connections, and continue advancing research that has a lasting impact on society.

Ferlien Mae Brieta
Editor in Chief

Tin-Aw

Graduate School Book of Abstracts

Volume 6 May 2026
University of the Immaculate Conception

Editor in Chief

Ferlien Mae Brieta

Associate Editor

Mona L. Laya

Managing Editor

Rhea Mae Vanessa L. Tuazon

Editorial Board

Dr. Presentacion Acosta (University of the Immaculate Conception, Philippines)
Abram John Alontaga (University of the Immaculate Conception, Philippines)
Venchie C. Badong (University of the Immaculate Conception, Philippines)
Danilo G. Baradillo (University of the Immaculate Conception, Philippines)
Ferlien Mae Brieta (University of the Immaculate Conception, Philippines)
Glenn Charls Buelis (University of the Immaculate Conception, Philippines)
Porferia S. Poralan (University of the Immaculate Conception, Philippines)
Thelma Alderite (University of the Immaculate Conception, Philippines)
Harrold Beltran (University of the Immaculate Conception, Philippines)

Editorial Assistant

Christine Bella L. Pelegrino

CONTENTS

MASTER OF ARTS IN EDUCATIONAL MANAGEMENT

Teaching without Borders: Lived Experiences of English as Second Language Teachers (ESL): A Phenomenological Inquiry <i>Diza Rose G. Arena</i>	1
Ruling with Less: The Phenomenological Experiences of Public Elementary School Administrators in Managing Underfunded Schools <i>Genalyn A. Bagalanon</i>	2
Professional Development and Organizational Commitment as Predictors of Teacher Effectiveness in the Caraga North and South Districts <i>Joylyn J. Basoc</i>	3
Instructional Leadership Roles of Teacher Coordinators: A Phenomenological Inquiry <i>Kimberly A. Camiring</i>	4
Emotional Functioning as a Mediator Between Teacher Motivation and Job Engagement among Public Secondary School Teachers <i>Airah Layzeth M. De Vera</i>	5
The Mediating Role of Academic Persistence on the Relationship between Teacher Attitude and Academic Success of Publuc Senior High School Students <i>Eddcyn P. Almero</i>	6
A Phenomenological Study on the Lived Experiences of the Public Elementary School Teachers on the Implementation of No-Homework Policy of DepEd <i>Edreyn B. Hortinela</i>	7
Lived Experiences of Teachers Implementing the Key Stage One of the Reading Program in Public Elementary Schools <i>Rosemarie D. Espina</i>	8
Quality of Life of Elementary Learners as Influenced by Parental Involvement and Child-Friendly School Environment <i>Jasmen P. Estrebilla</i>	9

Explicating the Experiences of Teachers with Multiple Designations: A Narratology <i>Dossy Mae C. Feliciano</i>	10
Emotional Intelligence and Coping with Interpersonal Stress as Predictors of Teacher Engagement among Public School Teachers <i>Norjaine D. Kumpa</i>	11
Teachers' Instructional Practices and Multidimensional Attitudes Towards Inclusive Education as Determinants of Teacher Efficacy <i>Tresha Grace T. Macatumbas</i>	12
Assessing the Mediating Effect of Inhibitors Curriculum Viability on the Relationship of Career-Related Support Self-Efficacy on Job Satisfaction of Public Elementary Teachers in Binuhao District <i>Analisa S. Magnaos</i>	13
Leadership Styles and School-Based Management Implementation as Predictors of Individual Work Performance of Teachers <i>Bernadith E. Osorio</i>	14
Emotional Intelligence and Organizational Health as Predictors of Work-Life Balance of Millenial Teachers in Private Schools <i>Sr. Gerarlyn V. Saldua, MIC</i>	15
Supportive Learning Environment and Science Teacher Competence: Basis for an Enhancement Plan <i>Renamae Flor V. Teh</i>	16
Classroom Discipline Strategies and Student Engagement as Predictors of Motivation Towards Sciece Learning among Grade 9 Students in Mueang Trang Thailand <i>Ma. Johanna B. Testa</i>	17
MASTER OF ARTS IN ELEMENTARY EDUCATION	
Managing Large Classes: A Qualitative Inquiry Into the Instructional Strategies Employed by Primary School Teachers <i>Zyalette Fria M. Aquino</i>	18

Modern Parenting Among Millennial Parents on Academic Involvement Towards their Children: A Phenomenology <i>Jane Shammah A. Aranges</i>	19
Academic Self-Regulated Learning as Influenced by Perceived Technology-Enhanced Environment and Emotional Intelligence <i>Kareel John B. Armingol</i>	20
The National Mathematics Program Through the Lens of Teachers in Calinan District: A Phenomenology <i>Jayson B. Bariquit</i>	21
Implementing Edukasyong Pantahanan at Pangkabuhayan in the Revised Curriculum: Teachers Experiences in Aligning Tesda Certification Competencies <i>John Mark M. Ciet</i>	22
Action Competence on Environmental and Sustainability Education and Self-Efficacy in Education for Sustain-Able Development Among Pre-Service Teachers: Basis for an Enhancement Program <i>Lou Jane B. Filipinas</i>	23
Resilience at Work and Job Satisfaction as Determinants of Organizational Commitment of Public Elementary School Teachers <i>Lorelie C. Rosal</i>	24
Exploring the Lived Experiences of Teachers Handling Learners with Autism Spectrum Disorder in the Mainstream Classroom <i>Krishna Mae B. Sintos</i>	25
The Lived Experiences of Novice Elementary School Teachers: Navigating the Implementation of the Revised Curriculum <i>Marilou G. Taupan</i>	26
Behind the Training: Teachers' Experience on Administrative Support in their Professional Learning Journey <i>Justin Keen C. Yu</i>	27

MASTER OF ARTS IN ENGINEERING
EDUCATIONMAJOR IN ELECTRONICS &
COMMUNICATIONS ENGINEERING

**Lived Experiences of Internship and Career Readiness
among Electronics Engineering Graduates: A
Phenomenological Study** 28

Chenneemae B. Bandy

**Flexural Strength of Reinforced Concrete Beams with
Rainwater Exposure** 29

Randy D. Mandabon

**F Compressive Strength and Glow Duration
Performance of Photoluminescent Epoxy Aggregate
Bricks: An Approach to Rural Infrastructure** 30

Owen Francis A. Maongat

MASTER OF ARTS IN ENGINEERING
EDUCATIONMAJOR IN ELECTRONICS &
COMMUNICATIONS ENGINEERING

**Teaching Beyond Expertise: Exploring the Experiences
of Non-Values Education Teachers Teaching Values
Education** 31

Keren Joy C. Amodia

**Navigating Teenage Motherhood
and Education: A Phenomenology
of Community Support** 32

Hivy R. Baloyo

**Student Capacity Building ang Growth Mindset as
Predictors of Value-Based Leadership among Student
Leaders in Public Secondary Schools** 33

Leah A. Bongtayon

**Human Touch in Digital Age: A Narration of
Experiences of Values Education Teachers Integrating
Digital Tools in Teaching** 34

John Kiven R. Davis

**Lived Experiences of the Non-Values Education Gen Z
Teachers Teaching Values Education: A
Phenomenology** 35

Sr. Jona Gabriel G. Garcia, Carm. O. L.

Between Belief and Becoming: An Netnography of Spiritual Journey of Young People in Contemporary Society <i>Nico Jay Gatmaitan Lopez</i>	36
Bridging the Gap from Principles to Practice: A Qualitative Study on the Implementation of Values Education <i>Jenevebe N. Patonongon</i>	37
Navigating School and Work: Experiences of High School Working Students in Surigao del Norte <i>Rod Constantine T. Petallo</i>	38
Student Interest as Predictor in Classroom Engagement in Values Education among Grade 9 Students <i>Marjorie Ann M. Quilab</i>	39
MASTER OF ARTS IN RELIGIOUS EDUCATION	
Personality Traits and Spiritual Well-Being as Predictors of the Effectiveness of the Therapeutic Community Modality Program for Probationers <i>Cleo Algen C. Castigon</i>	40
MASTER OF ARTS IN TEACHING CHEMISTRY	
Student-Centered Approach as a Tool to Enhance Chemistry Achievement of Selected Grade 10 Students in Midsayap, Cotabato: A Quasi-Experimental Study <i>Wendyll Mae Cambronero</i>	41
Antimicrobial Activity of Vitex Negundo Leaf Ethanollic Extract Against Gram Positive and Gram Negative Bacteria: A Systematic Review <i>Jeromie M. David, RPh</i>	42
Utilization of Gamification As A Learning Tool in Teaching Biomolecules and Chemical Reactions: A Quasi-Experimental Design <i>Ralph Jade M. Jugas</i>	43

In Vitro Alpha Glucosidase Inhibitory Activity of Pansit-Pansitan (Peperomia Pellucida) Leaf Extract <i>Angelica Llamas</i>	44
The Journey of Public Senior High School Students in Learning Science in the Schools Division of Bislig City: A Phenomenology <i>Nneka Jean A. Pangapalan</i>	45
Critical Thinking Disposition, Attitude Towards Science Literacy, and Scientific Research Skills of Grade 12 STEM Students in Selected Private Schools in Davao City <i>Christian S. Sembrino</i>	46
In Vitro Alpha Glucosidase Inhibitory Activity of Batuan (Garcinia Binucao) Fruit Ethanollic Extract <i>Rogelio E. Trasga Jr.</i>	47
MASTER OF ARTS IN TEACHING PHYSICS	
Critical Thinking Skills of Stem Strand Private Senior High School Students as Predicted by Problem-Based Learning in Physics and Interpersonal Communication Skills of Teachers <i>Jane Marie L. Mercado</i>	48
Lived Experiences of Public School Grade 7 Teachers in Teaching Physics under the Matatag Curriculum in Surigao del Sur: A Phenomenology <i>Marvin T. Tejano</i>	49
MASTER OF ARTS IN EDUCATION MAJOR IN ENGLISH	
Visual Media Exposure and Student Interaction as Determinants of Sociolinguistic Competence of the Senior High School Students <i>Harlene M. Advincula</i>	50
The Role of the Language in the Profession of Local Journalists in South Cotabato amidst the Era of AI-Mediated News Anchors <i>Sheila Mae D. Barabona</i>	51

English Language Learning Strategies and Attitude towards English Language as Determinants Towards Academic Performance of Grade 6 Pupils in Davao City <i>Gay Marie P. Bertain</i>	52
Language Classroom Anxiety and Learning Engagement: Determinants of Academic Performance in English of Indigenous People Learners in Davao City <i>Kaycee F. Bile</i>	53
English Language Learning Through the Spectrum of Learners with Special Needs: A Multiple Case Study <i>Mark Aaron A. Dacalanio</i>	54
Utilization of Artificial Intelligence Technology, Critical Thinking Skills, and Writing Performance of Humanities and Social Sciences Students <i>Venus Eyas</i>	55
A Phenomenographic Study on the English Reading Comprehesion Problems and Reading Strategies among Thai Students: Perspectives of Filipino English Teachers <i>Rj Marie P. Flores</i>	56
Reading Attitudes, Reading Motivation, and Reading Comprehension Skills of Business Administration Students <i>Bernel S. Gabut</i>	57
Fear of Failure and Academic Perfectionism as Predictors of English Language Learning Motivation among Junior High School Students <i>Ivy Rose Galleros</i>	58
Home Learning Environment, Strategis in Learning English Vocabulary, and Reading Comprehension among Grade 7 Students <i>Mary Nicole T. Ignacio</i>	59
Student Digital Literacy Ability and Writing Engagement as Predictors of Creative Writing Skills among HUMSS Senior High School Students in Davao City <i>Norman M. Laid</i>	60

A Descriptive Inquiry on Pedagogical Strategies in Teaching English as a Second Language: Trends and Practices <i>Larriane Lea E. Lampad</i>	61
Language Alternation as a Teaching Strategy in Multilingual Classrooms among Secondary Public School Teachers: A Multiple Case Study <i>Julie Ann L. Magdoboy</i>	62
Reading Strategies and Reading Self-Efficacy as Determinants of Reading Comprehension among Grade Seven Students <i>Sitti Mona F. Magtacpao</i>	63
Illuminating Integrity: A Portraiture Study of Junior High School Teachers and Students in English Language Learning Environment <i>Jason A. Majarreis</i>	64
Instructional Coaching Skills as a Mediator on the Sense of Efficacy and English Language Teaching Anxiety of Beginning English Teachers <i>Nilea Louise B. Morales</i>	65
Metacognitive Awareness of Reading Strategies, Reading Motivation, and Reading Comprehension among Grade 11 Students in Davao City <i>Rhea L. Ociones</i>	66
Reading Interest and Reading Comprehension Skills in English among Grade 4 Learners: Basis for an Intervention Plan <i>Jally Be F. Padillo</i>	67
Narratives of Campus Journalism Advisers in Coaching – Writing in the Midst of AI Influence: A Narratology <i>Jerwine T. Peladas</i>	68
Effectiness of Blended Learning Approach on the English Proficiency of Junior High School Students <i>Cristine R. Tulin</i>	69

MASTER OF ARTS IN EDUCATION MAJOR IN INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY INTEGRATION

**Development of Biometric - Based Attendance
Management System with SMS Notification** 70
Lawrence Jane L. Bentonon

**Design and Development of a Quick Response Code-
Based Attendance Monitoring System** 71
Edson B. Besinga

**Implementation and Evaluation of Steps: A Student
Progress Tracking and Analytics System for Learning
Gap Identification and Career Path Alignment** 72
Carol Kate M. Estacio, LPT

**Integrated Seating Plan-Based Management System
with Attendance Tracking, Behavior Monitoring, and
Feedback Mechanisms** 73
Dennis S. Tumanggong

**Enhancing Data-Driven Intervention
and Academic Tracking in a Higher Education
Institution Through Digital System** 74
Melissa T. Zolina

MASTER OF ARTS IN EDUCATION MAJOR IN FILIPINO

**Mga Karanasan at Tagumpay ng mga Natatanging
Tagapayo sa Patimpalak ng Pamahayagang
Pangkampus: Isang Penomenolohikal na Pag-Aaral** 75
Jessica S. Banug

**Motibasyon at Karanasan ng mga Guro sa Filipino sa
Pagtuturo ng Panitikan: Isang Kwalitatibong Pag-Aaral** 76
Lovely F. Bangkas

**Boses Ng Kabataan: Isang Diskursong Pagsusuri sa
Antas ng Wika na Ginamit ng mga Campus Journalist
sa Pagbuo ng Lathalain** 77
Creza Lia S. Bongato

**Digital na Pagpapahayag: Isang Retorikal na Pagsusuri
ng Diskurso sa Nilalaman ng mga Kabataang Filipino
Sa Tiktok** 78
Ella Marie A. Cristino

Dokumentasyon at Pagsusuri ng Panitikang Mandaya: Batayan sa Kontekstwalisadong Pagtuturo ng Panitikang Rehiyonal <i>Arvin B. Englisia</i>	79
Retorikal na Pagsasanay: Karanasan ng mga Mag-Aaral Sa Patimpalak na Pormal na Debate <i>Cindy Gleezyl O. Nachon</i>	80
Karanasan ng mga Gurong Nagtuturo sa Asignaturang Filipino sa Multilingguwal na Silid-Aralan: Isang Naratolohikal na Pag-Aaral <i>Arly Khent C. Roa</i>	81
Paggalugad ng mga Panlapi sa Sanaysay ng mga Mag-Aaral Sa Antas ng Elementarya: Isang Error Analysis <i>Fernand M. Tibay</i>	82
MASTER OF ARTS IN EDUCATION MAJOR IN MATHEMATICS	
The Use of ChatGPT on Enhancing Mathematical Problem-Solving Skills in Solving HOTS Problems among Grade 11 Students: The Mediating Effect of Academic Self-Regulated Learning Strategies <i>Mary Louis C. Alayon</i>	83
Personal Professional Development Efforts, Quality of Work-Life Balance, and Attitude Towards Teaching Mathematics <i>Dexter B. Ali</i>	84
Emotion Regulation and Spiritual Intelligence as Predictors of Mathematical Resilience <i>Aprille M. Alipante</i>	85
AI Supported Teaching Application Self - Efficacy: Basis for an Enhancement Program <i>Marecris T. Alvarado</i>	86
Mathematics Persistence, Mathematical Thinking Beliefs and Attitudes Towards Mathematics Teaching - Learning Process of Students <i>Janine E. Asuncion</i>	87

Student Stress and Peer Support as Predictors of Student Mathematics Engagement among Grade 11 Students <i>Emar John M. Caimor</i>	88
Game-Based Learning, Mathematics Attitude, and Mathematics Achievement of Junior High School Learners <i>Rondee M. Cañal</i>	89
Formative Assessment Literacy, Reflective Thinking and Artificial Intelligence Competence Self - Efficacy of Mathematics Teachers <i>Art N. Cemino</i>	90
A Path Analysis of Learner Awareness, Mathematics Anxiety, and Peer Support on Student Mathematics Persistence <i>Marc RB B. Ducut</i>	91
Strand Misalignment in Mathematics Education: Unveiling the Lived Experiences of Non-STEM Students in the BSED - Mathematics Program <i>Jan Lester I. Fano</i>	92
Assessing the Mediating Effect of Motivation on the Relationship Between Student Difficulties Encountered and Mathematics Engagement among Grade 10 Students <i>Michell A. Flores</i>	93
Mathematics Anxiety and Perceived Teaching Quality as Predictors of Mathematical Thinking Beliefs <i>Leonor Roann De Amor G. Labarca</i>	94
Supportive Learning Environment, Attitudes towards Mathematics and Academic Boredom of Junior High School Students <i>Jenny Rose S. Magarzo</i>	95
The Effectiveness of Gamification Approach on the Achievement of Students in Algebra <i>Ann Jellan Orat</i>	96

The Mediating Effect of Peer Support on the Relationship Between Students Attitude Towards the Use of Computer in Learning Mathematics and Mathematics Engagement among Students <i>Alyssa H. Pacto</i>	97
The Utilization of AI-Driven Adaptive Learning Tools in Teaching Measurement and Geometry: A Quasi-Experimental Design <i>Joco M. Piamonte</i>	98
Navigating the Experiences of Robotics Champions in their Journey to Success <i>Kristine Clarisse C. Planas</i>	99
The Influence of Problem-Solving Efficacy and Self-Regulated Learning Behaviour on Mathematical Resilience <i>Eloisa Jane B. Sanchez</i>	100
Moderating Effect of Sex on the Relationship between Problem-Solving Efficacy and Student Mathematics Engagement among Senior High School Students <i>Ralph Wendell M. Sarong</i>	101
Teaching Styles, Teacher Support and Achievement in Mathematics of Grade 7 Students <i>Mariel Pearl T. Serafica</i>	102
Mathematical Mindset and Student Engagemenent in School as Predictors of Problem-Solving Skills among First Year College Students <i>Ernesto P. Sumayo</i>	103
 MASTER OF ARTS IN EDUCATION MAJOR IN MUSIC EDUCATION	
The Mediating Role of Teacher Disposition on the Relationship Between Teacher Competencies and Pedagogical Content Knowledge in Music Education Among Non-Music Major Teachers <i>Vanessa L. Calio</i>	104

Exploring the Challenges of Non- Music Major Teachers in Teaching Music <i>Florigem M. Facundo</i>	105
The Mediating Effect of Regulation of Motivation in the Relationship Between Creative Potential Traits and Music Receptivity Among Secondary Schools Choir Members in Davao City <i>Jessyca Therese M. Roa</i>	106
MASTER OF ARTS IN EDUCATION MAJOR IN PHYSICAL EDUCATION	
The Mediating Effects of Coach-Athlete Relationship Between Behavioral Regulation in Exercise and Sports Leadership among Student-Athletes <i>Patrick D. Acuna</i>	107
Strength in Connection: A Phenomenological Study of How Student-Athletes Competing in the National Competition Sustained Motivation <i>Christian John A. Agustin</i>	108
Linking Coaching Styles and Motivation to Perceived Sports Performance of Student-Athletes <i>Jhonamie Almar M. Aquino</i>	109
Stories of Self and Society: A Narrative Analysis of Body Image Satisfication <i>Almera Mae A. Arabit</i>	110
A Phenomenographic Study on Inclusive Education: Narratives Told by Physical Education Teachers <i>Carylmae B. Balmores</i>	111
Sex as a Moderating Variable on the Relationship between Cardiovascular Endurance and Fundamental Brain Function <i>Mariechille Roanne D. Benito</i>	112
The Moderating Effect of Socio-Demographic Profile on the Relationship between Time Management and Teacher Competence <i>Jonemyrrh D. Biñas</i>	113

Between Sensitivity and Self-Expression: A Critical Discourse Analysis of Muslim Students’ Engagement in Social Dances <i>Al-Jalil M. Brillantes Jr.</i>	114
Visual Acuity and Skill-Related Fitness on Sports Engagement among Athletes in Davao del Sur <i>Mechelle C. Calamba</i>	115
Stress, Sport Motivation and Coping among High School Student-Athletes in Paquibato District, Davao City <i>Analyn I. Cordero</i>	116
Exploring Team Beliefs of the Athletes: A Multiple Case Study <i>Jennifer S. Cordoves</i>	117
Development and Validation of Petes: Physical Education Teachers’ Effectiveness Scale <i>Alhana A. Ebrahim</i>	118
Physical Education Attitude, Physical Exercise Peer-Support and Engagement among Public Junior High School Students <i>Adelle Rose E. Evangelista</i>	119
Leadership Practices and Coaching Efficacy: Basis for an Enhancement Plan <i>Cheska Laine H. Garcia</i>	120
Demographic Factors as Moderators of the Relationship between Teacher Emotional Support and Motivational Climate in Physical Education <i>Mary Rose R. Jose</i>	121
Navigating Cultural and Religious Boundaries: A Phenomenological Study of PATH-FIT Teachers Teaching Muslim Students <i>Daryll Jay M. Landero</i>	122
The Role of Perception and Student Engagement in Physical Education Toward Physical Literacy among Senior High School Students <i>Glydell A. Moscosa</i>	123

Leisure Activity Participation as a Correlate to Body–Mind Spirit Wellness Behavior and Characteristics: Basis for Intervention Plan <i>James Jude S. Orilla</i>	124
Sports Anxiety and Perceived Available Support as Predictors of Sport Confidence among Student–Athletes <i>Norhan K. Pandulo</i>	125
Teacher Grit and Sense of Efficacy as Predictors of Teachers Effectiveness in Physical Education <i>Kizia M. Rabino</i>	126
Athlete Self–Efficacy and Sport Motivation as Predictors of Student Engagement in Physical Education (PE) Class <i>Odesyl C. Redulla</i>	127
Goal Orientation, Perceived Coach–Athlete Relationship, and Behavioral Regulation of Collegiate Athletes in Davai del Sur <i>April Grace R. Rosales</i>	128
Inactive in an Active Role among PE Teachers: An Interpretative Phenomenological Inquiry <i>Iris V. Sierte</i>	129
Body–Mass Index and Sleep Quality as Predictors of Skills–Related Fitness among Physical Education Students: Basis for Intervention Plan <i>Dynah C. Solis</i>	130
A Utilization–Focused Qualitative Evaluation of the Sports Skill Hour Program for Institutional Improvement <i>Manolo Tumanda Jr.</i>	131
 MASTER OF ARTS IN EDUCATION MAJOR IN SOCIOLOGY	
On The Ground: The Lived Experiences of Women Engineers in A Male–Dominated Fieldwork <i>Ivan John B. Abela</i>	132

From Hope to Triumph: Journeys of Graduated 4PS Household Beneficiaries <i>Alona Mae C. Albite</i>	133
Past-Future: The Lived Experiences of the Sama Tribe Youth in Facing Cultural Changes and Practices <i>Kathy R. Banda</i>	134
Exploring Social Factors Contributing to Reading Difficulties Among Secondary School Students: A Multiple Case Study <i>Katherine B. Buscato</i>	135
Blueprints of Change: Examining Youth Narratives on DPWH Issues on Corruption and Visions of Good Governance in Philippine Politics <i>Kathleen C. Cervera</i>	136
Bridging Service and Society: A Multiple Case Study on the Community Engagement Experiences of Philippine Air Force Reservists in Davao City <i>Angel Grace B. Culanag</i>	137
Multiple Case Studies of Women's Political Experiences in the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao <i>Rochel P. Fajardo</i>	138
Through Education: A Multiple Case Study on the Success Stories of Davao Del Norte Learning Institute Alumni <i>Mary Joy S. Ilagan</i>	139
Examining the Mediating Role of Flood Mitigation Strategies in the Relationship Between Flood Risk Perception and Community Flood Resilience <i>Glebert N. Losentes</i>	140
Social Media Use Integration and Social Well- Being of Senior High School Students: Basis of Intervention Plan <i>Charity G. Naquila</i>	141
Navigating Social Relationships of Parents of Children With Special Needs <i>She Ryl M. Peñaloga</i>	142

A Phenomological Study of Survival Among Community Members in Conflict-Affected Areas in Mawab <i>Ashley B. Peralta</i>	143
Silent Voices, Strong Stories: A Narratological Study on the Educational Journeys of Hard-of- Hearing and Non-Speaking Students <i>Rufel John R. Tutor</i>	144
Navigating the Grind: A Multiple Case Study on the Lived Experiences of Working Students in the Gig Economy <i>John Marlou G. Wahing</i>	145
MASTER IN BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION	
Predicting Retirement Planning Behaviors: The Role of Financial Literacy, Financial Inclusion, And Locus Of Control Among MSME Employees in Davao City <i>Sheryl Ann R. Agohob</i>	146
The Predictors of Revisit Intention Among Selected Food Service Establishments in Davao De Oro <i>Keenly G. Andoyo</i>	147
Beyond The Screen: Unveiling the Lived Experiences of Virtual Working Parents in Davao Del Norte <i>Rhonamae B. Asna</i>	148
Financial Well-Being, Financial Attitude, and Financial Behavior of Agribusiness Owners in Davao Del Norte <i>Mark Ian L. Bague</i>	149
The Influence Of Organizational Culture and Work-Life Balance on Employee Performance among Retail Superstores in Mangagoy, Bislig City <i>Daisybelle S. Bañas</i>	150
Customer Experience And Service Quality as Determinants of Revisit Intention among Customers in the Selected Hotels in Tagum City, Davao Del Norte <i>Mike Joven B. Bastes</i>	151

From Loss To Hope: A Multiple-Case Study of Small And Micro Enterprise Victims of Fraudulent Investment Schemes in Davao Del Sur <i>Jaycel P. Bayron</i>	152
Financial Planning and Debt Management as Determinants of Financial Well-Being among Employees of Banking Institutions in Tagum City <i>Sarah Mae T. Besinga</i>	153
Navigating the Workplace: Workload Experiences of Generation Z Local Bakeshop Employees <i>Rodel G. Brinosa</i>	154
A Comparative Study on Quiet Quitting among BPO Employees in Davao City: Basis for an Intervention Plan <i>Claire Ann E. Cepe</i>	155
Determinants of Pharmacy Employee Performance in Tagum City <i>Jemark P. Enanoria</i>	156
The Mediating Role of Debt Management on the Relationship Between Financial Discipline and Business Performance among MSMEs in Tagum City <i>Mary Rose M. Kingco</i>	157
Financial Literacy and Self-Efficacy as Influencers of Investment Intention among Micro Entrepreneurs in Davao City <i>Leogen F. Nalasa</i>	158
Self-Leadership as Mediator of Organizational Trust and Innovative Work Behavior of Cooperative Employees in Davao Del Sur <i>Deither O. Pasadilla</i>	159
Risk Aversion, Family Financial Socialization, and Saving Behavior among Government Employees in Tagum City <i>Stephen C. Pedroso</i>	160
The Predictors of Entrepreneurial Intention among Business Graduate Students <i>Harold C. Riolalas</i>	161

The Status of Consumer Choice Behavior Towards Solar Photovoltaic Panel System in Aid of Policy Brief <i>Ian Jay M. Sapitula</i>	162
Voices of a Generation: Exploring the Job-Seeking Experiences of Millennials in Davao City <i>Marjorie Keith J. Tambirao</i>	163
MASTER OF SCIENCE IN MEDICAL TECHNOLOGY	
Molecular Characterization of Biofilm-Associated Genes in Methicillin-Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus and their Influence on the Antibiofilm Activity of Oregano (Plectranthus Amboinicus) Ethanolic Extract <i>Keziah Amor Salcedo-Catulong</i>	164
A Five-Year Retrospective Study of Drug-Susceptible and Drug Resistant Tuberculosis and Associated Risk Factors Under the TB DOTS Program of General Santos City, Philippines (2021–2025): Basis for Action Plan <i>Yvonne Claire S. Dela Peña</i>	165
Epidemiological Profile and Spatial–Temporal Associations of Leptospirosis in Davao City (2015 – 2025): Evidence For Action Plan <i>Rachelle Laine A. Durang</i>	166
Barangay-Level Spatiotemporal Analysis and Hotspot Analysis of Dengue Distribution in Davao City, Philippines (2012–2024): Basis for a Proposed Localized Public Health Action Plan <i>George Carr G. Plaza</i>	167
Antimicrobial Resistance among ESKAPE Pathogens at Cotabato Regional and Medical Center: A Five-Year Retrospective Study <i>Roxanne P. Subiaga</i>	168
In Silico Analysis Of Musa Textilis (Abaca) Pseudostem Against Drug-Resistant Enterococcus Faecium, Staphylococcus Aureus, Klebsiella Pneumoniae, Acinetobacter Baumannii, Pseudomonas Aeruginosa, and Enterobacter Species (ESKAPE) <i>Christian Paul T. Tawat</i>	169

Distribution and Risk Factors of Medically Important Parasitic Infections in an Endemic Barangay of Koronadal City, South Cotabato: A Basis of Community-Based Action Plan <i>Winnelie Kris C Tedera</i>	170
Serodetection of Hepatitis A and Knowledge, Attitudes and Practices of Street Food Vendors in Barangay East, General Santos City, Philippines: A Basis for Action Plan <i>Danilyn M. Tinapao</i>	171
MASTER OF SCIENCE IN PHARMACY	
Drug Utilization Pattern among Inpatients with Dengue, Leptospirosis, and Malaria at the Philippine Research Institute for Tropical Medicine <i>Isaiah Joshua B. Boo</i>	172
Molecular Docking And In-Vitro Determination of A-Glucosidase Inhibitory Effect of Ethanolic Leaf Extract of Talong-Talongan (Solanum Torvum Sw.) <i>Clea Angiela O. Bullina</i>	173
Antimicrobial Activity of Vitex Negundo Leaf Ethanolic Extract Against Gram Positive and Gram Negative Bacteria: A Systematic Review <i>Jeromie M. David, RPh</i>	174
Lived Experiences of Pharmacists in Rural Government Primary Care Facilities in Selected Provinces in the Bicol Region <i>Gillian Maurice B. Dioras, RPh</i>	175
Exploring the Competency Standards of Experiential Pharmacy Practice in the Community Pharmacy: An Exploratory Sequential Study <i>Cynthia Claire F. Guinto, RPh</i>	176
Exploring the Roles, Practices, and Outcomes of Pharmacists in Healthcare Sustainability: A Scoping Review of Evidence Gaps <i>Catherine L. Panergo</i>	177

The Impact of Emotional Intelligence and Work-Life Balance on Individual Work Performance of Pharmacists in the City of San Fernando, La Union <i>Marc Benedict L. Panergo</i>	178
Financial Literacy on Knowledge, Behavior, and Attitude among Pharmacists in Region XII: A Cross-Sectional Study using OECD/INFE 2020 Guidelines <i>Christine Joy Paulio</i>	179
Knowledge, Attitude, and Practices of Community Pharmacists Towards Drug Supply Chain Guidelines in Iloilo City <i>Fritzie Angeli P. Perez, RPh</i>	180
Isolation, Characterization Through Vitek 2 Compact, and Antibacterial Screening of Actinomycete Isolate from the Soil of Mount Matutum <i>Apple Jane D. Siroy, RPh</i>	181
Collaborative Working Relationship of Barangay Health Workers and Pharmacists in Tacurong City, Sultan Kudarat <i>Christian Rey G. Umadhay, RPh</i>	182
Navigating Medication Access and Adherence in Custodial Setting: A Multiple Case Study of Healthcare Practitioners in Davao City Jail <i>Florey May B. Valendez, RPh</i>	183
Inpatient Opioid Prescribing Patterns Towards Length of Stay and Opioid Prescribing at Discharge: A Retrospective Cohort Study <i>Raisa Alyssa L. Vencer, RPh</i>	184
MASTER IN INFORMATION SYSTEM	
Electrical Engineering Project Management System <i>Nelma Mae G. Loja</i>	185
Pagsubay: Foreshore Area Management System for Environmental and Natural Resources Office in Davao Del Norte <i>Philip John L. Paja</i>	186

CooPay: A Web-Based Decision Support System for Loan Application with Automated Repayment Reminders <i>Gertrude Grace M. Tampus</i>	187
---	------------

MASTER IN INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

LORS: Log-Based Operational Resolution System Leveraging Rag-Llm and Technical Support Ticket Data <i>Kimberly L. Cabagti</i>	188
---	------------

OINKCHECK: A Mobile CNN-Based Skin Disease Detection App <i>Jay S. Gulanes Jr.</i>	189
--	------------

ADAMS: Development of an Accreditation Data Administration & Management System for Efficient and Secure Preparation of Quality Assurance Documents of Schools <i>Hazel Joy M. Gadingan</i>	190
--	------------

Integrating Large Language Models for Data Analytics and Decision-Support on Daily Time Records of a Turnstile System for Educational Institutions <i>Danika Mae G. Lazarte</i>	191
---	------------

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN EDUCATION MAJOR IN EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP

Transformational Leadership and Research Competence as Predictors of Faculty Research Engagement: An Explanatory Sequential Design <i>Venchie C. Badong</i>	192
---	------------

Empowering Teaching Through Evaluation: A Multiple Case Study on Administrative Leadership in Integrated Schools in Region XI <i>Honey Mae B. Candelario</i>	193
--	------------

EEmpowering Leadership, 21st Century Teaching Skills, and Organizational Commitment of Public Elementary Matatag Implementers: An Explanatory Sequential Design <i>Jotham A. Dayag</i>	194
--	------------

Narratives of Alternative Learning System Educators in Region XI on Reintegrating Muslim Out-of-School Youth in Formal Education: A Multiple Case Study <i>Jainal Abidin P. Ismael</i>	195
A Structural Model of Educational Management Practices as Estimated by Organizational Citizenship Behavior, Emotional Leadership, and Work-Life Balance <i>Cinderella A. Javier</i>	196
Leadership-Driven Success: A Multiple Case Study of Experience School Heads Leading Elementary Schools in Region XI <i>Unayssa Marie V. Jayoma</i>	197
Instructional Leadership in the Margins: A Multiple-Case Study on Strategies and Philosophies of School Heads in Last-Mile Schools in Region XI <i>Ronilo B. Labrador</i>	198
Navigating Organizational Trust and School Climate Among Higher Education Institutions: An Explanatory Embedded Multiple Case Study <i>Cliff Kirl F. Lubon</i>	199
The Mediating Effect of Job Satisfaction on the Relationship Between Servant Leadership and Faculty Retention of RVM Higher Education Institutions: An Explanatory Sequential Design <i>S. Maria Marilou B. Madronero, RVM</i>	200
The Dimensions of Context-Specific Ignacian Marian Leadership Among Administrators of RVM Schools: An Exploratory Sequential Design <i>S. Maria Merma Liza M. Shalah, RVM</i>	201
Servant Leadership and Organizational Culture as Predictors of Organizational Commitment in the Social Welfare Setting: An Explanatory Sequential Approach <i>Ramonita M. Salamanca</i>	202
Contingent Educational Management Response and Transformational Leadership Practices as Predictors of Organizational Commitment in BARMM Region: Explanatory Sequential Design <i>Senaida N. Salibangsa</i>	203

Ethical Leadership and Self-Efficacy as Predictors of Teacher Engagement in Public Secondary Schools in Region XI: A Convergent Design <i>Karen Joy I. Sobrecarey</i>	204
An Explanatory Embedded Multiple Case Study on Decision Making Style and Financial Management Behavior Among Middle Administrators of Diocesan Schools in Region X <i>Vince Jayson A. Villorijo</i>	205
DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN EDUCATION MAJOR IN APPLIED LINGUISTICS	
The Language of Risk: A Social Semiotic Analysis of Disaster Public Service Announcements in the Philippines <i>Kyndra B. Aradillos</i>	206
Debate Speeches of Student World Champions Through the Lens of Aristotle’s Rhetorical Triangle <i>Maria Liza A. Baldonado</i>	207
The Intersection of Language, Theology, and Community Building in United Church of Christ in the Philippines Keynote Addresses: A Discourse Analysis <i>Gorgonia Joy M. Veloso</i>	208
DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN EDUCATION MAJOR IN FILIPINO	
Masusing Pagsusuri sa Nakagawiang Translanguaging ng mga Mag-Aaral sa Pamublikong Kolehiyo ng Rehiyon XI: Isang Convergent na Pag-Aaral <i>Sancho I. Macalisang</i>	209
Paglalayag sa Digital Na Silid-Aralan: Isang Multiple Case Study sa Pasalitang Kakayahang Komunikatibo ng mga ALS Learners sa Paglahoksa Regular na Klase sa Filipino <i>Jaxson C. Mollida</i>	210

**Mga Dimensyong Context-Specific Translanguaging
na Talatanungan sa mga Mag-Aaral ng
Asignaturang Filipino: Isang Exploratory Sequential
na Disenyo** 211
Argielou M. Pecante

**Paggalugad sa mga Salitang Balbal Ng LGBTQ+ Sa
Filipino: Isang Sosyolingguwistik at Sentiment
Analysis sa Diskursong Bekimon sa Midyang
Panlipunan** 212
Arnel T. Serentas

**Isang Genre-Based Na Pagsusuri ng mga Abstrak
sa mga Proyeklong Action Research sa Filipino sa
Departamento ng Edukasyon** 213
May Marie T. Suico

**Sa Likod ng Mahusay na Pagtuturo: Isang
Interpretib na Penomenolohikal na Pagsusuri sa
mga Pinakamabisang Gawi sa Pagpapatupad ng
Senior High School sa Filipino** 214
Melchor Jr. M. Valmoria

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN EDUCATION MAJOR IN PHYSICAL EDUCATION

**Teaching Competencies, School Culture
and Job Satisfaction among Physical Education
Teachers of Higher Education Institutions in Region
XII: A Convergent Design** 215
Marichu A. Calixtro

**Integration of Traditional Games in Physical
Activities from the Perspectives
of Stakeholders: Multiple Case Study** 216
Shelley P. Labra

**The Moderating Effect of Digital Competence on the
Relationship Between Technology Integration and
Technostress: An Explanatory Sequential Design** 217
Vence Lloyd E. Qunit

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN PHARMACY

Comparative Evaluation of Tween 80- and Cremophor Rh40-Based Ferulic Acid Alginate Raft Powder for Suspension: Physicochemical Characterization, Antioxidant Activity, and Drug Release Kinetics <i>Jayson B. Canja</i>	218
---	------------

DOCTOR IN BUSINESS MANAGEMENT

The Predictors Of Sustainable Consumption Behavior: An Explanatory Sequential Approach <i>Grace G. Balgos</i>	219
---	------------

Resilience Capacity Among Banana Farm Workers in Mindanao <i>Danica Ana B. Bendigo</i>	220
--	------------

Job Satisfaction and Organizational Culture as Determinants of Employee Engagement among Export-Oriented Companies in Davao Region: An Explanatory Sequential Design <i>Maria Cristina D. Cadorna, DBM</i>	221
--	------------

Strategic Digital Transformation of Financial Governance: A Cloud-Based Centralized Accounting Framework for the Subsidized Communities of St. Ezekiel Moreno <i>Lea Mae D. Canilla</i>	222
---	------------

Customer Adoption Factors Toward Mobile Banking Services As Determinants of Customer Loyalty: An Explanatory Sequential Mixed Methods Study <i>Raylin O. Castillo</i>	223
---	------------

Developmental and Evaluation of a Student Record Information System for a Technical-Vocational Institution: A Strategic Approach to Operational Efficiency <i>Rosso R. Cuyos</i>	224
--	------------

A Convergent Mixed Methods Study on the Adoption of Improved Rice Production Technologies among Farmers in Region XII <i>Lj Joy Taeza-Dematais</i>	225
--	------------

Caught in the Scheme: A Multiple Case Study on the Experiences and Mindsets of Business Professionals Victimized by Ponzi Investments <i>Lovella Faith B. Diez</i>	226
--	------------

Writing Motivation, ChatGPT Usage, and Creative Writing Skills among HUMSS Students <i>Niño Angelo A. Duran</i>	227
Entrepreneurial Orientation, Technological Readiness and Business Performance: An Explanatory– Sequential Investigation of SME Food Processors <i>Marilou S. Encabo, DBM</i>	228
Transformational Leadership And Employee Engagement As Determinants of Organizational Agility in the Canning Industry: An Explanatory Sequential Mixed Methods Study <i>Joan R. Espinoza</i>	229
Predictors Of Performance among Multipurpose Cooperatives: An Explanatory Sequential Design <i>Genaro D. Guadalquiver Jr.</i>	230
Determinants of Job Satisfaction among the Small and Medium Enterprises’ Employees in Region XII: An Explanatory–Sequential Design <i>Vanessa B. Jimenez</i>	231
Convergent Mixed-Methods Study Exploring Self-Service Technology Quality and Technology Readiness Among Customers of Fast-Food Chains in Region XII, Philippines <i>Queencyfaith C. Montañó</i>	232
The Influence of Digital Literacy Competence and Digital Engagement on Employee Performance in Multi-Purpose Cooperative: An Explanatory Sequential Mixed-Methods Approach <i>Jeni Nicolas</i>	233
A Path Analysis of Entrepreneurial Decision-Making among Agricultural MSMEs in Davao Region: An Explanatory Sequential Mixed-Methods Research <i>Rodjard B. Paro</i>	234
The Mediating Role of Work Engagement on the Relationship Between Organizational Support and Entrepreneurial Orientation: An Explanatory Sequential Mixed-Methods Study <i>Teody Rey Ponce</i>	235

Financial Literacy and Social Capital as Determinants Of Economic Sustainability of Micro-Enterprises In Region Xi: An Explanatory Sequential Mixed-Methods Study <i>Geneveive J. Qteish</i>	236
The Influence of Financial Literacy and Technology Readiness on Business Sustainability among MSEs in Davao Region: An Explanatory Sequential Approach <i>Khristine Mae Y. Ramiro</i>	237
A Convergent Mixed Methods Study on Consumer Medication Adherence among Adult Consumers in Davao Region <i>Emiliano Z. Sison Jr.</i>	238
The Influence of Perceived Value and Brand Equity On Buying Decision among Restaurant Patrons in BARMM: An Explanatory Sequential Approach <i>Randy G. Tamayo</i>	239
Green Sustainability Practices among Hotels in Davao Region: A Convergent Mixed Methods <i>Jillovelyn B. Tolosa</i>	240
Exploring Workplace Resilience and Well-Being of Contractual Employees in Shopping Malls of Region XII, Philippines: A Convergent Mixed Methods Study <i>Ellah Jessa G. Tomampas, MBM, LPT</i>	241

DOCTOR IN BUSINESS MANAGEMENT

Online Inventory and Asset Management System: A Model for Institutional Efficiency <i>Janette M. Claro</i>	242
Digital Transformation of Clinical Management: Implementing a Departmental HIS for Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation to Enhance Operational Excellence <i>Mizhelle D. Dela Cruz, MIT</i>	243

MASTER OF ARTS IN EDUCATIONAL MANAGEMENT

Teaching without Borders: Lived Experiences of English as Second Language Teachers (ESL): A Phenomenological Inquiry

Diza Rose G. Arena

The purpose of this study was to explore the lived experiences of English as a Second Language (ESL) teachers as they developed their professional identity in online ESL teaching environments. The study employed a qualitative phenomenological research design. Data were collected from 17 Filipino ESL teachers engaged in online language instruction using validated semi-structured interview questions. The data were analyzed through thematic analysis. Findings revealed five essential themes related to lived experiences: language barrier, occupational demands, instructional constraints, instructional communication barrier, and online classroom management. In terms of coping mechanisms, four themes emerged: student-centered teaching, instructional resourcefulness, professional collaboration and support, and growth-oriented practice. Additionally, three themes were identified for insights shared to the academe and community: flexibility as core to ESL teaching, ESL teachers as cultural bridges, and the holistic role of ESL teaching. Despite these challenges, teachers demonstrated adaptability, resilience, and continuous professional growth through reflective practices, collaboration, and learner-centered approaches. The study provided insights to support the professional development and identity formation of ESL teachers in online teaching contexts.

Keywords: *ESL Education, professional identity, lived experiences, coping mechanisms, phenomenology, Philippines*

Ruling with Less: The Phenomenological Experiences of Public Elementary School Administrators in Managing Underfunded Schools

Genalyn A. Bagalanon

This research explored the lived experiences of public elementary school administrators and school coordinators in managing underfunded schools. The researcher used a qualitative research design, specifically, a phenomenological design. In-depth interviews and focus group discussions, guided by a validated interview guide, were used to select participants. To generate themes, thematic analysis was applied. Financial constraints, resource insufficiency, rising utility costs, disruptions to school programs, and administrative pressure were themes extracted from their lived experiences. Wise budgeting, collaborative support, financial sacrifice, and psychological resilience were the themes extracted from their coping mechanisms. Participants shared insights on establishing shared responsibility, promoting strategic practices, strengthening leadership, fostering adaptability, and sustaining learner-centered commitment. The resiliency and adaptability of school administrators and coordinators are important for overcoming limited school resources.

Keywords: *School administrators, school coordinators, underfunded school, phenomenology, public elementary school*

Professional Development and Organizational Commitment as Predictors of Teacher Effectiveness in the Caraga North and South Districts

Joylyn J. Basoc

This study examined the influence of professional development and organizational commitment on teacher effectiveness among public elementary and secondary school teachers in the Caraga North and South Districts. A quantitative descriptive-correlational research design was utilized to determine the levels, relationships, and combined influence of the variables. The study involved 200 public school teachers selected through proportional sampling. It sought to determine the status of professional development, organizational commitment, and teacher effectiveness, as well as the significant relationships and influence among these variables. Data were gathered using a validated survey questionnaire and analyzed using means, standard deviations, Pearson's r , and multiple regression. The findings revealed that professional development was high, while organizational commitment and teacher effectiveness were very high. Professional development showed a significant relationship with teacher effectiveness, whereas organizational commitment did not. The study concludes that strengthening professional development is essential in enhancing teacher effectiveness in public schools.

Keywords: *Professional development, organizational commitment, teacher effectiveness, public school teachers*

Instructional Leadership Roles of Teacher Coordinators: A Phenomenological Inquiry

Kimberly A. Camiring

This study explored the lived experiences of teacher coordinators in private schools in Koronadal City regarding their instructional leadership roles, using a qualitative phenomenological design. It examined how they perform their roles, the challenges they encounter, and the coping mechanisms they employ. Participants were purposively selected teacher coordinators who shared insights through Focus Group Discussions (FGD) and In-Depth Interviews (IDIs) using a validated guide. The study addressed key issues in instructional management, professional challenges, and interpersonal relationships within the school setting. Data from recorded interviews were analyzed using thematic analysis to identify recurring patterns and meanings. Findings revealed that teacher coordinators perform multifaceted roles, face professional and interpersonal challenges, and use coping strategies such as time and task management, collaboration, and continuous professional development. The study also highlights the need to strengthen teacher development systems, foster collaborative school cultures, and promote teacher empowerment.

Keywords: *Educational management, instructional leadership, teacher coordinators, lived experiences, phenomenology, Philippines*

Emotional Functioning as a Mediator Between Teacher Motivation and Job Engagement among Public Secondary School Teachers

Airah Layzeth M. De Vera

This study investigated the mediating effect of emotional functioning on the relationship between teacher motivation and job engagement among public secondary school teachers in the Division of Sarangani, Philippines. The study was conducted to better understand how teachers' motivation and emotional functioning influence their work engagement, given the importance of job engagement in sustaining effective teaching and positive school outcomes. Using a quantitative, descriptive-correlational, and predictive research design, data were gathered through adapted and validated survey questionnaires from 126 public secondary permanent teachers, selected through total enumeration sampling from 11 schools in the Glan 2 and Glan 3 Districts. The data were analyzed using means, standard deviations, Pearson product-moment correlations, and mediation analyses. Findings revealed that teacher motivation ($M = 3.89$), emotional functioning ($M = 3.93$), and job engagement ($M = 3.88$) were all high. Significant relationships were found between teacher motivation and job engagement ($r = .29, p = .002$), teacher motivation and emotional functioning ($r = .24, p = .011$), and emotional functioning and job engagement ($r = .40, p < .001$). Further analysis showed that emotional functioning partially mediated the relationship between teacher motivation and job engagement, with a significant indirect effect ($\beta = 0.083, p = .020$) and a significant direct effect ($\beta = 0.205, p = .013$). The results indicate that emotional functioning is an important mechanism through which teacher motivation contributes to job engagement. Thus, strengthening both teacher motivation and emotional functioning may help improve teachers' sustained engagement in their professional roles, enhance teaching effectiveness, and support the development of school-based programs that promote teacher well-being and positive educational outcomes.

Keywords: *Educational management, teacher motivation, emotional functioning, job engagement, mediating effect, total enumeration, Philippines*

The Mediating Role of Academic Persistence on the Relationship between Teacher Attitude and Academic Success of Public Senior High School Students

Eddcyn P. Almero

This study aimed to determine the mediating effect of academic persistence on the relationship between perceived teacher attitude and students' academic success in the Division of Davao City. This study utilized a descriptive-correlational design with 250 public Grade 12 Senior High School students, selected via simple random sampling. Adapted survey questionnaires were used to collect the data, which were analyzed using means, standard deviations, Pearson's correlation, and the Sobel test. Findings showed that the level of perceived teacher attitude is very high; the level of academic success of the students is high; the level of academic persistence of the students is high; there is a significant relationship between perceived teacher attitude and academic persistence, academic persistence and academic success, and perceived teacher attitude and academic success; and academic persistence partially mediates the relationship between teacher attitude and academic success. This study concludes that academic persistence is the vital psychological link that transforms a positive educational environment into tangible student achievement. This also confirms that a teacher's influence on a student's academic success is not merely a direct result of classroom instruction but is significantly shaped by the teacher's passion and the student's internal drive to persevere.

Keywords: *Education, academic success, teacher attitude, academic persistence, descriptive-correlational, Philippines*

A Phenomenological Study on the Lived Experiences of the Public Elementary School Teachers on the Implementation of No-Homework Policy of DepEd

Edreyn B. Hortinela

This study employed a qualitative research approach, specifically a phenomenological design, to explore and understand teachers' lived experiences in implementing the Department of Education (DepEd) No Homework Policy. The participants were selected based on the inclusion criteria, and took part in in-depth interviews (IDI) and focus group discussions (FGD). The qualitative data were analyzed using thematic analysis to identify key themes. Based on participants' lived experiences, three main themes emerged: a preference for flexible teaching approaches, maximizing in-class practice, and increased lesson planning demands. Regarding the participants' coping mechanisms, two themes emerged: pedagogical adaptation and strengthened classroom management. Likewise, with regard to the insights of the participants shared with the academe and the community, two important themes were generated, such as classroom instruction as the primary source of learning and a shift toward learner-centered teaching.

Keywords: *Education, No Homework Policy, lived experiences, coping mechanisms, insights, teachers, phenomenology, Philippines*

Lived Experiences of Teachers Implementing the Key Stage One of the Reading Program in Public Elementary Schools

Rosemarie D. Espina

This study aimed to explore and understand the lived experiences of the teachers in implementing the Key Stage One Reading Program in public elementary schools in the Davao City Division, Philippines. The teachers, as participants, were purposively selected and interviewed through Focus Group Discussion and In-Depth Interview using a validated interview guide. For the qualitative data analysis, thematic analysis was employed to generate themes from participants' responses. The themes generated from the teachers' lived experiences included engaging with a diverse group of learners, employing differentiated instruction in reading, and experiencing limited reading resources. As for coping mechanisms, the following themes were extracted: displaying characteristics as an effective reading teacher and utilizing collaborative measures. Further, based on participants' insights, the following themes emerged: continuous professional development, holistic support from school administration, and strengthened advocacy for the reading program.

Keywords: *Educational management, reading program, key stage one, lived experiences, teachers, phenomenology, Philippines*

Quality of Life of Elementary Learners as Influenced by Parental Involvement and Child-Friendly School Environment

Jasmen P. Estrebilla

The quality of life of elementary learners is threatened by many factors, including poverty, malnutrition, safety and security, emotional well-being, inequality, and poor academic performance. Thus, this study aimed to determine the influence of parental involvement and child-friendly school environment on the quality of life among Grade 6 public elementary school learners in Samal District, Island Garden City of Samal, Davao del Norte. This study utilized a quantitative method, specifically a descriptive correlational research design. For data collection, the study utilized the validated and adapted survey questionnaires. Results revealed that parental involvement, the child-friendly school environment, and quality of life among elementary school learners were described as high. Parental involvement shows a positive, moderately significant relationship with the quality of life of elementary learners, while the child-friendly school environment shows a positive, strongly significant relationship. Further, in both singular and combined capacities, parental involvement and a child-friendly school environment are significant predictors of the quality of life of elementary learners. Furthermore, the results indicate that 61 percent of the quality of life of elementary learners is explained by the combined influence of the two independent variables, and 39 percent of the variance is attributable to other factors that require further study to fully understand the quality of life of elementary learners.

Keywords: *Education, parental involvement, child-friendly school environment, quality of life, grade 6 elementary learners, correlation*

Explicating the Experiences of Teachers with Multiple Designations: A Narratology

Dossy Mae C. Feliciano

This study explored the lived experiences of teachers handling multiple designations in the school setting, a condition that often creates added workload and professional strain. Guided by Clandinin and Connelly's narrative inquiry method, the research examined how five teacher-participants made sense of their experiences, coping processes, and reflections on fulfilling several roles beyond classroom teaching. Data were gathered through in-depth face-to-face interviews and analyzed using narrative threads, chronological phases, and thematic meaning-making to construct participants' stories and interpret recurring patterns across their accounts. Findings showed that teachers initially encountered uncertainty, confusion, and emotional stress as they adjusted to multiple responsibilities. However, as their experiences unfolded, they developed coping strategies such as self-learning, time management, practical adaptation, and collaboration with colleagues. The narratives further revealed that handling multiple designations became not only a challenge but also a process of personal and professional growth, leading to greater resilience, emerging leadership skills, and a strengthened sense of professional identity. These findings suggest that while multiple designations may intensify the demands placed on teachers, they can also serve as meaningful contexts for transformation when adequate support and adaptive strategies are present. The study provides insights for school leaders and policymakers in strengthening support mechanisms for teachers assigned multiple responsibilities.

Keywords: *Educational management, multiple designations, experiences of teachers, coping processes, professional identity, narratology, Philippines*

Emotional Intelligence and Coping with Interpersonal Stress as Predictors of Teacher Engagement among Public School Teachers

Norjaine D. Kumpa

The aim of this study is to examine the influence of emotional intelligence and coping with interpersonal stress on teacher engagement among public school teachers. Using a descriptive-correlational design, the respondents were public school teachers with at least three years of teaching experience. Adapted questionnaires were utilized to collect data on emotional intelligence, coping with interpersonal stress, and teacher engagement. Data were analyzed using means, standard deviations, Pearson product-moment correlations, and regression analysis. The findings revealed that respondents' emotional intelligence was very high, while their coping with interpersonal stress was also high. Teacher engagement was described as very high. Correlation analysis indicated a significant positive relationship between emotional intelligence, coping with interpersonal stress, and teacher engagement. Regression analysis further revealed that both emotional intelligence and coping with interpersonal stress significantly predict teacher engagement, with emotional intelligence exerting a more substantial influence. These results highlight the importance of supporting teachers in developing emotional competencies and effective coping strategies to enhance their engagement and professional performance.

Keywords: *Educational management, emotional intelligence, coping with interpersonal stress, teacher engagement, public school teachers, descriptive correlation, Philippines*

Teachers' Instructional Practices and Multidimensional Attitudes Towards Inclusive Education as Determinants of Teacher Efficacy

Tresha Grace T. Macatumbas

The concept of teacher efficacy emphasizes a teacher's belief in their capability to engage students and implement effective instructional strategies, even in challenging educational environments. With millions of students with disabilities in the Philippines, the need for highly effective teachers is critical. While substantial progress has been made in understanding teacher efficacy and inclusive education, significant gaps remain regarding how instructional practices and multidimensional attitudes influence teacher efficacy. The main objective of this study is to explore the teachers' instructional practices and multidimensional attitudes towards inclusive education. This study employs a quantitative method, specifically a descriptive correlational design. Using total population sampling, data were collected from private elementary teachers through validated and reliable survey instruments. Findings revealed that teachers demonstrated very high levels of instructional practices and high levels of efficacy, whereas their multidimensional attitudes toward inclusive education were rated average, highlighting an area for growth. The study found that effective instructional practices and positive multidimensional attitudes toward inclusivity significantly predict teacher efficacy. Statistical analyses showed significant positive correlations between instructional practices and teacher efficacy, as well as between multidimensional attitudes and teacher efficacy. Moreover, both instructional practices and attitudes were found to significantly predict teachers' efficacy.

Keywords: *Education, teachers' instructional practices, attitudes, inclusive education, teacher efficacy Philippines*

Assessing the Mediating Effect of Inhibitors Curriculum Viability on the Relationship of Career-Related Support Self-Efficacy on Job Satisfaction of Public Elementary Teachers in Binuhao District

Analisa S. Magnaos

Teacher job satisfaction remains a fault-finding concern in the Philippines due to increasing workloads, limited resources, and evolving curriculum demands. Prior studies profoundly suggested that both career-related support self-efficacy and curriculum viability influence teachers' professional well-being. However, limited research has also examined how curriculum viability inhibitors mediate this relationship, particularly in localized contexts in Binuhao District. This study aimed to determine the mediating effect of curriculum viability inhibitors on the relationship between career-related support self-efficacy and job satisfaction among public elementary teachers. A quantitative, descriptive correlational design was utilized. Findings reveal that teachers demonstrated moderate to high levels of career-related support, self-efficacy, curriculum viability, and job satisfaction. Significant relationships were found among all variables. Moreover, curriculum viability showed a significant mediating effect, indicating that it explains how self-efficacy influences job satisfaction. This suggests that even with strong self-efficacy, barriers in curriculum implementation can affect teachers' satisfaction. The results imply that strengthening curriculum support systems and reducing implementation barriers can enhance teachers' job satisfaction.

Keywords: *Education, curriculum viability, career-related support self-efficacy, descriptive correlational, Philippines*

Leadership Styles and School-Based Management Implementation as Predictors of Individual Work Performance of Teachers

Bernadith E. Osorio

A thriving school environment depends on more than excellent standards; it also depends on how leadership and management structures empower students in the classroom. This study was motivated by the belief that when school leaders lead successfully, and operational systems such as School-Based Management (SBM) function properly, teachers are better positioned to succeed. This study, which focused on 10 public schools in the Alabel 1 District of the Division of Sarangani, sought to identify what truly drives the individual job performance of field educators. This study aimed to investigate the significant predictors of teachers' individual work performance in Leadership Styles and SBM Implementation. This research study employed quantitative research, specifically Multiple Regression. Descriptive correlation was employed as the research design. Mean, standard deviation, and Pearson r correlation were among the statistical tools used. The participants in the study were teachers of the said district who had been handling subjects and teaching for more than 2 years in service. This study revealed that the leadership styles of school heads were highly evident. There is a moderate relationship between leadership styles and teachers' individual work performance. Also, SBM implementation is significantly associated with individual work performance. Furthermore, the results also revealed that leadership styles of public-school heads and SBM implementation are significant predictor of individual work performance of teachers in combined influence.

Keywords: *Leadership, School Based Management, Performance, Philippines*

Emotional Intelligence and Organizational Health as Predictors of Work–Life Balance of Millennial Teachers in Private Schools

Sr. Gerarlyn V. Saldua, MIC

This quantitative study employed a descriptive correlational research design to determine the significance of emotional intelligence and organizational health on work–life balance among millennial teachers in private schools in the City of Mati, Davao Oriental. The data were collected using validated and adapted survey questionnaires. The statistical tools used were the mean, standard deviation, Pearson product-moment correlation coefficient (r), and multiple regression analysis. The findings revealed that millennial teachers' emotional intelligence was rated high. Similarly, the level of organizational health was rated high, as was the level of work–life balance. Results further showed a moderate positive relationship between emotional intelligence and work–life balance, and between organizational health and work–life balance. Regression analysis revealed that both emotional intelligence and organizational health significantly influenced work–life balance. Millennial teachers perform best when emotional intelligence and organizational health are strong, leading to better work–life balance and effectiveness. School leaders should invest in developing teachers' emotional skills while building supportive, collaborative environments. Focusing on both personal growth and institutional support improves well-being, productivity, and education quality, helping schools retain motivated teachers and create thriving learning communities.

Keywords: *Educational management, emotional intelligence, organizational health, work-life balance, millennial teachers, descriptive correlational, Philippines*

Supportive Learning Environment and Science Teacher Competence: Basis for an Enhancement Plan

Renamae Flor V. Teh

This study determined the influence of a supportive learning environment and the science teacher's competence in the public schools. It determines the level, examines the significant relationship, and identifies which domains of the learning environment influence teacher competence in Malita, Davao Occidental. The study used a quantitative, descriptive, correlational design. The respondents were the public school's teachers selected through a universal sampling technique. The findings indicated that the supportive learning environment and science teacher competence were rated very high. A strong, significant positive correlation was identified between the two variables ($r = 0.70$, $p < .05$). A supportive learning environment significantly predicted science teacher competence ($\beta = 0.70$, $p < .05$), explaining 49% of the variance. Teaching for understanding and problem-solving strategies appeared to be a notable indicator among its domains. The results indicate that cultivating a supportive learning environment improves science teacher competence. It is recommended that schools strengthen instructional strategies and provide targeted professional development to improve the effectiveness of science teaching.

Keywords: *Education, supportive learning environment, science teacher competence, descriptive correlational design, Davao Occidental, Philippines*

Classroom Discipline Strategies and Student Engagement as Predictors of Motivation Towards Science Learning among Grade 9 Students in Mueang Trang Thailand

Ma. Johanna B. Testa

This study investigated the influence of classroom discipline strategies and student engagement on motivation towards science learning among Grade 9 students in Mueang Trang, Thailand. The study aimed to better understand how classroom management practices and student engagement contribute to motivation, given their importance in enhancing academic performance and sustaining interest in science. Using a quantitative descriptive-correlational research design, data were collected through adapted and validated survey questionnaires from 200 Grade 9 students in selected public secondary schools. The data were analyzed using means, standard deviations, Pearson product-moment correlations, and multiple regression. Findings revealed that classroom discipline strategies ($M = 4.22$, $SD = 0.93$), student engagement ($M = 4.33$, $SD = 0.79$), and motivation towards science learning ($M = 4.21$, $SD = 0.82$) were all high. Significant relationships were found between classroom discipline strategies and motivation ($r = 0.49$, $p < .001$), and between student engagement and motivation ($r = 0.784$, $p < .001$). Further analysis showed that student engagement significantly predicted motivation ($\beta = 0.759$, $p < .001$), while classroom discipline strategies did not ($\beta = 0.043$, $p = 0.435$). The combined model was significant ($R = 0.785$, $R^2 = 0.616$, $F = 157.931$, $p < .001$). The findings highlight student engagement as a key factor in enhancing motivation towards science learning.

Keywords: *classroom discipline, descriptive-correlational design, education, educational management, motivation towards science learning, student engagement, quantitative study*

MASTER OF ARTS IN ELEMENTARY EDUCATION

Managing Large Classes: A Qualitative Inquiry Into the Instructional Strategies Employed by Primary School Teachers

Zyalette Fria M. Aquino

This study qualitative phenomenological research design to explore the lived experiences of public primary school teachers in managing large classes. The purpose of the study was to understand how teachers in Kindergarten to Grade Three handle classes consisting of 35 to 50 students in the Digos City Division, Philippines. The study addressed challenges and instructional strategies used by primary school teachers in large-class settings. A total of 15 teachers participated, with 8 in in-depth interviews and 7 in focus group discussions. Participants were purposively selected, provided data using a validated interview guide, and the data were analyzed using thematic analysis. Results revealed that teachers encounter challenges such as disruptive classroom behavior, limited time for assessment, and difficulty in giving individualized instruction in overcrowded classrooms. To address these, they employed adaptive strategies including structured classroom management, differentiated instruction, fostering supportive learning environments, promoting active learning, using interactive assessment, and providing targeted learner support. The study also shows teachers' sustained commitment and adaptability in maintaining student engagement. The findings highlight the need for professional development in positive discipline, classroom organization, and behavior management, along with improved assessment strategies, such as formative and peer assessment, and simple digital tools. Reflective practice and sustained teacher support further strengthen the ability to deliver quality instruction. In conclusion, despite the challenges of large class sizes, adaptive instructional strategies and teacher resilience contribute to sustaining quality education.

Keywords: *Elementary education, large class, instructional strategies, lived experiences, teachers, phenomenology, Philippines*

Modern Parenting Among Millennial Parents on Academic Involvement Towards their Children: A Phenomenology

Jane Shammah A. Aranges

This qualitative phenomenological study explored the lived experiences of millennial parents regarding modern parenting and their academic involvement in their children's education in public elementary schools in the San Isidro District, Division of Davao del Norte, Philippines. Purposively selected millennial parents participated in In-Depth Interviews and Focus Group Discussions using a validated interview guide. Thematic analysis was employed to interpret the qualitative data. Findings revealed five essential themes describing the lived experiences of millennial parents: facilitating independent learning, promoting consistent study habits, fostering a supportive environment, managing constraints, and the academic content gap. These themes illustrate how parents navigate their roles in supporting their children's education amid modern parenting demands. In coping with challenges related to academic involvement, participants employed various mechanisms, including seeking family assistance, active academic monitoring, using digital tools, and maintaining a parent-teacher dialogue. Moreover, insights shared by the participants to the academe and community emphasized the need to acknowledge the value of parental involvement in education and to sustain active parental engagement.

Keywords: *Education, modern parenting, academic involvement, millennial parents, phenomenology, Philippines*

Academic Self-Regulated Learning as Influenced by Perceived Technology- Enhanced Environment and Emotional Intelligence

Kareel John B. Armingol

Academic self-regulated learning is essential to promoting students' academic success in the modern educational landscape. This quantitative study employed a descriptive-correlational design to examine the influence of perceived technology-enhanced environment and emotional intelligence on academic self-regulated learning among junior high school students in Cateel, Davao Oriental. Sets of validated and adapted survey questionnaires were administered to measure perceived technology-enhanced environment in terms of perceived usefulness and perceived ease of use; and emotional intelligence in terms of perception of emotion, managing own emotions, managing others' emotions, and utilization of emotion; and academic self-regulated learning in terms of forethought, performance control, and self-reflection. Data were analyzed using Mean, Standard Deviation, Pearson Product-Moment Correlation, and Multiple Regression Analysis. The results showed high levels of all variables. Significant positive relationships were found between perceived technology-enhanced environment and academic self-regulated learning, and between emotional intelligence and academic self-regulated learning. Regression analysis revealed that the perceived technology-enhanced environment was not a significant predictor, while emotional intelligence significantly influenced academic self-regulated learning.

Keywords: *Elementary Education, perceived technology-enhanced environment, emotional intelligence, academic self-regulated learning, descriptive correlational, Philippines*

The National Mathematics Program Through the Lens of Teachers in Calinan District: A Phenomenology

Jayson B. Bariquit

This study employed a qualitative research method, specifically a phenomenological design, to better understand the lived experiences of 17 public elementary school teachers from Calinan District, Davao City, Region XI, as implementers of the national mathematics program, who were selected through purposive sampling and qualified to participate in in-depth interviews and focus group discussions. The researcher conducted thematic analysis of the participants' responses, categorizing and coding them to identify significant themes. Six essential themes emerged from teachers' lived experiences regarding the implementation of the national mathematics program: differentiated instruction and peer tutoring, a shift toward learner-centered teaching, a skills gap among learners, instructional adjustments, an irregular implementation schedule, and insufficient administrative support. Also, five essential themes were extracted from the coping mechanisms of participants regarding the challenges encountered in implementing the national mathematics program: seek material support, adapt learner-centered practices, leverage expert guidance, participate in professional development, and collaborate with colleagues. Teachers also identified four essential themes they may share with the academe and society: mathematics for lifelong learning, the necessity of stakeholder involvement, strengthening institutional leadership, and support to enhance teacher competence. The implementation of NMP is a dynamic process with teachers, students, and schools. It requires flexibility, partnership, ongoing growth, effective leadership, and collective responsibility of teachers and the community.

Keywords: *Education, national mathematics program, program implementation, public elementary school teachers, phenomenology, Philippines*

Implementing Edukasyong Pantahanan at Pangkabuhayan in the Revised Curriculum: Teachers Experiences in Aligning Tesda Certification Competencies

John Mark M. Ciet

This study employed a descriptive qualitative research design to explore the experiences of private elementary school teachers in implementing Edukasyong Pantahanan at Pangkabuhayan (EPP) aligned with Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) competencies. It aimed to examine teachers' lived experiences, coping mechanisms, and insights they could share with the academe and the community regarding competency alignment. Seventeen selected teachers from private schools participated in the study through purposive sampling. Data were gathered through validated interview guides using in-depth interviews and focus group discussions. The collected data were analyzed using thematic analysis to identify recurring patterns and key themes in participants' responses. The findings revealed that teachers encountered both challenges and opportunities in implementing TESDA-aligned EPP. The themes that emerged from their lived experiences were Transition from Content-based to Competency-based Teaching, Navigating Instructional Complexity, and Experiencing Resource Constraints. Their coping mechanisms included Instructional Adaptation and Display of Characteristics as a Proactive Teacher. The insights shared by the participants highlighted the Need for Faculty Development and upskilling, as well as a Streamlined Curriculum. These findings may help improve teacher support systems and strengthen competency-based instruction in schools.

Keywords: *Edukasyong Pantahanan at Pangkabuhayan, TESDA Competencies, descriptive qualitative, Philippines*

Action Competence on Environmental and Sustainability Education and Self-Efficacy in Education for Sustain-Able Development Among Pre-Service Teachers: Basis for an Enhancement Program

Lou Jane B. Filipinas

This study examined the level of action competence on environmental and sustainability education and its relationship with self-efficacy in ESD among pre-service teachers. Using a quantitative design, the findings revealed that action competence was very high, indicating that respondents consistently demonstrate knowledge, confidence, and willingness to engage in sustainability practices. All domains, knowledge of action possibilities, confidence in one's own influence, and willingness to act, were rated very high. The level of self-efficacy in ESD was high, suggesting that pre-service teachers often feel capable of integrating sustainability concepts into their teaching. Results further showed a strong positive and significant relationship between action competence and self-efficacy. Specifically, knowledge of action possibilities and willingness to act emerged as significant predictors. These findings underscore the importance of enhancing action competence to strengthen teachers' self-efficacy and improve the implementation of ESD through the proposed enhancement program.

Keywords: *Elementary education, education for sustainable development, action competence, self-efficacy, BEED pre-service teachers, descriptive correlation, Philippines*

Resilience at Work and Job Satisfaction as Determinants of Organizational Commitment of Public Elementary School Teachers

Lorelie C. Rosal

This study examined resilience at work and job satisfaction as determinants of organizational commitment among 124 public elementary school teachers in the Calinan East District, Davao City, using a quantitative, descriptive-correlational design. It aimed to determine the levels of resilience at work, job satisfaction, and organizational commitment among teachers, the relationships among these variables, and the predictive influence of resilience at work and job satisfaction on organizational commitment. Stratified random sampling was used to select the respondents. Three adapted questionnaires were used, with reliability and validity tested, to collect the necessary data. Results revealed that teachers exhibited a very high level of resilience at work. Also, their job satisfaction and organizational commitment were very high. Correlation analysis showed that resilience at work had a moderate-to-strong positive relationship with organizational commitment. Job satisfaction had a strong, positive, and statistically significant relationship with organizational commitment. Multiple regression analysis indicated that resilience at work did not significantly influence organizational commitment. In contrast, Job Satisfaction significantly influenced organizational commitment, emerging as the stronger predictor. The findings suggest that enhancing job satisfaction is essential to strengthening teachers' organizational commitment.

Keywords: *Education, elementary, resilience at work, job satisfaction, organizational commitment, Philippines*

Exploring the Lived Experiences of Teachers Handling Learners with Autism Spectrum Disorder in the Mainstream Classroom

Krishna Mae B. Sintos

This study examined the lived experiences of elementary school teachers handling learners with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) in mainstream classrooms in Davao City. It utilized a qualitative research design, specifically a phenomenological approach, to gain a deeper understanding of teachers' experiences. The purpose of the study was to explore the challenges, coping mechanisms, and insights of teachers in inclusive classroom settings. The participants were 17 elementary school teachers from selected private schools with direct experience teaching learners with ASD. The study addressed issues related to instructional adaptation, classroom management, behavioral challenges, and inclusive teaching practices. Data were gathered through focus group discussions and in-depth interviews using a validated semi-structured interview guide. The collected data were analyzed using thematic analysis to identify patterns and themes from the participants' responses. The results revealed that teachers' lived experiences centered on embracing learner diversity, adapting specialized teaching strategies, and managing behavioral complexities. Coping mechanisms included pedagogical and behavioral intervention practices and the use of efficient collaborative support systems. The findings further highlighted the multifaceted role of teachers and emphasized teaching as a noble and service-oriented profession. Overall, the study concluded that working with learners with ASD in mainstream classrooms requires patience, flexibility, collaboration, and responsiveness to their diverse academic, emotional, social, and behavioral needs.

Keywords: *inclusive education, autism spectrum disorder, lived experiences, mainstream classrooms, teachers, phenomenology, Philippines*

The Lived Experiences of Novice Elementary School Teachers: Navigating the Implementation of the Revised Curriculum

Marilou G. Taupan

At school, novice elementary teachers often face difficulties when implementing revised curricula, affecting their teaching effectiveness and adjustment. This study aimed to examine their lived experiences, focusing on challenges, support systems, and professional growth. Using a qualitative design, data were collected through in-depth interviews and focus group discussions with seventeen Teacher 1 participants and were analyzed thematically. Findings showed that teachers encountered challenges in implementing the Revised Curriculum. As to the novice elementary school teachers' experiences in implementing the Revised Curriculum, four (4) major themes emerged: pedagogical adjustment, difficulties with curriculum familiarization, instructional workload pressure, and instructional learner mismatch. Along with these problems are teachers' perceptions of the Revised Curriculum's effectiveness and inadequate instructional support. Moreover, the following are the insights shared by the novice elementary school teachers: adjustment as a process of professional learning, developing confidence through familiarity, and confidence-building enablers. Furthermore, teacher adjustment was gradual, with confidence and competence improving through experience, support, and continuous professional development.

Keywords: *Education, revised curriculum, novice elementary teachers, qualitative research design, Philippines*

Behind the Training: Teachers' Experience on Administrative Support in their Professional Learning Journey

Justin Keen C. Yu

The study aimed to understand elementary teachers' lived experiences regarding administrative support in their professional learning in the Cateel District of the Division of Davao Oriental. Guided by the framework of Transformational Leadership Theory, this study employed a qualitative research approach and used IDIs and FGDs with purposively selected participants, namely 17 elementary teachers. Thematic Analysis was used in analyzing data collected from IDIs and FGDs. It was found that administrative support serves as both an enabler and a constraint. Six major themes surfaced, namely, institutional support; instructional coaching and feedback; professional empowerment; systemic barriers; inadequate administrative support; and insufficient sustained support. On the one hand, the respondents had received many positive aspects of administration, such as training and professional development opportunities, but on the other hand, they encountered difficulties, such as excessive workload, a shortage of resources, poor communication, and a lack of follow-up on what they learned. Despite these issues, respondents showed ways to cope with the situation through professional learning. Overall, administrative support must be continuous, structured, and responsive to sustain teachers' professional development effectively.

Keywords: *Administrative support, professional development, teacher experiences, coping mechanisms, educational leadership*

MASTER OF ARTS IN ENGINEERING EDUCATION MAJOR IN ELECTRONICS & COMMUNICATIONS ENGINEERING

Lived Experiences of Internship and Career Readiness among Electronics Engineering Graduates: A Phenomenological Study

Chenneemae B. Bandy

This qualitative study employed a phenomenological approach to explore the lived experiences of Electronics Engineering (ECE) graduates regarding internship and career readiness. The participants were ECE graduates from Region XII, Philippines. Snowball sampling was used to recruit 17 participants, with 10 participating in IDIs and 7 in FGDs. The data were analyzed using Colaizzi's method. Three essential themes were extracted under the lived experiences of ECE Graduates. These were practical skills and real-world experience, personal growth and self-development, and mentorship and supervision. The themes generated related to the coping mechanisms of ECE Graduates include building confidence through experience, emotional encouragement, and developing problem-solving strategies. Regarding insights shared with the academe and the community, the identified themes were improving career-readiness support, enhancing academic monitoring, and strengthening industry-relevant technical preparation. These results highlight the need for stronger collaboration between academic institutions and industry partners to better support graduates' career readiness.

Keywords: Education, Engineering, Internship, career readiness, Electronics Engineering graduates, lived experiences, phenomenology, Philippines

Flexural Strength of Reinforced Concrete Beams with Rainwater Exposure

Randy D. Mandabon

This study aims to investigate the effect of exposing steel reinforcement to rainwater before concrete casting on the flexural strength of reinforced concrete beams. A quantitative experimental research design was used to examine how varying durations of rainwater exposure affect beam strength, using measurable, objective data. The study addresses a common issue in construction, particularly in tropical climates, where reinforcing bars are often exposed to rain prior to concreting, potentially initiating early-stage corrosion and affecting structural performance. Reinforced concrete beam specimens were prepared using standard mix proportions, with steel reinforcement bars soaked in collected rainwater for durations of 2, 4, 8, and 16 hours prior to casting. The rainwater was stored in clean, covered containers to prevent contamination. After soaking, the bars were placed directly into formwork, and concrete beams were cast, cured under controlled conditions, and later tested for flexural strength using a calibrated Universal Testing Machine (UTM). The collected data were analyzed using one-way ANOVA to determine statistical significance. Results showed that beams exposed to rainwater exhibited flexural strengths of 4.49 MPa, 3.19 MPa, 4.28 MPa, and 3.65 MPa, demonstrating a non-linear trend characterized by decreases from 2 to 4 hours and from 8 to 16 hours, and an increase from 4 to 8 hours. Statistical analysis confirmed a significant difference in flexural strength among the different rainwater exposure durations (2, 4, 8, and 16 hours) ($F = 12.45$, $p < 0.01$). These findings indicate that pre-casting rainwater exposure influences the flexural behavior of reinforced concrete beams, depending on the exposure duration. This study highlights the importance of accounting for environmental exposure conditions in construction practices, particularly amid changing climatic conditions.

Keywords: *flexural strength, rainwater exposure, exposure duration, reinforced concrete beams, bond strength*

Compressive Strength and Glow Duration Performance of Photoluminescent Epoxy Aggregate Bricks: An Approach to Rural Infrastructure

Owen Francis A. Maongat

This study investigates the compressive strength and glow duration performance of photoluminescent epoxy aggregate bricks as a sustainable solution for rural infrastructure. The research was motivated by the high incidence of road accidents in poorly lit rural areas of the Philippines and the need for innovative, low-cost lighting alternatives. The objective was to evaluate whether varying pigment concentrations (0%, 5%, and 10%) affect both the mechanical strength and luminescent properties of the bricks. A laboratory-based, post-test factorial experimental design was employed, with compressive strength measured using a Universal Testing Machine and glow duration assessed via a calibrated lux meter in a controlled darkroom. Results revealed that the experimental bricks achieved compressive strengths ranging from 8,450 to 8,540 psi, significantly surpassing conventional cement bricks at 2,550 psi, and that pigment concentration had no notable impact on strength. Glow duration, however, increased with pigment loading: bricks with 5 percent pigment glowed for 7 to 8 minutes, while those with 10 percent pigment glowed for 20 to 21 minutes. These findings demonstrate the potential of photoluminescent epoxy aggregate bricks to enhance rural safety and infrastructure resilience through durable, passive illumination.

KEYWORDS: *Engineering education, compressive strength, glow duration performance, photoluminescent epoxy aggregate bricks, factorial experimental, rural infrastructure, Philippines*

MASTER OF ARTS IN VALUES EDUCATION

Teaching Beyond Expertise: Exploring the Experiences of Non-Values Education Teachers Teaching Values Education

Keren Joy C. Amodia

This study explored the lived experiences of non-Values Education teachers assigned to teach Values Education in public secondary schools in the Division of Tagum City using a qualitative phenomenological design. It aimed to understand their experiences, challenges, coping strategies, and insights in teaching the subject. Seventeen (17) teachers were selected through purposive sampling. The study specifically examined their lived experiences, coping mechanisms, and insights for the academe and community. Data were collected through in-depth interviews, focus group discussions, and field notes, and analyzed using thematic analysis. Findings revealed that teachers encountered challenges, including limited content knowledge, difficulties adapting to their roles, and difficulties assessing students' value formation. Despite these, they demonstrated resilience through interactive teaching strategies, self-directed learning, and emotional sensitivity toward learners. They viewed Values Education as a meaningful responsibility that extends beyond classroom instruction into real-life application. Overall, the study highlights the need for institutional support, including targeted training, mentoring, and improved assessment tools, to strengthen the delivery of Values Education.

Keywords: *Values Education, lived experiences, teaching challenges, coping mechanisms, Philippines*

Navigating Teenage Motherhood and Education: A Phenomenology of Community Support

Hivy R. Baloyo

Teenage motherhood is a complex phenomenon, particularly for teenage mothers who continue their studies, as they must navigate the challenging dual roles of motherhood and education. This qualitative phenomenological study explored the experiences, coping mechanisms, and community support of 10 teenage mothers aged 15–19 enrolled in public secondary schools in Siocon, Zamboanga del Norte. They were identified through purposive and snowball sampling techniques. Data gathered through in-depth interviews (IDIs) using a validated interview guide and then thematic analysis, revealed five key themes regarding community support: receiving familial support, teachers extending instructional flexibility, negotiating peer support, navigating academic responsibilities, and managing domestic adjustment. To manage their dual roles, participants employed coping mechanisms such as emotional anchoring, practicing constructive diversion, relying on familial support, and balancing competing demands. Ultimately, strong support systems fuel these mother's persistence to pursue education to secure a better future for themselves and their children.

Keywords: *Values education, community support, teenage motherhood, coping mechanisms, experiences, Philippines*

Student Capacity Building and Growth Mindset as Predictors of Value-Based Leadership among Student Leaders in Public Secondary Schools

Leah A. Bongtayan

This study examined the influence of student capacity-building and a growth mindset on value-based leadership among student leaders in public secondary schools. Using a descriptive-correlational design, the respondents were student leaders enrolled in public secondary schools. Adapted questionnaires were utilized to collect data on student capacity building, growth mindset, and value-based leadership. Data were analyzed using means, standard deviations, Pearson product-moment correlation, and regression analysis. The findings revealed that respondents' capacity-building was high, while both growth mindset and value-based leadership were described as very high. Correlation analysis indicated a significant positive relationship between student capacity building, growth mindset, and value-based leadership. Regression analysis further revealed that both student capacity building and growth mindset significantly predict value-based leadership, with growth mindset showing a stronger influence. These results highlight the importance of strengthening students' capacities and fostering a growth mindset to further enhance value-based leadership among student leaders in public secondary schools.

Keywords: *Public secondary schools, student capacity building, value-based leadership, descriptive correlation, Philippines*

Human Touch in Digital Age: A Narration of Experiences of Values Education Teachers Integrating Digital Tools in Teaching

John Kiven R. Davis

This qualitative narrative study explored how three Values Education teachers in Masukib District, Davao del Sur integrated digital tools in public secondary schools while sustaining the human and relational nature of Values Education. Data were gathered through in-depth interviews, field notes, non-participant observation, and document analysis. Findings revealed that teachers integrated digital tools through multimedia presentations, video, pictures, collaborative activities, digital scenarios, online resources, and interactive platforms to make values lessons more engaging and connected to students' lived experiences. Digital tools supported teachers' aspirations by encouraging participation, deepening moral reflection, and helping learners understand abstract values through real-life and visual examples. However, the integration process was challenged by unstable internet connectivity, limited devices, technical issues, inadequate resources, and varying levels of digital competence. Despite these barriers, teachers demonstrated adaptability through flexible teaching strategies, offline alternatives, and purposeful use of technology. The study concluded that digital tools can enrich Values Education, but meaningful integration depends on teacher presence, pedagogical judgment, moral guidance, and sustained institutional support.

Keywords: *Education, Values Education, public school, digital tools integration, Philippines*

Lived Experiences of the Non-Values Education Gen Z Teachers Teaching Values Education: A Phenomenology

Sr. Jona Gabriel G. Garcia, Carm. O. L.

This qualitative study examined the lived experiences of non-Values Education Generation Z teachers in the diocesan schools in the Island of Siquijor, Philippines. Using a phenomenological design, the researcher employed purposive criterion-based sampling to select the 17 teachers, with seven participating in a Focused Group Discussion and ten engaging in In-Depth Interviews guided by a validated instrument. The study addressed problems in teaching Values Education without specialization. Data were gathered through interviews and discussions, and analyzed using thematic analysis to capture the essence of participants' experiences. The themes extracted from the lived experiences included challenges in student emotional vulnerability, value conflict, pedagogical uncertainty, sourcing instructional materials, learner-centered instructional strategies, values education pedagogy, inclusive facilitation, and affective management. Themes generated from the coping mechanisms include adaptive teaching practices, reflexivity, proactive instructional planning, a learner-focused approach, and professional collaboration. Participants shared insights on the belief in values education as holistic human formation, teaching as compassionate guidance, and values formation as a shared school-community responsibility.

Keywords: *Values Education, Generation Z teachers, out-of-field teaching, phenomenology, Philippines*

Between Belief and Becoming: An Netnography of Spiritual Journey of Young People in Contemporary Society

Nico Jay Gatmaitan Lopez

This study employs a netnographic approach to explore the evolving spiritual journeys of young people within contemporary digital society. Grounded in Zygmunt Bauman's theory of Liquid Modernity, the research investigates how social media platforms—such as Facebook, TikTok, and Instagram—have become primary arenas for spiritual meaning-making, identity negotiation, and communal validation. As young individuals increasingly distance themselves from traditional institutional religious structures due to disillusionment and a search for personal authenticity, they turn to digital spaces to articulate their faith through personal testimonies, multimedia storytelling, and symbolic language. The findings reveal that digital spirituality is characterized by a hybrid identity, in which youth blend traditional beliefs with modern, individualized practices shaped by algorithmic exposure and influencer culture. Spiritual narratives often center on themes of struggle and transformation, using digital tools as a coping mechanism for the mental torments and anxieties of modern life. Ultimately, the study underscores the need for pastoral and educational institutions to adopt more creative strategies to accompany young people as they navigate their ongoing, processual self-discovery in a fluid, interconnected world.

Keywords: *Values education, netnography, spiritualities, online communities, Philippines*

Bridging the Gap from Principles to Practice: A Qualitative Study on the Implementation of Values Education

Jenevebe N. Patonongon

This qualitative study investigated how students and teachers experience, concretize, and bridge the principles-and-practice gap in the revised Values Education curriculum. Data from in-depth interviews and focus group discussions revealed four themes regarding implementation: engaging in experiential, values-based learning; students developing emotional awareness; translating values into action; and cultivating internalized discipline and autonomy. Five themes emerged on concretizing values: learners concretizing values in everyday life, finding personal purpose and meaning, embodying values in daily interactions, applying values in resolving conflicts, and continuous negotiation across multiple influencing contexts. Participants shared insights to address the principles-and-practice gap in values education: bridging theory and practice through actual experience, values must be lived, and encouraging internalization through reflection and dialogue. Findings indicate that experiential learning, consistent adult modeling, and safe dialogic spaces are essential for transforming abstract values into lived behaviors. The study concludes that closing the gap requires a whole-community commitment where home, school, faith traditions, and neighborhood reinforce the same moral principles. Implications for educational practice emphasize action-oriented pedagogy, integration across subjects, and structured reflection.

Keywords: *Values Education, principle-practice gap, experiential learning, internalized discipline, Philippines*

Navigating School and Work: Experiences of High School Working Students in Surigao del Norte

Rod Constantine T. Petallo

The study focused on the experiences of navigating work and school among the selected high school working students of Surigao del Norte during the school year 2025–2026. The researcher used qualitative research, specifically a descriptive design. 17 participants were selected, with the help of the Supreme Secondary Learner Government, advisers, and the school Career Guidance Advocate, who were interviewed through a focus group discussion (FGD) and in-depth interviews (IDIs) using a validated questionnaire. Thematic analysis was used to generate themes from participants' responses. The study's findings indicated experiencing physical fatigue, struggling to manage academic responsibilities, sacrificing social engagement, and balancing academic and work demands. The themes that resonated with their coping mechanisms, participants highlighted, were prioritizing academic tasks, coordinating daily routines, and practicing guided coping. Further, the participants shared insights that working students sustain resilience through goal-oriented positivity and that adversity cultivates resilience. Thus, the study recommended that institutions implement a program to support the well-being of working students.

Keywords: *Education, working student, balance responsibilities, descriptive, Philippines*

Student Interest as Predictor in Classroom Engagement in Values Education among Grade 9 Students

Marjorie Ann M. Quilab

This quantitative descriptive-correlation study investigates the predictive relationship between student interest (independent variable, with two indicators: cognitive and emotional interest) and classroom engagement (dependent variable, with two indicators: social and academic engagement) in Values Education among 266 Grade 9 students from three public secondary schools in the Division of Mati City, Davao Oriental, Philippines. Using Proportionate stratified sampling, data were analyzed using Mean, standard deviation, Pearson correlation, and multiple regression. The results of the correlation analysis showed a significant, strongly positive relationship between student interest and classroom engagement. A student's level of cognitive interest was found to be a significant predictor of student classroom engagement. Therefore, indicating that students' interest is one factor influencing their participation and responsiveness in values education. The study suggests that while cognitive interest anticipated classroom engagement, emotional interest played a dominant role in fostering classroom engagement in values education among Grade 9 students. It means that students' intellectual curiosity and emotional connection together served as key drivers of their active participation in Values Education.

Keywords: *Values education, classroom engagement, public secondary school, descriptive- correlational, Philippines*

MASTER OF ARTS IN RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Personality Traits and Spiritual Well-Being as Predictors of the Effectiveness of the Therapeutic Community Modality Program for Probationers

Cleo Algen C. Castigon

This study examined the influence of personality traits and spiritual well-being on the effectiveness of the therapeutic community modality program for probationers. Using a descriptive-correlational design, the respondents were probationers serving probation terms of 1 to 3 years. Using complete enumeration to include all eligible respondents from the Bukidnon Parole and Probation Office No. 2. Data were analyzed using means, standard deviations, Pearson product-moment correlations, and regression analyses. The findings show high levels of personality traits, with conscientiousness rated highest, spiritual and religious well-being rated higher than existential well-being, and therapeutic program effectiveness and behavioral management skills rated highest. While correlation analysis showed a significant positive relationship between these factors and program effectiveness, regression analysis indicated they were not significant individual predictors. These results highlight the importance of strengthening holistic support systems within therapeutic community programs, recognizing that while personality traits and spiritual well-being are associated with program effectiveness, they may not, in and of themselves, determine its success.

Keywords: *Religious education, personality traits, spiritual well-being, therapeutic community modality program, probationers, descriptive-correlational design, regression analysis, Philippines*

MASTER OF ARTS IN TEACHING CHEMISTRY

Student-Centered Approach as a Tool to Enhance Chemistry Achievement of Selected Grade 10 Students in Midsayap, Cotabato: A Quasi-Experimental Study

Wendyll Mae Cambronero

Chemistry is a fundamental science, but students often struggle to understand its abstract concepts, particularly chemical reactions, which require linking macroscopic, submicroscopic, and symbolic representations. This study employed a quasi-experimental design to examine instructional effectiveness. It aimed to determine the effectiveness of the Student-Centered Approach in improving Grade 10 students' understanding of chemical reactions in Midsayap, Cotabato. The participants were selected Grade 10 students assigned to experimental and control groups within intact classes. The study addressed students' low mastery and difficulty in comprehending chemical reaction concepts. Data were gathered using a validated 30-item multiple-choice test administered as a pre-test and post-test. The collected data were analyzed using mean, mean percentage score, standard deviation, and t-test for independent and dependent samples. Results revealed that both groups had comparable pre-test scores with low mastery levels. After the intervention, both groups improved; however, the experimental group obtained a significantly higher post-test mean percentage score than the control group. Statistical analysis showed no significant difference in pre-test scores but a significant difference in post-test scores, favoring the experimental group. The study concludes that the Student-Centered Approach effectively enhances students' conceptual understanding and achievement in chemical reactions.

Keywords: Science education, mean percentage Score, laboratory instruction, grade 10 students, Philippines

Antimicrobial Activity of Vitex Negundo Leaf Ethanolic Extract Against Gram Positive and Gram Negative Bacteria: A Systematic Review

Jeromie M. David, RPh

The purpose of this review was to conclude whether ethanolic extracts of *V. negundo* leaves have the potential to be used as antimicrobials against gram positive and negative bacteria using zone of inhibition, as well as establish ethanol as the best solvent to extract phytochemicals proving antibacterial activity. Google Scholar, PubMed, ResearchGate, journal websites, institutional repositories, and PDF documents were searched to identify literature on the antibacterial activity of the ethanolic leaf extract of *Vitex negundo* L. from 2019 to 2025. After applying the PRISMA screening process and the QUIN quality assessment tool, 19 studies were included. Ten Studies had a score greater than 70%, therefore was considered low risk of bias. Nine studies had scores between 50% and 70%; therefore, they were considered to have a medium risk of bias. Using the GRADE approach, six out of ten studies showed that the quality of evidence was moderate, while the other four out of ten studies used were regarded as having high-quality evidence; all studies showed antimicrobial activity, had well-controlled experiments, took accurate measurements, and used proper strains of bacteria. Studies show that *V. negundo* leaf ethanolic extract has strong evidence supporting its use as a natural alternative for treating bacterial infections. For future research, the experimental methodology used to test the antimicrobial activity of the *Vitex negundo* leaf ethanolic extract should be standardized. Due to some studies using different methods, concentrations, and incubation times.

Keywords: *Pharmacognosy Vitex negundo L., ethanolic extract, antibacterial, PRISMA, systematic review, in-vitro, Philippines.*

Utilization of Gamification As A Learning Tool in Teaching Biomolecules and Chemical Reactions: A Quasi-Experimental Design

Ralph Jade M. Jugas

Gamification is a learner-centered approach that addresses persistent challenges in Chemistry achievement, such as misconceptions, low motivation, and reliance on conventional teaching methods. This study utilized a quasi-experimental pretest-posttest control-group design to evaluate the effectiveness of EN-CHEM-TADIA, a validated gamified learning tool aligned with Chemistry content. The purpose was to enhance Grade 10 students' achievement in biomolecules and chemical reactions. The study participants were 76 students during the School Year 2025–2026, divided into an experimental and a control group. Data were gathered using a validated assessment aligned with the Department of Education Most Essential Learning Competencies (MELCs), which was administered before and after the intervention. The data were analyzed by comparing pretest and posttest mean scores between the experimental and control groups. Findings revealed that the experimental group exposed to EN-CHEM-TADIA achieved significantly higher posttest mean scores for both biomolecules and chemical reactions than the control group, with a statistically significant difference ($p < 0.001$). These results confirm that EN-CHEM-TADIA significantly enhances learners' Chemistry achievement, demonstrating that well-designed, validated gamified learning tools can serve as effective instructional materials and innovative strategies to improve academic performance in Chemistry education.

Keywords: *Classroom interventions, gamified learning, teaching methods, secondary education, science education, instructional effectiveness, Philippines*

In Vitro Alpha Glucosidase Inhibitory Activity of Pansit-Pansitan (*Peperomia Pellucida*) Leaf Extract

Angelica Llamas

This study explores plant-based alternatives for diabetes management using locally available medicinal plants, with a focus on the antidiabetic potential of *Peperomia pellucida*. The study employed a quantitative, descriptive, experimental research design to evaluate the Total Phenolic Content (TPC), Total Flavonoid Content (TFC), percentage α -glucosidase inhibitory activity, and inhibitory potency (IC_{50}) of the ethanolic leaf extract. The study aimed to determine whether the extract contains bioactive compounds capable of inhibiting carbohydrate-hydrolyzing enzymes. Plant samples were collected from Arakan, Cotabato, and subjected to spectrophotometric analysis. Data were gathered through in vitro enzyme inhibition assays at varying concentrations (25–250 $\mu\text{g/mL}$) and analyzed using one-way analysis of variance (ANOVA) and post hoc comparisons. Results revealed that the leaf extract contained measurable phytochemicals, with a TPC of 36.50 ± 0.30 mg GAE/g and a TFC of 13.70 ± 0.20 mg QE/g. A concentration-dependent increase in α -glucosidase inhibitory activity was observed, ranging from 22.80% to 82.47%. Statistical analysis indicated a significant difference in inhibitory activity among concentrations ($p < 0.05$). The IC_{50} value of 103.5 $\mu\text{g/mL}$ indicated moderate inhibitory potency compared to acarbose. These findings demonstrate that *Peperomia pellucida* leaf extract exhibits enzyme inhibitory activity and may serve as a potential natural antidiabetic agent.

Keywords: Total phenolic content, total flavonoid content, IC_{50} , antidiabetic activity, *Philippines*

The Journey of Public Senior High School Students in Learning Science in the Schools Division of Bislig City: A Phenomenology

Nneka Jean A. Pangapalan

This qualitative study employed phenomenology to explore and understand the lived experiences of public senior high school students in the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) strand, particularly those enrolled in General Physics in the Schools Division of Bislig City, Surigao del Sur, CARAGA Region. Purposive sampling was used to identify 17 participants, 10 for the in-depth interview and seven for the focus group discussion. The data gathered were analyzed using the method of Colaizzi. Results revealed two essential themes derived from their lived experiences: encountering difficulties in acquiring knowledge in science and experiencing pedagogical inefficacy. Two essential themes emerged from students' coping mechanisms, namely establishing a climate conducive to learning and exhibiting self-directed learning. Furthermore, two essential themes were extracted from the insights shared by the students with the academe and the community, namely taking responsibility as a student as a commitment, and the relevance of maintaining a positive mindset. Overall, the findings highlight the need for improved teaching approaches, enhanced learning resources, and a more supportive learning environment to strengthen science education in public senior high schools. The students' voices serve as a valuable guide for the academe and society in shaping more responsive and meaningful learning experiences in physics and other science subjects.

Keywords: *Physics, education, lived experiences, challenges, coping mechanisms, insights, STEM students, phenomenology, Philippines*

Critical Thinking Disposition, Attitude Towards Science Literacy, and Scientific Research Skills of Grade 12 STEM Students in Selected Private Schools in Davao City

Christian S. Sembrino

Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics education continues to gain strong emphasis in today's academic landscape, underscoring the need to develop students' scientific research skills alongside their critical thinking disposition and attitude toward science literacy. This study examined the influence of critical thinking disposition and attitude towards science literacy on the scientific research skills of Grade 12 STEM students in selected private schools in Davao City. A quantitative, descriptive-correlational research design was utilized, involving 263 purposively selected respondents. Adopted and validated questionnaires were used to measure the variables, and the data were analyzed using descriptive statistics, correlation, and regression. Findings revealed that students demonstrated a high to highest level of critical thinking disposition, attitude towards science literacy, and scientific research skills. Results further indicated significant positive relationships among variables, confirming their strong association. Furthermore, both independent variables significantly predicted students' scientific research skills, indicating their combined influence. The study highlighted the importance of fostering critical thinking and a positive attitude towards science to enhance students' research skills. It is recommended that educators implement strategies that strengthen students' critical thinking disposition and attitude towards science literacy through inquiry-based and research-oriented activities to improve students' research competencies.

Keywords: *Inquiry-based learning, evidence-based reasoning, research competencies, STEM education, correlational study, Philipppines*

In Vitro Alpha Glucosidase Inhibitory Activity of Batuan (*Garcinia Binucao*) Fruit Ethanolic Extract

Rogelio E. Trasga Jr.

Diabetes mellitus is a growing global health concern, particularly in developing countries such as the Philippines, where access to affordable and effective treatments remains limited. This study employed a quantitative descriptive-experimental design to evaluate the in vitro antidiabetic potential of the ethanolic extract of *Garcinia binucao* whole fruit by determining its total phenolic content (TPC), α -glucosidase inhibitory activity, median inhibitory concentration (IC_{50}), and the significance of differences across concentrations. No participants were involved as the study was conducted in vitro. The research examined whether *Garcinia binucao* contains bioactive compounds with significant α -glucosidase inhibitory activity and whether their effectiveness varies across concentrations. Total phenolic content was determined using the Folin-Ciocalteu method, while α -glucosidase inhibitory activity was measured using the p-nitrophenyl- α -D-glucopyranoside (pNPG) assay. Data were analyzed using two-way ANOVA and Tukey's HSD test. Results revealed a mean TPC of 41.50 ± 0.30 mg GAE/g and a dose-dependent increase in inhibitory activity ranging from 20.83% to 79.70%. The IC_{50} value of the extract was 106.8 μ g/mL, compared to 64.1 μ g/mL for acarbose, indicating lower inhibitory potency. Significant differences in inhibitory activity were observed across concentrations ($p < 0.0001$). These findings indicate that the ethanolic extract of *Garcinia binucao* whole fruit contains phenolic compounds and exhibits significant α -glucosidase inhibitory activity, supporting its potential as a natural antidiabetic agent despite its lower potency compared to acarbose.

Keywords: *Batuan (*Garcinia binucao*), total phenolic content, α -glucosidase inhibition, antidiabetic activity, IC_{50} , natural products, Philippines*

MASTER OF ARTS IN TEACHING PHYSICS

Critical Thinking Skills of Stem Strand Private Senior High School Students as Predicted by Problem-Based Learning in Physics and Interpersonal Communication Skills of Teachers

Jane Marie L. Mercado

This study utilized quantitative research, particularly a descriptive correlational design, to determine the significance of the influence of problem-based learning in Physics and interpersonal communication skills of teachers on critical thinking skills among private STEM senior high school students under the Tandag Diocesan Catholic Schools Association in Surigao del Sur. The data were collected through adapted and validated survey questionnaires. The statistical tools used were mean, standard deviation, Pearson product-moment correlation, and multiple regression analysis. The results showed that the levels of problem-based learning, interpersonal communication, and critical thinking were all rated high. Further, problem-based learning and interpersonal communication skills did not significantly influence critical thinking.

Keywords: *Education, physics, problem-based learning, interpersonal communication skills, critical thinking skills, descriptive correlational, Philippines*

Lived Experiences of Public School Grade 7 Teachers in Teaching Physics under the Matatag Curriculum in Surigao del Sur: A Phenomenology

Marvin T. Tejano

This qualitative study employed a phenomenological approach to explore the lived experiences of public school grade 7 teachers teaching Physics under the MATATAG curriculum in Surigao del Sur. Purposive and snowball sampling were used to identify 16 participants, including 10 for in-depth interviews and 6 for a focus group discussion. Data was analyzed using thematic analysis. Findings revealed three essential themes in the lived experiences of grade 7 teachers: focused content delivery, flexible teaching strategies, and content knowledge. The themes generated regarding teachers' coping mechanisms were differentiated instructional strategies, innovative resource utilization, and seeking institutional and administrative support. As for insights shared with the academe and community, the themes extracted were strengthening curriculum implementation and support, enhancing student engagement, and strengthening school-community collaboration.

Keywords: *Physics Education, MATATAG Curriculum, Curriculum Reform, Lived Experiences, Phenomenology, Philippines*

MASTER OF ARTS IN EDUCATION MAJOR IN ENGLISH

Visual Media Exposure and Student Interaction as Determinants of Sociolinguistic Competence of the Senior High School Students

Harlene M. Advincula

This study examined the relationship between Visual Media Exposure, Student Interaction, and Sociolinguistic Competence among Grade 12 Humanities and Social Sciences (HUMSS) strand students. Applying a quantitative research approach, specifically a descriptive-correlational design. The study involved 261 respondents from Grade 12 Senior High School institutions offering HUMSS programs in the municipality of Norala, South Cotabato, Philippines. Data were collected using structured questionnaires that measured students' visual media exposure, student interaction, and sociolinguistic competence. Statistical analyses, including descriptive statistics, Pearson's correlation, and multiple regression analysis, were employed to evaluate the data. Results revealed that Grade 12 HUMSS students generally demonstrated high levels of exposure to visual media, student interaction, and sociolinguistic competence. A significant positive correlation was found between visual media exposure and sociolinguistic competence, as well as in student interaction and sociolinguistic competence. Furthermore, exposure to visual media and student interaction significantly influenced students' sociolinguistic competence.

Keywords: *Visual media exposure, sociolinguistic competence, humanities and social sciences, senior high school, Philippines*

The Role of the Language in the Profession of Local Journalists in South Cotabato amidst the Era of AI-Mediated News Anchors

Sheila Mae D. Barabona

The emergence of artificial intelligence (AI) in media production has introduced significant changes in journalism, particularly with the rise of AI-mediated news anchors. Using a qualitative critical phenomenology, this study explored South Cotabato local journalists' lived experiences regarding the role of language in their profession, how AI-mediated news anchors shape their sense of professional identity, security, and credibility, the strategies they employ, and their critical reflections on the cultural, ethical, and future implications of AI-mediated news anchors. Findings related to the role of language revealed the themes; Language as Identity and Credibility, Language as Audience Connection, Limits of AI in Language Use, Language for Expression and Emotion, and Preserving Authentic Language in AI Context. For professional identity, security, and credibility, the themes included; Experiencing AI as Challenge and Motivation; Reaffirming Human Identity and Value in Journalism; Negotiating Job Security and Professional Stability; Preserving Credibility through Human Judgment and Ethics; and Adapting Professional Practices in an AI-Integrated Environment. Strategies employed by journalists were reflected in Strategic Use of AI, Strengthening Verification Practices, Upholding Ethical Standards, Preserving Authenticity and Style, Continuous Learning and Adaptation, and Collaborative Editorial Oversight. Finally, critical reflections emphasized Cultural Risks and Change, Audience Trust and Social Impact, Ethical Responsibility of Journalists, Ethical Limits of AI, Future of Journalism Roles, and Balancing AI and Human Agency. The study concluded that human language, ethics, and cultural understanding remain essential in AI-mediated journalism.

Keywords: *AI-mediated, news anchors, journalism, qualitative critical phenomenology, Philippines*

English Language Learning Strategies and Attitude towards English Language as Determinants Towards Academic Performance of Grade 6 Pupils in Davao City

Gay Marie P. Bentain

This study primarily ascertained whether learning English significantly predicts students' academic performance. The research employed a quantitative, non-experimental design, specifically a correlational research methodology. The investigation was conducted within Toril District, Davao City, and encompassed five public elementary schools. A total of 287 respondents participated, selected through a multi-phase sampling technique comprising proportionate stratified and purposive sampling. The instrument for assessing English language learning strategies was adapted from Habok et al. (2022) and demonstrated a reliability coefficient of 0.917. Additionally, the instrument measuring attitude toward English was adapted from Baykara and Atac (2021) and exhibited a reliability coefficient of 0.820. The instrument for evaluating academic performance was adapted from Lomax et al. (2021) and demonstrated a reliability coefficient of 0.898. Findings indicated that the level of language-learning strategies among Grade 6 pupils was high. Regarding attitudes toward English, the level was moderate. Academic performance was also found to be high. Ultimately, English language learning strategies predict academic performance.

Keywords: *English language, learning strategies, attitude toward English, academic performance, Philippines*

Language Classroom Anxiety and Learning Engagement: Determinants of Academic Performance in English of Indigenous People Learners in Davao City

Kaycee F. Bile

This study aimed to determine the relationships and the predictive influence among language classroom anxiety, learning engagement, and academic performance in English. It employed a quantitative research approach using a descriptive-correlational design. A complete enumeration sampling technique was utilized, involving 153 Grade 10 Indigenous Peoples (IP) students from selected schools in the Calinan and Marilog Districts of Davao City. Findings revealed that Language Classroom Anxiety is moderate ($M = 3.36$). In contrast, Learning Engagement is high ($M = 3.80$), suggesting that it is oftentimes manifested in classroom activities. Academic performance in English is moderately high ($M = 83.21$), reflecting generally satisfactory performance. Correlation analysis showed that Language Classroom Anxiety has a negligible positive relationship with academic performance ($r = 0.020$, $p = 0.807$), which is not statistically significant. This indicates that anxiety does not meaningfully relate to students' English performance. Conversely, Learning Engagement shows a low but statistically significant positive relationship with academic performance ($r = 0.217$, $p = 0.007$), suggesting that greater engagement is associated with better outcomes. Regression analysis further revealed that Language Classroom Anxiety does not significantly predict academic performance ($\beta = -0.037$, $p = 0.970$), suggesting that anxiety alone is not a strong determinant of learners' success. In contrast, Learning Engagement has a positive and significant effect on academic performance ($\beta = 2.856$, $t = 2.714$, $p = 0.007$). This indicates that higher engagement improves English performance, highlighting the importance of active participation in academic performance.

Keywords: *English language, classroom anxiety, junior high school, Indigenous People, Davao City*

English Language Learning Through the Spectrum of Learners with Special Needs: A Multiple Case Study

Mark Aaron A. Dacalanio

This qualitative multiple-case study examined the English language learning experiences, challenges and coping strategies of three tertiary-level learners with special needs in Davao del Sur, selected through maximum variation sampling: a learner with visual impairment, a learner with speech impairment, and a learner with hearing impairment. Triangulated data from interviews with students, English teachers, coordinators and classmates revealed four major challenges; pedagogical misalignment and limited instructional adaptation; sensory and instructional accessibility constraints; emotional and psychological barriers to language learning; and social exclusion and interpersonal challenges in language learning. These findings indicate that learners with special needs encounter both instructional and socio-emotional barriers that affect their comprehension, participation, and confidence in using English. To persist, students relied on five key coping strategies; self-regulated and autonomous learning practices; cognitive and metacognitive strategies; utilization of learning resources; seeking academic and social support; and emotional resilience and goal-oriented motivation. Cross-case analysis showed shared instructional and emotional barriers but differed in sensory accessibility and interpersonal participation. The participants also demonstrated common coping strategies, although variations were observed in their degree of independence and reliance on social support. Overall, the study concludes that English language learning among learners with special needs is shaped by the interaction of accessibility, emotional, and social factors. It further underscores that with appropriate support and adaptive strategies, learners with special needs are capable of meaningful engagement and progress in English language learning.

Keywords: *English language learning, inclusive education, learners with special needs*

Utilization of Artificial Intelligence Technology, Critical Thinking Skills, and Writing Performance of Humanities and Social Sciences Students

Venus Eyas

This study determined the significant influence of the utilization of artificial intelligence technology and critical thinking skills on the writing performance of Humanities and Social Sciences (HUMSS) students. Using a quantitative research approach, specifically a descriptive-correlational design, this study involved 250 respondents from Senior High School institutions that offer the HUMSS strand in Davao City, Philippines. Three adapted questionnaires, validated by experts and reliability-tested, were used to gather the necessary data for this study. Mean, Standard Deviation, Pearson Product-Moment Correlation Coefficient, and Multiple Linear Regression Analysis were the statistical tools used. Results showed that their level of utilization of artificial intelligence technology was high. Moreover, both their level of critical thinking skills and writing performance were moderate. Additionally, the use of artificial intelligence technology, critical thinking skills, and writing performance showed significant positive relationships. Also, Multiple Regression Analysis confirmed that both the use of artificial intelligence technology and critical thinking skills significantly predicted students' writing performance, accounting for 62.40% of the variance. Furthermore, critical thinking skills were identified as a stronger predictor of writing performance compared to artificial intelligence technology. The findings highlight that while artificial intelligence technology is a valuable support tool for enhancing writing performance, critical thinking remains a core cognitive skill that underpins effective writing.

Keywords: *AI Technology, critical thinking skills, writing performance, Humanities and Social Sciences, Philippines*

A Phenomenographic Study on the English Reading Comprehension Problems and Reading Strategies among Thai Students: Perspectives of Filipino English Teachers

Rj Marie P. Flores

Teaching English is profoundly difficult when students struggle with reading comprehension. This qualitative-phenomenographic study explored Filipino English teachers' perspectives, challenges, and insights regarding their lived experiences with English reading comprehension problems and the reading strategies of Thai students. The participants were ten Filipino teachers currently working in Learning Centers and Schools in Thailand. Data were collected through in-depth interviews and a focus group discussion. Findings show that Thai students' reading difficulties are complex and interconnected, largely rooted in low English proficiency, including limited vocabulary, weak phonics, and poor pronunciation. These issues are compounded by limited exposure to English, minimal parental support, and classroom and cultural factors that affect participation and confidence. The study also highlighted that reliance on word-for-word translation, along with low motivation and engagement, further hinders comprehension, especially when instruction is not aligned with students' proficiency levels. Overall, the study underscores the need for adaptive, context-sensitive instruction, increased exposure to English, and continuous teacher reflection to improve reading comprehension.

Keywords: *Qualitative-phenomenographic, reading comprehension, Thai students, Filipino English teachers, Thailand*

Reading Attitudes, Reading Motivation, and Reading Comprehension Skills of Business Administration Students

Bernel S. Gabut

Reading Comprehension Skills among Business Administration Students. Applying a quantitative research approach, specifically a descriptive-correlational design, the study involved 364 respondents from a satellite campus of a state university offering a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration major in Financial Management, in the Province of Bukidnon, Philippines. Data were collected using structured questionnaires that assessed students' reading attitudes, motivation, and comprehension skills. Statistical analyses, including descriptive statistics and Pearson's correlation, were employed to evaluate the data. Results revealed that BSBA students generally displayed moderate reading attitudes, a high level of reading motivation, and moderate reading comprehension skills. Findings revealed no significant relationships among reading attitudes (p -value = 0.777), reading motivation (p -value = 0.286), and reading comprehension skills, highlighting a disconnect between internal drive and disposition and actual performance on the comprehension test. Despite valuing literacy, students are hindered by technical vocabulary and a lack of higher-order thinking skills. The study emphasizes that a scaffolded multimodal approach, strategic vocabulary scaffolding, case-based evaluative scaffolding, and explicit strategy instruction are vital to translate students' moderate disposition and high motivation into analytical and evaluative mastery.

Keywords: *Reading attitudes, reading motivation, reading comprehension, BSBA students, Bukidnon-Philippines*

Fear of Failure and Academic Perfectionism as Predictors of English Language Learning Motivation among Junior High School Students

Ivy Rose Galleros

This study investigated the role of psychological factors in English language learning motivation among junior high school students. A quantitative descriptive-correlational design was employed to determine the levels of fear of failure and academic perfectionism, examine their relationships with English language learning motivation, and assess their predictive influence. The participants were 200 Grade 10 students from selected private schools in Davao City. The study focused on the levels of the variables, their relationships, and their predictive effects on English language learning motivation. Data were gathered using adapted survey questionnaires with informed consent and assent. Mean and standard deviation were used to determine levels, Pearson product-moment correlation assessed relationships, and multiple regression examined predictive effects. Results showed moderate fear of failure ($M = 2.64$, $SD = 0.91$) and academic perfectionism ($M = 3.20$, $SD = 0.78$), while English language learning motivation was high ($M = 4.06$, $SD = 0.63$). Fear of failure was negatively related to English language learning motivation, while academic perfectionism was positively related. Both variables significantly predicted English language learning motivation. Findings suggest that reducing fear of failure and promoting academic perfectionism may enhance motivation.

Keywords: *English language, failure, academic perfectionism, junior high school students, Davao City-Philippines*

Home Learning Environment, Strategies in Learning English Vocabulary, and Reading Comprehension among Grade 7 Students

Mary Nicole T. Ignacio

This study examines the persistent challenge of reading comprehension among students. It employed a quantitative correlational design to examine the relationships among the Home Learning Environment (HLE), strategies for learning English vocabulary, and reading comprehension among Grade 7 students. The study aimed to determine the levels of these variables and assess whether significant relationships exist among them. The participants were 225 Grade 7 students, aged 12–13, from three private junior high schools in Davao City, Philippines. Data were collected using adapted survey questionnaires and analyzed using means, standard deviations, and Pearson correlations. Findings revealed moderate levels of Home Learning Environment ($M = 3.31$), vocabulary learning strategies ($M = 3.25$), and reading comprehension ($M = 46.41$). However, no significant relationships were found among the variables. These results suggest that other factors may play a more critical role in influencing students' reading comprehension outcomes.

Keywords: *English language, home learning environment, reading comprehension, Grade 7 students, Davao City-Philippines*

Student Digital Literacy Ability and Writing Engagement as Predictors of Creative Writing Skills among HUMSS Senior High School Students in Davao City

Norman M. Laid

The teaching of creative writing faces difficulties due to the varying skill sets required; this study aimed to find the predictive power of digital literacy and writing engagement on the creative writing ability of Grade 12 HUMSS senior high school students in Davao City. This research used a quantitative research design, with data gathered from 250 senior high school students across three private schools through stratified random sampling. Students were given questionnaires assessing their digital literacy, writing engagement, and creative writing skills. They were given a rubric for content, organization, and voice. Results indicated that students exhibit "very high" levels of digital literacy, writing engagement, and creative writing skill, but are highest in the "voice" aspect of creative writing and weakest in "organization". Overall, writing engagement and digital literacy significantly predict creative writing ability (82.40%). Nonetheless, while neither predictor individually affects creative writing skill, writing engagement is the only significant predictor of students' creative writing ability. This means that, though digital literacy provides students with technical competence, what counts for creative writing skills is not mastery of technical knowledge but a passionate psychological and emotional investment in the act of writing.

Keywords: *Senior High School, HUMSS, digital literacy, creative writing, Davao City-Philippines*

A Descriptive Inquiry on Pedagogical Strategies in Teaching English as a Second Language: Trends and Practices

Larriane Lea E. Lampad

This study explored the pedagogical strategies used by English as a Second Language (ESL) teachers in secondary classrooms, focusing on their current practices, emerging trends, and perceptions of the effectiveness of their teaching. Using a qualitative descriptive design, the study aimed to better understand how teachers deliver instruction and how these approaches support student learning and engagement. Seventeen ESL teachers from Surigao del Sur were purposively selected as participants. The study examined concerns related to how teaching strategies are applied, how effective they are in real classroom settings, and how teachers adapt to changing educational demands. Data were collected through in-depth interviews, focus group discussions, and document analysis, and were carefully triangulated to ensure the trustworthiness of the findings. The data were then analyzed thematically to identify key patterns and shared experiences among participants. The findings showed that teachers commonly use learner-centered and interactive approaches, along with differentiated and inclusive instruction, scaffolded learning, communicative and collaborative activities, and technology to support teaching. The study also revealed emerging practices such as the integration of digital tools, multimodal instruction, contextualized learning, inquiry-based strategies, and performance-based tasks, which help make lessons more meaningful and engaging for students. Teachers generally considered their strategies effective when students were actively involved, showed interest, and produced meaningful outputs. However, variations in implementation were noted due to differences in available resources, student needs, and classroom contexts. Overall, the study highlights the need to continuously support teachers and encourage flexible, inclusive, and innovative practices in ESL instruction.

Keywords: *English, Second Language, secondary education, language learning, Philippines*

Language Alternation as a Teaching Strategy in Multilingual Classrooms among Secondary Public School Teachers: A Multiple Case Study

Julie Ann L. Magdoboy

The study investigated the use of language alternation as a pedagogical strategy in multilingual classrooms and its impact on learner engagement and participation. Specifically, it investigated how teachers used language alternation in instruction, how language alternation affected learner engagement and participation, and the factors accounting for similarities and differences in its use across cases. A qualitative multiple-case study design was employed with teachers in multilingual instructional contexts. Data were collected through in-depth interviews with each case unit participant and triangulated with two key informants per case. Using thematic analysis, the findings showed that teachers used language alternation purposefully, flexibly, and responsively by combining English, Filipino, and local languages such as Cebuano/Bisaya, Manobo, and Kamayo/Mandaya to clarify instructions, explain complex concepts, and facilitate learners' understanding. The classroom atmosphere became more inclusive as learners' understanding improved, engagement increased, and anxiety decreased when switching languages. However, unanticipated or high-frequency switching sometimes led to confusion and overreliance on translation. Cross-case analysis showed similarities in its main use to support learner engagement, and differences in teacher control, instructional style, and learners' language proficiency. The study revealed that language alternation is a good instructional strategy in multilingual classrooms when used intentionally and judiciously. Its success depends on careful planning and awareness of context to strike a balance in support for understanding and language development.

Keywords: *Multilingual classroom, teaching strategies, language alternation, secondary school teachers, Davao Oriental-Philippines*

Reading Strategies and Reading Self-Efficacy as Determinants of Reading Comprehension among Grade Seven Students

Sitti Mona F. Magtacpao

The purpose of this quantitative study was to determine the influence of reading strategies and reading self-efficacy on reading comprehension among grade seven students. The respondents in the study were 137 grade seven students selected through stratified quota sampling. These students came from three public schools located in Mati City. The researcher utilized a descriptive-correlational design, and the statistical tools used were mean, standard deviation, Pearson's r correlation method, and regression analysis. Further, the researcher conducted pilot testing and validated the survey questionnaires. The study found that the level of reading strategies and reading self-efficacy among grade seven students is high; however, their reading comprehension is moderate or satisfactory. Moreover, there were significant positive relationships between reading strategies and reading comprehension, as well as between reading self-efficacy and reading comprehension. Both independent variables, reading strategies and reading self-efficacy, significantly influence reading comprehension.

Keywords: *English, reading strategies, self-efficacy, descriptive-correlation, Philippines*

Illuminating Integrity: A Portraiture Study of Junior High School Teachers and Students in English Language Learning Environment

Jason A. Majarreis

This qualitative-portraiture research explored the experiences, everyday practices, and emerging portraits of academic integrity among junior high school teachers and students in English language learning environments in Davao City. Using a combination of phenomenology and the portraiture approach, the study employed dyadic interviews, in-depth interviews (IDI), and focus group discussions (FGD) with 15 teacher-student pairs to capture the nuances of ethical landscapes in a digitally mediated world. Participants' narratives revealed major themes related to everyday practices and challenges: a classroom in transition, integrity as negotiation, multiple and layered voices, trust and surveillance, excellence versus authenticity, and seeds of ethical formation. In terms of classroom practices and assessment, the portraits that emerged include integrity under pressure, the watchful mentor, and integrity as ownership. For the collective construction of integrity, themes such as the watchful mentor, the light of integrity, and the social construction of values were identified. The dimensions of academic integrity in this context range from fragile to resilient, mechanical to authentic, and punitive to restorative, shaped by the tension between the convenience of generative AI tools and the pursuit of genuine student authorship, highlighting its relational and ethical nature.

KEYWORDS: *Academic Integrity, Portraiture Study, English Language, Junior High School, Davao City-Philippines*

Instructional Coaching Skills as a Mediator on the Sense of Efficacy and English Language Teaching Anxiety of Beginning English Teachers

Nilea Louise B. Morales

This study examines the relationship between sense of efficacy and English Language Teaching Anxiety (ELTA) among beginning English teachers, with instructional coaching skills as a potential mediating variable. Grounded in a quantitative framework, the research employed a descriptive-correlational design to analyze how these variables interact in real educational settings. The primary purpose of the study was to determine whether instructional coaching skills significantly mediate the relationship between teachers' sense of efficacy and their level of teaching anxiety. A total of 203 beginning English teachers from private secondary schools in Davao City participated in the study, selected through purposive sampling based on specific inclusion criteria. The study addressed key problems related to teachers' confidence in student engagement, instructional strategies, and classroom management, as well as sources of anxiety, including self-perceived language proficiency, teaching inexperience, lack of student interest, fear of negative evaluation, and time management difficulties. Data were gathered using three validated survey instruments: the Teacher's Sense of Efficacy Scale, the English Language Teaching Anxiety Scale, and an Instructional Coaching Skills questionnaire. Collected data were analyzed using mean and standard deviation, Pearson's r correlation, and mediation analysis using the Sobel z -test. Results revealed that beginning teachers generally exhibited high levels of self-efficacy and moderate levels of teaching anxiety. Significant relationships were found among the three variables, with instructional coaching skills serving as a meaningful mediating variable between sense of efficacy and ELTA. The findings suggest that enhancing instructional coaching skills can strengthen teachers' sense of efficacy and reduce teaching anxiety, highlighting the importance of targeted professional development programs for novice educators.

Keywords: *English language, teaching anxiety, instructional coaching, secondary schools, Davao City-Philippines*

Metacognitive Awareness of Reading Strategies, Reading Motivation, and Reading Comprehension among Grade 11 Students in Davao City

Rhea L. Ociones

Reading comprehension is an essential skill for students to develop to succeed in school, but it has been a constant struggle for many students at present. The purpose of this study was to determine whether metacognitive awareness of reading strategies and reading motivation significantly influence reading comprehension. The study employed a quantitative research design, specifically a descriptive-correlational design. Three adapted survey instruments demonstrated high internal consistency, as indicated by Cronbach's alpha coefficients. The study was conducted among the private schools in Davao City, with 200 Grade 11 senior high school students as respondents selected using a stratified random sampling technique. Moreover, the data were analyzed and interpreted using statistical tools, namely: mean, standard deviation, Pearson's product-moment correlation (r), and multiple regression. The study found that students demonstrated high levels of metacognitive awareness of reading strategies and reading motivation, but only at the instructional level in reading comprehension. Although a strong relationship was found between reading motivation and reading comprehension, metacognitive awareness of reading strategies did not significantly affect comprehension. Overall, the findings suggest the need for instructional interventions to strengthen students' reading strategies and apply them in ways that effectively increase comprehension.

Keywords: *English, reading comprehension, metacognition awareness, reading strategies, Philippines*

Reading Interest and Reading Comprehension Skills in English among Grade 4 Learners: Basis for an Intervention Plan

Jally Be F. Padillo

The study investigated the relationship between reading interest and reading comprehension skills among Grade 4 learners. A quantitative research design employing the descriptive-correlational method was utilized to determine the extent of the relationship between the two variables and to describe their respective levels. The study specifically aimed to assess learners' reading interest, determine their reading comprehension skills, and examine whether a significant relationship exists between these variables. The respondents were 200 Grade 4 learners from four selected elementary schools in Davao City during the school year 2023–2024, selected through purposive quota sampling. Data were gathered using adapted questionnaires to measure reading interest and a Reading Comprehension Skills Test to evaluate comprehension performance. The collected data were analyzed using Mean, Standard Deviation, and Pearson Product-Moment Correlation Coefficient. Results showed that the learners demonstrated a high level of reading interest, but their reading comprehension was low. Among the comprehension domains, inferring meaning from context obtained the highest performance, whereas summarizing key ideas obtained the lowest. Further analysis revealed no significant relationship between reading interest and reading comprehension skills. This indicates that a high level of reading interest does not necessarily translate to improved reading comprehension performance among Grade 4 learners.

Keywords: Education, English, reading comprehension, Grade 4 learners, Philippines

Narratives of Campus Journalism Advisers in Coaching – Writing in the Midst of AI Influence: A Narratology

Jerwine T. Peladas

Coaching or mentoring campus journalists is an essential part of journalism education that requires a mentor or adviser in school settings. Nevertheless, artificial intelligence (AI) is gaining prominence and has significantly influenced students' writing processes. Therefore, new issues need to be considered by journalism advisers when mentoring campus journalists to write effectively. The current study aims to examine the narrative of campus journalism advisers in their coaching processes amid the advent of artificial intelligence. Guided by narratology, the present study emphasizes the lived experience of campus journalism advisers to discover the meaning they make of AI technology in their coaching of student writers. In particular, seven (7) participants were selected through snowball sampling as public secondary school paper advisers in Marilog District, Davao City, who are 27 to 40 years old and have experience coaching campus journalists on artificial intelligence writing software. It was found that advisers see artificial intelligence not only as a learning resource but also as a pedagogical issue in their coaching processes. First, advisers believe that AI technology aids students' technical skills as evident in grammar correctness, proper sentence structures, organization of ideas, and vocabulary. However, advisers note that their mentees' excessive use of AI hinders creativity and authentic writing. Second, advisers observe diminished cognitive involvement when their mentees rely on AI tools, as well as the formation of a specific writing pattern or formula. Consequently, advisers must constantly check their student writers' work using linguistic and stylistic indicators. Even so, advisers understand that the use of AI is inevitable in today's educational landscape. To address this issue, advisers have adopted several teaching methods that integrate AI appropriately into students' writing processes.

Keywords: *Campus Journalism, School Paper Advisers, Artificial Intelligence, Ethical Journalism, Davao City-Philippines*

Effectiveness of Blended Learning Approach on the English Proficiency of Junior High School Students

Cristine R. Tulin

This quantitative study investigates the effectiveness of a blended learning approach on the English proficiency of Junior High School students in City of Mati National High School. A quasi-experimental design was employed, with two groups of students: both receiving instruction through a blended learning model and the other through traditional face-to-face instruction. Purposive sampling was used to select 20 students as respondents. English proficiency was measured using a pre-test and a post-test. The statistical tools used were Mean, t-test, and ANOVA. The study's findings revealed that the students' pre-test scores were high, with a mean of 61.56 and a standard deviation of 15.39, indicating proficiency. The post-test score was also high, with a mean of 73.75 and a standard deviation of 10.277, which indicates high variability in the scores. Further, the data revealed a significant improvement in students' English proficiency after the blended learning method. These findings suggest that blended learning can be an effective way to enhance English proficiency among Junior High School students. Further research is recommended to investigate specific components of blended learning that contribute to improved outcomes and to explore its applicability across diverse student populations.

Keywords: *English Proficiency, Blended Learning, quasi-experimental, Philippines*

MASTER OF ARTS IN EDUCATION MAJOR IN INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY INTEGRATION

Development of Biometric – Based Attendance Management System with SMS Notification

Lawrence Jane L. Bentonon

This study addresses the critical need for modernized attendance tracking in educational institutions to enhance student safety and administrative efficiency. Utilizing a quantitative descriptive design alongside design-based research, the study aimed to develop and evaluate a Biometric-Based Attendance Management System with SMS notification. The research was conducted in a public secondary school in Sultan Kudarat, involving 100 purposively selected stakeholders, including students, parents, teachers, and school administrators across both Academic and TVL tracks. The primary objective was to determine the level of system acceptability using the Technology Acceptance Model (TAM) indicators, such as perceived usefulness and perceived ease of use. Data were gathered using an adapted survey questionnaire and analyzed using descriptive statistics, specifically the weighted mean, to determine the level of acceptability and the frequency of manifestation. Results revealed that the system achieved an overall mean of 4.66, indicating a very high level of acceptability. For the specific TAM indicators, perceived ease of use reached a mean of 4.72, while perceived usefulness achieved a mean of 4.60; both were described as very high and interpreted as always manifested. These findings confirm that the system provides a consistently intuitive interface and valuable real-time security notification that bridges the communication gap between the school and parents. In conclusion, the biometric attendance system is a highly effective tool for automating recordkeeping and ensuring student security. Future efforts should focus on maintaining sensor precision and conducting proficiency sessions to sustain long-term user engagement and technical reliability.

Keywords: Attendance management system, biometric technology, SMS notification, technology acceptance model, Philippines

Design and Development of a Quick Response Code-Based Attendance Monitoring System

Edson B. Besinga

This quantitative research used descriptive quantitative methods to develop and design a Quick Response (QR) code-based attendance monitoring framework to overcome inefficiencies in manual esteem verification mechanisms. This study evaluated the system's acceptability using the Technology Acceptance Model (TAM). A validated survey questionnaire measuring perceived usefulness (PU) and perceived ease of use (PEOU) was used as the research tool. The respondents were teachers and school personnel selected through the complete enumeration sampling technique. It also employed statistical data such as the mean and standard deviation. The results showed that the system includes essential features such as QR code scanning, real-time database recording, automated SF2 reporting, and absenteeism notification. The attendance monitoring system demonstrated high acceptability, indicating strong user satisfaction. Also, it was successfully integrated into the academic workflow through a systematic five-stage implementation process. The system can be described as an effective, efficient, and sustainable solution that improves attendance reporting and informs decision-making in schools.

Keywords: *IT education, attendance monitoring, academic, process integration, descriptive quantitative, Tagum City, Philippines*

Implementation and Evaluation of Steps: A Student Progress Tracking and Analytics System for Learning Gap Identification and Career Path Alignment

Carol Kate M. Estacio, LPT

This study focused on the implementation and evaluation of STEPS, a Student Progress Tracking and Analytics System designed to identify learning gaps and support career path alignment. Using a quantitative descriptive-evaluative design with a design-based research approach, the study examined the system's technical acceptability, data analysis features, and prescriptive analytics functions. The respondents consisted of teachers, guidance counselors, and IT experts from a private college in Tupi, South Cotabato. Data were gathered through a validated questionnaire based on ISO 25010 standards and open-ended feedback. Quantitative data were analyzed using mean and standard deviation, while qualitative responses were treated through thematic analysis. Findings revealed that STEPS obtained very high ratings in functional suitability, usability, and reliability, while performance efficiency was rated high. The system also effectively supported the diagnosis of learning gaps and the identification of course-strand mismatches. Overall, STEPS proved to be a reliable and practical tool for academic monitoring and career guidance.

Keywords: *Education, information technology integration, student progress tracking, learning gap identification, prescriptive analytics, career path alignment, descriptive evaluative research, Philippines*

Integrated Seating Plan-Based Management System with Attendance Tracking, Behavior Monitoring, and Feedback Mechanisms

Dennis S. Tumanggong

This study was designed, developed, and evaluated the Integrated Seating Plan-Based Management System with Attendance Tracking, Behavior Monitoring, and Feedback Mechanisms (ISPMS-ABF) to enhance classroom management among senior high school teachers. The system integrates attendance, behavior monitoring, and feedback into a single platform using a visual seating plan interface. A quantitative-descriptive research design was employed, following the System Development Life Cycle (SDLC). A total of 28 teachers participated, and data were collected using an adapted Technology Acceptance Model (TAM)-based questionnaire. Results showed a high level of acceptability (mean = 6.72, Very High), indicating that the system is useful, easy to use, and effective. Respondents also demonstrated a strong intention to adopt the system. Furthermore, the system shows potential for intellectual property protection due to its integrated design. The study concluded that ISPMS-ABF is a reliable tool for improving classroom management and is recommended for implementation in schools, provided it is supported with proper training.

Keywords: *Education, information technology integration, seating plan, attendance tracking, behavior monitoring, feedback mechanisms, quantitative-descriptive research, Philippines*

Enhancing Data-Driven Intervention and Academic Tracking in a Higher Education Institution Through Digital System

Melissa T. Zolina

This study developed and evaluated a Digital Academic Tracking System to improve academic monitoring and support data-driven intervention in higher education institutions. A quantitative descriptive approach was used to determine the system's quality, the effectiveness of the data-driven intervention, and user acceptability, as evaluated by faculty members and IT experts. The results indicated that the Digital Academic Tracking system exhibited a well-structured technical architecture with reliable data input, analytics, and security features. Moreover, it has a very high level of software quality according to ISO 25010 standards. The result also showed that effective, data-driven intervention practices were facilitated by accurate identification of at-risk students and timely instructional responses. User acceptance is very high across usefulness, ease of use, and intention to use. Likewise, copyright, trademark, patent, utility model, and trade secret protection are explored to ensure system ownership and sustainability.

Keywords: *Educational Technology, digital academic tracking system, software quality, user acceptance, Philippines*

MASTER OF ARTS IN EDUCATION MAJOR IN FILIPINO

Mga Karanasan at Tagumpay ng mga Natatanging Tagapayo sa Patimpalak ng Pamahayagang Pangkampus: Isang Penomenolohikal na Pag-Aaral

Jessica S. Banug

Ang pag-aaral na ito ay isinagawa upang masuri ang mga karanasan at tagumpay ng mga natatanging tagapayo sa pamahayagang pangkampus sa Dibisyon ng Bislig City. Ginamit ang kwalitatibong disenyo na penomenolohikal upang higit na maunawaan ang kanilang mga karanasan bilang tagapayo sa paggabay at paghahanda ng mga mag-aaral para sa mga patimpalak sa pamamahayag. Lumahok sa pag-aaral ang labimpitong (17) natatanging tagapayo, kung saan sampu ang sumailalim sa Individual In-Depth Interview (IDI) at pito ang nakibahagi sa Focus Group Discussion (FGD). Pinili ang mga kalahok gamit ang purposive at snowball sampling. Ang datos ay nakalap sa pamamagitan ng malalim na panayam (FGD), at sinuri gamit ang thematic analysis upang matukoy ang mga mahahalagang tema. Lumabas sa resulta ang mga temang may kaugnayan sa mga hamon sa paggabay, mga estratehiya sa pagsasanay, at mga salik ng tagumpay tulad ng dedikasyon, kolaborasyon, at sistematikong pagsasanay. Ipinakita na sa kabila ng kakulangan sa oras, kagamitan, at suporta, nakabubuo ang mga tagapayo ng epektibong pamamaraan upang mapaunlad ang kakayahan ng mga mag-aaral. Sa kabuuan, binigyang-diin ng pag-aaral ang mahalagang papel ng mga tagapayo sa pagpapaunlad ng pamahayagang pangkampus, pati na rin ang pangangailangan para sa patuloy na propesyonal na suporta at pagsasanay.

Mga Susung salita: *penomenolohiya, pamahayagang pangkampus, tagapayo, karanasan, tagumpay*

Motibasyon at Karanasan ng mga Guro sa Filipino sa Pagtuturo ng Panitikan: Isang Kwalitatibong Pag-Aaral

Lovely F. Bangkas

Ang pag-aaral na ito ay nakatuon sa mga guro na nagtuturo ng asignaturang Filipino, partikular sa panitikan. Ginamit sa pag-aaral ang kwalitatibong penomenolohikal na disenyo kung saan isinagawa ang indibidwal na pakikipanayam at focus group discussion (FGD) upang makuha ang mga pananaw at karanasan ng mga guro. Nilayon ng pag-aaral na ito na masuri at mailarawan ang karanasan ng mga guro sa pagtuturo ng Filipino. Ang mga kalahok ay pinili gamit ang purposive sampling at binubuo ng labimpitong guro mula sa mga pampublikong paaralan sa Digos City, Davao del Sur. Lumitaw ang mga temang may kinalaman sa kaalaman sa pagtuturo ng panitikan, mga hamon sa pagtuturo, mga estratehiyang ginamit, at mga kinakailangang suporta para sa mga gurong nagtuturo ng Filipino, partikular sa larangan ng panitikan. Natuklasan ng mga guro na nahihirapan silang magturo ng panitikan dahil sa kakulangan ng materyales, oras, at mga pagbabago sa kurikulum. Gayunpaman, gumagamit sila ng malikhaing estratehiya, tulad ng makabagong teknolohiya at interaktibong gawain, upang maging mas kawili-wili ang mga akda. Patuloy nilang pinapalawak ang kanilang kasanayan sa pamamagitan ng mga palihan at pagsasanay. Binibigyang-diin ng pag-aaral ang pangangailangan para sa mas malawak na suporta, makatarungang patakaran, at karagdagang pagsasanay upang mapanatili ang propesyonal na pag-unlad ng mga guro.

Mga Susing-Salita: *guro, Filipino, panitikan, kwalitatibong pananaliksik, pagtuturo, malikhaing estratehiya, focus group discussion, propesyonal na pag-unlad, Pilipinas.*

Boses Ng Kabataan: Isang Diskursong Pagsusuri sa Antas ng Wika na Ginamit ng mga Campus Journalist sa Pagbuo ng Lathalain

Creza Lia S. Bongato

Ang wika ay may mahalagang papel sa paghubog ng boses at pagkakakilanlan ng mga bagong henerasyon ng mga manunulat. Ang pag-aaral na ito ay isinagawa gamit ang kuwalitatibong disenyo, partikular ang anyong diskurso (discourse analysis). Sinisiyasat ng pananaliksik na ito ang iba't ibang antas ng wika na ginamit ng mga campus journalist sa kanilang mga lathalain. Partikular na tinutugunan nito ang mga antas ng wikang ginamit, estilo, at pananaw ng manunulat; ang implikasyon ng antas ng wika sa pag-unawa sa tinig o boses ng manunulat; at ang mga ideolohiyang naipahayag na nakapaloob sa lathalain. Ang mga datos na nakalap ay kinuha mula sa tatlumpu't isa (31) na lathalain mula sa mga opisyal na publikasyon ng limang (5) piling sekundaryang paaralan sa Davao del Sur. Ang mga artikulo ay sinuri gamit ang Language Register Theory ni Halliday at ang balangkas ng Antas ng Wika ni Bernales. Lumabas sa resulta ang anim na antas ng wika: pormal, pampanitikan, kolokyal, impormal, teknikal, at rehiyonal/multilingguwal, at ang anim na uri ng diskurso: deskriptibo, naratibo, persweysib, ekspositori, emotibo, at kritikal. Natukoy din ang anim na ideolohiya: pagkakaisa, kultura, panlipunang kamalayan, pag-asa at katatagan, edukasyon, at katarungan, patunay na ang campus journalist ay isang makabuluhang anyo ng pakikilahok sa lipunan.

Mga Susing-Salita: *boses ng kabataan, diskurso, antas ng wika, campus journalist, lathalain, feature article, Pilipinas*

Digital na Pagpapahayag: Isang Retorikal na Pagsusuri ng Diskurso sa Nilalaman ng mga Kabataang Filipino Sa Tiktok

Ella Marie A. Cristino

Ang pag-aaral na ito ay nakatuon sa digital na pagpapahayag ng mga kabataang Filipino sa TikTok gamit ang retorikal na pananaw. Tinutukoy nito ang iba't ibang uri ng diskurso, tema, mga elemento ng retorika, epekto ng konteksto at wika, at mga estratehiyang komunikatibo sa pakikipag-ugnayan. Upang matukoy ang mga karanasan ng labimpitong (17) kalahok sa paggamit ng TikTok, ginamit ang kwalitatibong disenyo ng pag-aaral sa pamamagitan ng Focus Group Discussion (FGD) at In-depth Interview (IDI). Natuklasan na ang TikTok ay isang plataporma para sa pakikipag-ugnayan, pagpapahayag ng sarili, at aliwan. Ang mga trend, algorithm, at multimodal na tampok ng TikTok ay nakaaapekto sa mga nilalaman ng kabataan. Upang mapataas ang engagement, gumagamit sila ng pagsabay sa uso, pakikipag-ugnayan sa audience, at relatability. Bilang karagdagan, lumabas sa datos na ang TikTok ay may epekto sa pag-uugali, identidad, at digital na kultura ng mga kabataan, pati na rin sa kanilang kritikal na kamalayan at sa hindi gaanong pakikilahok sa mga isyung panlipunan. Sa kabuuan, ipinakita ng pag-aaral na ang TikTok ay isang mahalagang plataporma para sa pakikipag-usap at may malaking papel sa paghubog ng kabataang Filipino sa digital na panahon.

Mga Susing salita: *TikTok, digital na pagpapahayag, kabataang Filipino, retorika, diskurso, social media, komunikasyon, identidad*

Dokumentasyon at Pagsusuri ng Panitikang Mandaya: Batayan sa Kontekstwalisadong Pagtuturo ng Panitikang Rehiyonal

Arvin B. Englis

Pangunahing layunin ng kuwalitatibong pag-aaral na ito, na nakatuon sa pagdodokumento, pagsusuri, at pagsasalin ng panitikang Mandaya, na makahanap ng angkop na mga akdang maaaring magsilbing batayan sa kontekstuwalisasyon ng pagtuturo ng panitikang rehiyonal sa kolehiyo at sa batayang edukasyon. Gamit ang lente ni Northrop Frye sa panunuring arketipal, sinuri ang korpus na binubuo ng 101 iba't ibang akda na ikinakategorya sa 19 na genre. Nadalumat ang mga pangunahing arketipo sa panitikang Mandaya na nabibilang sa 7 kategorya: kosmiko, tauhan, simboliko, ritwal, paniniwala, relasyonal, at etikal. Naiuri naman sa pitong dimensyon ang mga natuklasan sa pananatili ng mga arketipal na elemento sa pagsasalin: leksikal, simboliko, poetiko, kultural, pragmatiko, diskursibo, at ideolohikal. Lumabas naman ang mga unibersal na tema kagaya ng pakikibaka at pagbabagong-pagkatao, ekosentrismo at ugnayan sa kalikasan, at espiritwalidad at ugnayang metapisikal. Natukoy din ang ambag ng panunuring arketipal sa pagpapakahulugan ng mga akda, gaya ng representasyon ng mas malalim na ideya, pagpapahayag ng paniniwala at tradisyon, at sistema ng pag-iisip at moralidad. Isinaalang-alang ang lahat ng mga natuklasang ito sa pagbalangkas ng mga implikasyon sa kontekstuwalisasyon ng pagtuturo ng panitikang rehiyonal sa iba't ibang aspekto: kognitibo, kultural, moral, kritikal, interdisiplinaryo, panlipunan, eksperiensyal, at replektibo para sa makabuluhang pagtuturo at pagkatuto.

Mga Susing-Salita: *Pagtuturo ng Filipino, panitikang Mandaya, panunuring arketipal, pagsasalin, edukasyong kultural, Pilipinas*

Retorikal na Pagsasanay: Karanasan ng mga Mag-Aaral Sa Patimpalak na Pormal na Debate

Cindy Gleezyl O. Nachon

Sa anomang gawaing pampaaralan ay hindi na nawawala sa mga mag-aaral ang pangangatwiran. Ito ay isang kwalitatibong pananaliksik na gumamit ng penomenolohikal na disenyo upang maunawaan ang personal na karanasan ng mga mag-aaral sa pormal na patimpalak sa debate. Nilayon ng pag-aaral na ito na masuri ang epekto ng pakikilahok sa pormal na debate sa pag-unlad ng akademiko, personal, at panlipunang katangian ng mga mag-aaral, pati na rin ang kanilang karanasan at emosyon sa patimpalak na pormal na debate. Sa pamamagitan ng purposive at snowball sampling ay natukoy ang labimpitong⁽¹⁷⁾ mag-aaral sa mga pribadong paaralan ng Toril, Lungsod ng Davao na lumahok sa patimpalak na pormal na debate ang naging kalahok. Tumugon ito sa mga suliranin tungkol sa karanasan sa pormal na patimpalak sa debate, ang epekto ng retorikal na pagsasanay sa kanilang kakayahan sa komunikasyon at kritikal na pag-iisip, at ang epekto ng patimpalak sa panlipunan at pang-akademikong pananaw. Nagsagawa ng masinsinang panayam upang makalap ng datos tungkol sa iba't ibang karanasan ng mga mag-aaral sa pormal na debate. Sinuri ang mga sagot at natuklasan na ang paggamit ng ethos, logos, at pathos ay nagbubunga ng malaking pag-unlad sa tiwala sa sarili at mapanuring pag-iisip sa gitna ng mga hamon ng kompetisyon.

Mga Susing Salita: *Retorikal na Pagsasanay, Pormal na Debate, Kritikal na Pag-Iisip, Transformatibong Pagkatuto, Filipino, Pilipinas*

Karanasan ng mga Gurong Nagtuturo sa Asignaturang Filipino sa Multilingguwal na Silid-Aralan: Isang Naratolohikal na Pag-Aaral

Arly Khent C. Roa

Sa pag-usbong ng edukasyong multilingguwal, nahaharap ang mga guro sa hamon ng epektibong pagtuturo sa asignaturang Filipino. Ang pag-aaral na ito ay isang kwalitatibong pananaliksik na gumamit ng naratolohikal na disenyo upang maunawaan ang mga karanasan ng mga guro. Layunin nitong mailahad ang kanilang mga naratibo, estratehiya, hamon, at mga epekto sa personal at propesyonal na pananaw ng mga guro. Ang mga kalahok ay pitong (7) guro ng nagtuturo sa asignaturang Filipino mula sa mga pribadong paaralan sa Lungsod ng Davao, na napili sa pamamagitan ng snowball sampling. Tinutugunan ng pag-aaral ang mga suliranin hinggil sa karanasan sa pagtuturo, mga estratehiyang ginagamit, mga hamong kinakaharap, at ang epekto nito sa personal at propesyonal na pananaw. Isinagawa ang pangangalap ng datos sa pamamagitan ng in-depth interview gamit ang mga open-ended na tanong. Sinuri ang datos gamit ang tematikong pagsusuri upang matukoy ang mahahalagang tema mula sa kanilang mga salaysay. Nalaman na may mga hamon sa pag-unawa ang mga mag-aaral sa Asignaturang Filipino. Gumagamit ang mga guro ng iba't ibang estratehiya tulad ng translanguaging, code-switching at differentiated instruction. Natuklasan din na ang mga karanasang ito ay nagdudulot ng hamon at, sabay na, nagpapalago sa kanilang propesyonal na kakayahan upang mapahusay ang pagtuturo ng Filipino sa multilingguwal na silid-aralan.

Mga Susing salita: *Filipino, karanasan ng guro, multilingguwal, naratolohikal na pag-aaral, kwalitatibong pananaliksik, pananaliksik sa edukasyon, Pilipinas*

Paggalugad ng mga Panlapi sa Sanaysay ng mga Mag-Aaral Sa Antas ng Elementarya: Isang Error Analysis

Fernand M. Tibay

Mahalagang bahagi ng akademikong pagkatuto at pagpapahayag ang kasanayan sa pagsulat. Nilayon ng pananaliksik na ito na suriin ang mga kamaliang morpolohikal, partikular sa paggamit ng panlapi, sa mga isinulat na naratibong sanaysay ng mga mag-aaral sa antas ng elementarya. Ginamit ang teoretikal na lens na Error Analysis Framework ni Stephen Pit Corder upang tukuyin ang uri, dalas, at distribusyon ng mga kamalian, pati na rin ang mga posibleng sanhi at epekto nito sa pagbuo at pagpapakahulugan ng mga pangungusap. Sa pamamagitan ng kwalitatibong pagsusuri, natuklasan na ang Misinformation (maling anyo/pagpili) ang pinakamadalas at pinakakritikal na uri ng kamalian, na kumakatawan sa 68.49% ng kabuuang datos. Sinundan ito ng Omission (pagkaltas) na may 22.37% at Addition (pagdaragdag) na may 9.13%, samantalang walang naitalang kaso ng Misordering (0%). Mula sa kwalitatibong pagsusuri ng padron, nahalaw ang anim na posibleng sanhi ng mga kamalian: Morpolohikal na Kakulangan, Interference ng Unang Wika (Interlingual Error), Overgeneralization, Limitadong Exposure (Intralingual Errors), Pedagogical Gap, at Cognitive Load. Ang mga kahinaang ito ay nagdulot ng pagbaluktot ng kahulugan, kawalan ng kalinawan, at limitadong pagpapahayag sa mga sanaysay na nakalilito sa mambabasa. Bilang tugon, iminumungkahi ang tahasang pagtuturo ng morpolohiya, paggamit ng contrastive analysis, at scaffolding upang mabawasan ang cognitive load at mapabuti ang kasanayang pangwika at akademikong komunikasyon ng mga mag-aaral.

Mga Susing Salita: *Error Analysis, Pagsusuri ng Kamalian, Panlapi, Morpolohiya, Pagsulat ng Sanaysay, Wikang Filipino*

MASTER OF ARTS IN EDUCATION MAJOR IN MATHEMATICS

The Use of ChatGPT on Enhancing Mathematical Problem-Solving Skills in Solving HOTS Problems among Grade 11 Students: The Mediating Effect of Academic Self-Regulated Learning Strategies

Mary Louis C. Alayon

This study examined the mediating effect of academic self-regulated learning strategies on the relationship between the use of ChatGPT and mathematical problem-solving skills in solving Higher Order Thinking Skills (HOTS) problems among Grade 11 students. Using a quantitative correlational design, the study involved 150 respondents and analyzed data using descriptive statistics, Pearson's correlation, and mediation analysis. Results revealed a high level of ChatGPT use and a high level of academic self-regulated learning strategies, while students demonstrated varied levels of mathematical problem-solving skills, with high performance in understanding the problem, moderate performance in planning and solving the problem, and low performance in rechecking the answer. High ChatGPT engagement significantly correlated with academic self-regulated learning strategies, but showed no significant relationship with mathematical problem-solving skills. Moreover, academic self-regulated learning strategies did not mediate the relationship between ChatGPT use and mathematical problem-solving skills in solving HOTS problems. However, the findings emphasize ChatGPT's potential to enhance academic self-regulated learning strategies and comprehension, and to support responsible AI integration in mathematics education.

Keywords: *Education, ChatGPT, academic self-regulated learning strategies, mathematical problem-solving skills, higher order thinking skills, Philippines.*

Personal Professional Development Efforts, Quality of Work–Life Balance, and Attitude Towards Teaching Mathematics

Dexter B. Ali

This study examined the relationships among personal professional development efforts, work–life balance, and attitudes toward teaching mathematics among public high school teachers in the Malita West and Malita North Districts, Davao Occidental. Utilizing a descriptive–correlational research design with total enumeration sampling, the study involved all eligible educators within the specified districts to ensure comprehensive data collection. The theoretical framework is anchored on the Adult Learning Theory and Teacher–Behavior Theory, which provide a compelling foundation for understanding the complex interaction between the professional environment and the pedagogical actions of the educator. The findings reveal that the extent of personal professional development efforts among the respondents is moderate, indicating that while teachers are socially and informationally connected, subject-specific specialization remains a critical area for growth and targeted intervention. The status of work–life balance is rated as high, characterized by strong job satisfaction and generally manageable workloads. Furthermore, the attitude toward teaching mathematics is also high, with teachers demonstrating very high levels of confidence and enjoyment in the subject matter. Correlation analysis shows a significant, positive relationship among the independent variables and the teacher's attitude. However, regression analysis reveals that only the quality of work–life balance is a significant predictor of attitude toward teaching mathematics, while personal professional development efforts are not significant. The overall model explains 38% of the variance in teacher attitude. These results imply that institutional support must prioritize the holistic well-being and life–work equilibrium of educators to ensure sustained enthusiasm and effective mathematics instruction in public schools. This focus on balance is essential for maintaining high instructional standards and long-term professional satisfaction.

Keywords: *Education, personal professional development effort, work–life balance, attitude toward teaching mathematics, descriptive correlational, Philippines*

Emotion Regulation and Spiritual Intelligence as Predictors of Mathematical Resilience

Aprille M. Alipante

This study aimed to determine the influence of emotion regulation and spiritual intelligence on the mathematical resilience of senior high school students. A quantitative approach using a predictive correlational design was employed. Through stratified random sampling, senior high school students from four public senior high schools in the Municipality of Veruela, Agusan del Sur, were selected as respondents. Adapted questionnaires were used to collect the data, which were analyzed using means, Pearson product-moment correlation, and multiple regression. The results showed that emotion regulation was high, while spiritual intelligence and mathematical resilience were very high. Both emotion regulation and spiritual intelligence had significant positive relationships with and significant influence on mathematical resilience. These findings imply that students' emotional and spiritual capacities help strengthen their resilience in mathematics.

Keywords: *Education, emotion regulation, spiritual intelligence, mathematical resilience, senior high school, Philippines*

AI Supported Teaching Application Self - Efficacy: Basis for an Enhancement Program

Marecris T. Alvarado

This study examined significant differences in AI-supported teaching application self-efficacy among mathematics teachers using an adapted questionnaire validated by a panel of experts and pilot-tested across groups defined by selected demographic variables. Anchored on the Technological Pedagogical Content Knowledge (TPACK) and Technology Acceptance Model (TAM), the research employed a quantitative, descriptive-comparative design. The respondents consisted of mathematics teachers from public secondary schools in Davao City, selected through cluster random sampling. Descriptive statistics, such as mean and standard deviation, were used to determine the level of self-efficacy, while inferential statistics, including independent-samples t-tests and one-way ANOVA, were used to identify significant differences in AI-supported teaching application self-efficacy, analyzed by sex, educational attainment, and teaching experience. Findings of the study revealed a high AI-supported teaching self-efficacy among mathematics teachers and a significant difference was determined when analyzed according to teaching experience but not according to sex and educational attainment. Based on the findings, an enhancement program was developed.

Keywords: *Education, AI-supported teaching application self-efficacy, mathematics teachers, demographic profile, descriptive-comparative design, enhancement program, Philippines.*

Mathematics Persistence, Mathematical Thinking Beliefs and Attitudes Towards Mathematics Teaching – Learning Process of Students

Janine E. Asuncion

This study examined the influence of mathematics persistence and mathematical thinking beliefs on students' attitudes towards the teaching-learning processes in mathematics. A descriptive-correlational quantitative design was used among selected senior high school students in Davao del Norte. Specifically, it aimed to determine the levels, relationships, and influence among the key variables of the study. Data were gathered through validated instruments subjected to pilot testing and reliability analysis, and were analyzed using mean, standard deviation, Pearson correlation, and multiple regression. Results revealed that students' mathematics persistence, mathematical thinking beliefs, and attitudes towards the teaching-learning processes of mathematics were all high, indicating consistent effort, strong beliefs, and favorable attitudes towards the subject. Furthermore, significant positive relationships were found between mathematics persistence and attitudes towards mathematics teaching-learning processes, as well as between mathematical thinking beliefs and these attitudes. Regression results showed that both variables significantly predict students' attitudes towards mathematics, with mathematical thinking beliefs as the stronger predictor. The results also showed that these factors play an important role in shaping students' attitudes towards the teaching-learning processes in mathematics.

Keywords: *Education, mathematics persistence, mathematical thinking beliefs, attitudes towards mathematics teaching-learning processes, descriptive-correlational, students, Philippines*

Student Stress and Peer Support as Predictors of Student Mathematics Engagement among Grade 11 Students

Emar John M. Caimor

This study determined the influence of student stress and peer support on student mathematics engagement. A quantitative, non-experimental design using predictive correlation was employed. The respondents comprised Grade 11 students from three public secondary schools in the Manay North District, Davao Oriental. Adapted questionnaires were used to obtain information from the respondents. Mean, standard deviation, Pearson's r , and multiple linear regression analysis were used for the data analysis. The findings revealed that student stress is moderate. However, it was also revealed that peer support is high. Furthermore, it was found that student mathematics engagement is moderate. Meanwhile, correlation analysis revealed that student stress and student mathematics engagement are significantly related, though the positive correlation is weak. On the other hand, peer support and student mathematics engagement also show a significant relationship, though the positive correlation is only moderate. Furthermore, it was found that peer support significantly predicts student mathematics engagement while student stress does not. This implies that having friends to help each other is more important than stress when it comes to getting students involved in mathematics.

Keywords: *Education, student stress, peer support, student mathematics engagement, senior high school students, descriptive correlation, Philippines.*

Game-Based Learning, Mathematics Attitude, and Mathematics Achievement of Junior High School Learners

Rondee M. Cañal

This study explored the significant influence of game-based learning and mathematics attitude on mathematics achievement in polynomial functions among junior high school learners. Quantitative descriptive-correlational research design was utilized to examine the relationship between the identified independent variables, game-based learning and mathematics attitude, and the dependent variable, mathematics achievement. A sample of 175 students was chosen through a cluster sampling technique from three public schools in Hinatuan North and West Districts. The data used in this study were gathered through adapted questionnaires validated by experts and subjected to reliability testing. To analyze and interpret the data, the following statistical tools were used: mean, standard deviation, Pearson's r , and multiple regression. The findings revealed that the level of game-based learning was highly evident, while mathematics attitude and achievement levels were moderate, with the latter interpreted as satisfactory. Further, statistical analysis indicated that mathematics attitude significantly influenced mathematics achievement in polynomial functions, whereas game-based learning was not a significant predictor.

Keywords: *Education, game-based learning, mathematics attitude, mathematics achievement, descriptive-correlational, junior high school, Philippines*

Formative Assessment Literacy, Reflective Thinking and Artificial Intelligence Competence Self - Efficacy of Mathematics Teachers

Art N. Cemino

This study aimed to examine formative assessment literacy, reflective thinking, and artificial intelligence self-efficacy competence of mathematics teachers. Predictive-correlational research was adapted in this study, involving the collection of quantitative data from 150 mathematics teachers in Tacurong City Division, Philippines, using a systematic sampling strategy. The data were collected using adapted survey instruments that were validated by a panel of experts and tested for reliability. The use of such questionnaires ensured that the data collected would be accurate and consistent. The data analysis included mean, standard deviations, Pearson product-moment correlation coefficients, and multiple linear regression analyses. The results indicated that the levels of formative assessment literacy, reflective thinking, and self-efficacy to AI competence were very high among the research participants. Based on the regression analyses conducted in this study, the researchers found a statistically significant relationship between the independent variables and the dependent variable. Concisely, literacy with formative assessment and practice of reflective thinking corresponded with higher individual AI competence self-efficacy. The data also showed that both formative assessment literacy and reflective thinking had a strong influence on AI competence self-efficacy. However, relative to one another, formative assessment literacy was the defining factor for the two variables. And so, teachers who can engage in analytical, reflective practices are contributing to improvements in AI self-efficacy, but the skill of pedagogically using formative assessments and guiding learning activities is a much stronger predictor of competence.

Keywords: *Formative Assessment Literacy, Reflective Thinking, AI Competence Self-Efficacy, Mathematics Education, Philippines*

A Path Analysis of Learner Awareness, Mathematics Anxiety, and Peer Support on Student Mathematics Persistence

Marc RB B. Ducut

Mathematics persistence was regarded as a vital determinant of students' achievement, reflecting their ability to sustain effort and remain engaged when confronted with academic challenges. However, many senior high school students exhibited insufficient persistence, influenced by cognitive, emotional, and social factors. This study aimed to determine the levels of learner awareness, mathematics anxiety, peer support, and mathematics persistence; assess the relationships among these variables; and identify the best-fit model explaining mathematics persistence. A quantitative descriptive-correlational research design employing path analysis was utilized. Data were collected from senior high school students in selected private schools in Davao City using validated survey instruments. Findings indicated high levels of learner awareness and peer support, and moderate levels of mathematics anxiety and persistence. Significant relationships were observed among all variables. Furthermore, the best-fit model showed that mathematics anxiety, learner awareness, and peer support significantly predicted mathematics persistence.

Keywords: *Mathematics persistence, Learner awareness, Mathematics anxiety, Peer support, Path modeling, Philippines*

Strand Misalignment in Mathematics Education: Unveiling the Lived Experiences of Non-STEM Students in the BSED – Mathematics Program

Jan Lester I. Fano

This study explored the lived experiences of first-year non-STEM students enrolled in the Bachelor of Secondary Education major in Mathematics (BSEd-Mathematics) program in selected universities and colleges across the province of Sultan Kudarat, employing a qualitative phenomenological research design to understand how strand misalignment shapes their academic journey. The study aimed to uncover and describe the challenges encountered, the coping mechanisms utilized, and the insights gained by these students as they navigated a mathematics-intensive program despite their non-STEM background. Participants were purposively selected first-year non-STEM BSEd-Mathematics students of legal age who had experienced strand misalignment. The primary problems addressed in the study included difficulties related to cognitive preparedness, emotional challenges, and self-efficacy challenges, as well as the strategies developed to cope with these demands. Data were gathered through in-depth interviews and analyzed using thematic analysis to identify recurring patterns and meanings. The results revealed key themes from the participants' lived experiences, including cognitive schema misalignment, affective and self-efficacy erosion, and compensatory academic labor, as well as coping mechanisms such as effective study practices, mental well-being and self-care, technology-assisted strategies, and collaborative academic support; furthermore, shared insights emphasized the importance of mathematical readiness, curricular transition scaffolding, and the need for collaborative and empathetic pedagogical support.

Keywords: *Education, mathematics, non-STEM BSED-Mathematics, phenomenology, Philippines*

Assessing the Mediating Effect of Motivation on the Relationship Between Student Difficulties Encountered and Mathematics Engagement among Grade 10 Students

Michell A. Flores

Mathematics engagement among Grade 10 students is critical as they transition to more advanced mathematical concepts; however, low engagement persists, and limited research has addressed this issue in Sultan Kudarat, Philippines. This study examined the mediating role of student motivation in mathematics on the relationship between difficulties encountered in mathematics and mathematics engagement among Grade 10 students in three public secondary schools. A quantitative descriptive-correlational research design was employed, and respondents were selected using proportionate stratified random sampling. Data were collected using adapted and validated questionnaires with established reliability and analyzed using means, standard deviations, Pearson product-moment correlations, and mediation analyses. Results revealed that students experienced low levels of difficulties in mathematics but demonstrated high levels of motivation and engagement. Difficulties encountered in mathematics were negatively and significantly related to both student motivation and mathematics engagement, while student motivation was positively and significantly related to engagement. Furthermore, student motivation fully mediated the relationship between difficulties encountered and mathematics engagement. These findings suggest that reducing students' difficulties alone may not be sufficient to enhance engagement without strengthening their motivation. Therefore, interventions aimed at improving mathematics engagement should prioritize the development of both intrinsic and extrinsic motivation.

Keywords: *Education, motivation in math, difficulties in learning math, mathematics engagement, descriptive correlation, mediation analysis, Grade 10 students, Philippines*

Mathematics Anxiety and Perceived Teaching Quality as Predictors of Mathematical Thinking Beliefs

Leonor Roann De Amor G. Labarca

This study examined the influence of mathematics anxiety and perceived teaching quality on the mathematical thinking beliefs of senior high school students from Davao City, using a quantitative, descriptive-correlational design. Data were analyzed using means, standard deviations, Pearson's r , and multiple regression. The results demonstrated that students experienced moderate levels of mathematics anxiety and high levels of perceived teaching quality and mathematical thinking beliefs. Mathematics anxiety had no significant direct relationship with mathematical thinking beliefs at the bivariate level, while perceived teaching quality showed a significant positive relationship. This apparent inconsistency may be explained by a suppressor effect, wherein the influence of mathematics anxiety becomes evident only when the effects of teaching quality are statistically controlled. This suggests that anxiety may not independently predict beliefs, but it becomes a significant factor when the strong positive influence of teaching quality is accounted for. Regression analysis revealed that mathematics anxiety had a significant positive influence, whereas perceived teaching quality had a significant positive influence. The findings highlight the importance of effective teaching and addressing affective factors in mathematics learning.

Keywords: *Education, mathematics anxiety, perceived teaching quality, mathematical thinking beliefs, descriptive correlational design, Davao City, Philippines*

Supportive Learning Environment, Attitudes towards Mathematics and Academic Boredom of Junior High School Students

Jenny Rose S. Magarzo

Academic boredom in junior high school mathematics has become a growing educational concern as many students experience disengagement, lack of interest, and reduced motivation during mathematics learning, which may negatively affect their academic performance and participation. This study employed a non-experimental quantitative descriptive-correlational research design to examine factors associated with this issue. Specifically, it aimed to determine the influence of a supportive learning environment and students' attitudes toward mathematics on their academic boredom. The study involved 326 Grade 9 students from selected public junior high schools in Braulio E. Dujali, Davao del Norte, Philippines, chosen through total enumeration sampling. It sought to address the question of whether supportive learning environments and attitudes toward mathematics are significantly related to and predict students' academic boredom in mathematics. Adapted questionnaires were used to gather data from the respondents. Mean, standard deviation, Pearson product-moment correlation, and multiple linear regression analysis were used for data analysis. The findings revealed that the level of supportive learning environment and attitudes toward mathematics were both high, while the level of academic boredom was moderate. Correlation analysis showed a very weak positive relationship between a supportive learning environment and academic boredom, as well as between attitudes toward mathematics and academic boredom. Furthermore, the results indicated that neither a supportive learning environment nor attitudes toward mathematics could independently predict students' academic boredom in mathematics. These findings imply that academic boredom may be influenced by factors beyond classroom support and attitudes, such as teaching strategies, students' emotional well-being, learning preferences, academic pressure, technology use, peer interaction, and curriculum design. Therefore, educators and future researchers are encouraged to explore these alternative factors to better understand and address academic boredom among junior high school students in mathematics.

Keywords: *Education, supportive learning environment, attitudes towards mathematics, academic boredom, junior high school students, descriptive correlation, Philippines.*

The Effectiveness of Gamification Approach on the Achievement of Students in Algebra

Ann Jellan Orat

In this study, gamification is considered an alternative strategy to enhance students' achievement in factoring polynomials in algebra. Gamification is a method by which an individual is engaged in a process that uses elements from games to make learning fun and interesting. In this regard, the present study used a quasi-experimental research design comparing gamification with traditionally designed mathematics instruction to determine whether there is a difference in achieving desired outcomes. To evaluate the effectiveness of the gamification approach in improving the achievement level of Grade 8 students in algebra, particularly in factoring, the researcher conducted a study using two groups: an experimental and a control group. To gather data, the pre-test and post-test instruments were used, and the results were analyzed using statistical tools such as mean percentage scores, mean gain, and a paired-samples t-test. After analyzing the data, both groups showed improvements in learning; however, the experimental group achieved greater success, with statistical significance ($p < 0.001$), compared to the control group, which still had low levels of achievement. This research found that the gamification method is effective in improving students' learning outcomes in algebra, particularly in factoring polynomials.

Keywords: Education, mathematics, gamification, quasi-experimental, academic achievement, mean gain scores, educational innovation, Philippines

The Mediating Effect of Peer Support on the Relationship Between Students Attitude Towards the Use of Computer in Learning Mathematics and Mathematics Engagement among Students

Alyssa H. Pacto

This study examined the mediating effect of peer support on the relationship between students' attitudes toward computer use in learning mathematics and mathematics engagement among Grade 7 students. It aimed to determine whether students' positive attitudes toward using computers influence their engagement in mathematics and whether peer support helps explain this relationship. A quantitative predictive–correlational research design with mediation analysis was used. The respondents were Grade 7 students from selected public secondary schools in Mati City, Davao Oriental, selected through stratified random sampling. Data were gathered using adapted and validated questionnaires measuring attitudes toward computer use, peer support, and mathematics engagement. The data were analyzed using descriptive statistics, Pearson correlation, and multiple regression analysis with mediation. Results showed that students generally had high levels of attitudes toward computer use, peer support, and mathematics engagement. Findings revealed significant positive relationships between attitudes toward computer use and both mathematics engagement and peer support. Peer support was also significantly related to mathematics engagement. Moreover, peer support significantly mediated the relationship between attitudes toward computer use and mathematics engagement. This means that students with positive attitudes toward computers tend to be more engaged in mathematics, especially when supported by peers. The study concludes that integrating computer-based learning and strengthening peer support can improve students' engagement in mathematics. These findings suggest that teachers and school leaders should promote the use of technology alongside collaborative learning strategies to enhance student participation and improve learning outcomes in mathematics. These implications are valuable for improving classroom practices in junior high school mathematics.

Keywords: *attitudes toward computer use, peer support, mathematics engagement, mediation, predictive–correlational, Grade 7 students, Philippines.*

The Utilization of AI-Driven Adaptive Learning Tools in Teaching Measurement and Geometry: A Quasi-Experimental Design

Joco M. Piamonte

This study examined the effect of AI-driven adaptive learning tools in teaching Measurement and Geometry among Grade 7 students in a public high school in North Cotabato. A quasi-experimental design was employed, using a standardized test covering the conversion of units of measure, the volume of a cylinder, and the volume of square and rectangular prisms. The mean, t-test, and ANCOVA were used to analyze the data. Pretest results showed very low performance in both groups. After instruction, both groups improved, but the experimental group reached a moderate level of performance, while the control group remained low. Mean gain scores were higher in the experimental group, indicating greater learning progress and greater understanding of key concepts. Independent t-tests showed significant differences in some pretest topics and in overall scores, while ANCOVA revealed significant differences in posttest performance favoring the experimental group. Paired t-tests confirmed improvements in both groups, but significant differences in gain scores were observed only in the volume of square and rectangular prisms, highlighting the effectiveness of the AI-driven adaptive learning approach in specific areas.

Keywords: *AI-driven adaptive learning tools, measurement and geometry, quasi-experimental design, mathematics education, Philippines*

Navigating the Experiences of Robotics Champions in their Journey to Success

Kristine Clarisse C. Planas

This study employed a qualitative descriptive research design to explore and describe the experiences of robotics champions and their views on the role of mathematics in their success in robotics competitions. Robotics competitions have emerged as meaningful platforms for developing students' competencies in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM). Although the integration of mathematics into robotics activities is increasing, the role that mathematical competency plays in the performance of robotics competition participants remains underexplored, especially through the lens of robotics champions themselves. Through purposive sampling, robotics champions from the private and public junior and senior high schools in Davao City participated. A validated interview guide was employed through in-depth interviews and focus group discussions, which were analyzed using thematic analysis. The essential themes generated included the idea that robotics competitions are learning environments that foster adaptability, self-directed learning, collaboration, resilience, and problem-solving skills, making learning experiential and transformative despite technical, structural, and academic challenges. Mathematics was deemed an essential yet often considered implicit aspect of robotics competitions, embedded within programming, logical reasoning, estimation, measurement, computation, and robot control. Estimation, logical thinking, analytical reasoning, and basic mathematical foundations are significant competencies for robotics performance, whereas advanced mathematical concepts such as algebra, geometry, and trigonometry are more relevant to programming-intensive and complex robotics tasks. The study further revealed that success in robotics competitions is influenced not only by mathematical competency but also by teamwork, communication, experiential learning, motivation, and adaptability. Moreover, the essential themes highlighted the importance of contextualized, application-oriented, and interdisciplinary approaches in Mathematics and Robotics Education to strengthen students' engagement, mathematical understanding, and STEM-related competencies.

Keywords: *Education, Mathematics, robotics competitions, mathematical competency, robotics champions, STEM education, experiential learning, qualitative descriptive, Philippines*

The Influence of Problem-Solving Efficacy and Self-Regulated Learning Behaviour on Mathematical Resilience

Eloisa Jane B. Sanchez

This study examined the influence of problem-solving efficacy and self-regulated learning behavior on mathematical resilience among junior high school students in public schools in Davao City. A descriptive correlational research design was employed. The study aimed to identify how problem-solving efficacy and self-regulated learning behaviour contribute to the mathematical resilience among junior high school students. Data were collected using survey questionnaires administered to the respondents. The gathered data were analyzed using mean, standard deviation, and multiple regression analysis to describe the levels of the variables and determine their influence. The findings revealed that problem-solving efficacy, self-regulated learning behaviour, and mathematical resilience were all rated high. Furthermore, both problem-solving efficacy and self-regulated learning behaviour were found to significantly influence mathematical resilience, indicating their important role in strengthening the capacity of the students to persist and succeed in mathematics.

Keywords: *Education, mathematics, problem-solving efficacy, self-regulated learning behaviour, mathematical resilience, descriptive correlation, Philippines*

Moderating Effect of Sex on the Relationship between Problem-Solving Efficacy and Student Mathematics Engagement among Senior High School Students

Ralph Wendell M. Sarong

This study examined the moderating role of sex in the relationship between problem-solving efficacy and mathematics engagement among senior high school students. Anchored in a quantitative, non-experimental framework, the study employed a moderated descriptive-correlational design. Respondents were selected through cluster random sampling from four public secondary schools in Arakan, North Cotabato. Adapted instruments were utilized to measure problem-solving efficacy across four dimensions: social persuasion, physiological response, vicarious experience, mastery experience, and mathematics engagement in terms of determination, active learning, and academic challenge. Descriptive and inferential statistical analyses, including mean, standard deviation, Pearson product-moment correlation, and moderation analysis, were conducted. Results revealed that students demonstrated moderate problem-solving efficacy and high mathematics engagement. Moreover, a significant positive relationship was found between problem-solving efficacy and mathematics engagement, indicating that students with greater confidence in their problem-solving abilities are more likely to demonstrate active, sustained engagement in mathematics learning tasks. However, sex did not significantly moderate this relationship, suggesting that the strength and direction of the association between problem-solving efficacy and mathematics engagement remain consistent across male and female students.

Keywords: *Education, mathematics, problem-solving efficacy, mathematics engagement, moderating effect, senior high school, descriptive-correlational, Philippines.*

Teaching Styles, Teacher Support and Achievement in Mathematics of Grade 7 Students

Mariel Pearl T. Serafica

This study explored the significant relationship between teaching styles and teacher support on the mathematics achievement of Grade 7 students. The students were chosen through stratified random sampling techniques from three public schools in Davao City. Quantitative descriptive-correlational research design was utilized to examine the relationship between the independent variables, teaching styles, and teacher support, and the dependent variable, mathematics achievement. The data used in the study were gathered through adapted questionnaires validated by experts. To analyze and interpret the data, the following statistical tools were used: mean, standard deviation, Pearson's r , and multiple regression. The findings revealed that Grade 7 students perceived teaching styles and teacher support at a very high level, yet their mathematics achievement was low proficient. Correlation and regression analyses showed that teaching styles were not significantly related to students' mathematics achievement across all topics. However, teacher support was significantly related to achievement in selected areas, particularly in regular and irregular polygons and in the use of rates, suggesting that its influence may vary across mathematical content.

Keywords: *Education, teaching styles, teacher support, mathematics achievement, descriptive correlational design, Grade 7 students, Philippines*

Mathematical Mindset and Student Engagement in School as Predictors of Problem-Solving Skills among First Year College Students

Ernesto P. Sumayo

This study explored the levels of mathematical mindset, student engagement in school, and problem-solving skills of the first-year college students. A sample of 219 students was selected using a cluster-random sampling technique from three higher education institutions in Surigao del Sur. Quantitative descriptive-correlational design was employed to examine the relationship between the identified independent variables, mathematical mindset, and student engagement in school, and the dependent variable, problem-solving skills. The data used in this study were gathered through adapted questionnaires validated by experts. To analyze and interpret the data, the following statistical tools were used: mean, standard deviation, Pearson product-moment correlation, and multiple regression. The findings revealed a high level of mathematical mindset, student engagement in school, and problem-solving skills, suggesting that these were often evident among first-year college students. Further, statistical analysis indicated that both mathematical mindset and student engagement in school had a significant positive relationship with problem-solving skills, but student engagement in school was more strongly associated with problem-solving skills than mathematical mindset.

Keywords: *Education, mathematical mindset, student engagement in school, problem-solving skills, descriptive correlation, first-year college, Philippines*

MASTER OF ARTS IN EDUCATION MAJOR IN MUSIC EDUCATION

The Mediating Role of Teacher Disposition on the Relationship Between Teacher Competencies and Pedagogical Content Knowledge in Music Education Among Non- Music Major Teachers

Vanessa L. Calio

This study aimed to determine the mediating effect of teacher disposition on the relationship between teacher competencies and pedagogical content knowledge of non-music major teachers in the Division of Davao City. This study employed quantitative research, specifically a descriptive-correlational design. The respondents in the study were 220 non-music-major teachers, selected using a random sampling technique. Specifically, this study pursued the problems of determining the level of teacher competencies, the level of pedagogical content knowledge, the level of teacher disposition, the relationships between teacher competencies, teacher disposition, and pedagogical content knowledge, and the mediating effect of teacher disposition on the relationship between teacher competencies and pedagogical content knowledge. Adapted survey questionnaires were used to collect data via face-to-face administration. The data were analyzed using mean, standard deviation, regression analysis, and mediation analysis. Findings showed that the level of teacher competencies is high; the level of pedagogical content knowledge is moderate; the level of teacher disposition is very high; the relationships between teacher competencies, teacher disposition, and pedagogical content knowledge are significant; and teacher disposition has no mediating effect on the relationship between teacher competencies and pedagogical content knowledge. The influence of a teacher's professional skills and abilities on their understanding of how to teach music is direct, rather than being filtered through or dependent upon their personal attitudes, values, or professional mindsets.

Keywords: *Music education, Pedagogical content knowledge, teacher competencies, teacher disposition, mediation, Philippines*

Exploring the Challenges of Non- Music Major Teachers in Teaching Music

Florigem M. Facundo

This study examined the lived experiences of non-music major teachers in teaching Music in Mati City. Using a phenomenological approach, it explored the challenges they encounter, the strategies they employ, and the insights they gain in delivering music instruction. Findings revealed that, despite lacking formal music training, these teachers strive to provide meaningful learning experiences by promoting student engagement, creativity, and appreciation of music. Teachers reported several challenges, including limited musical knowledge and skills, a lack of instructional materials and instruments, insufficient training, and low confidence in teaching music concepts. Despite these difficulties, they coped by utilizing available resources, integrating technology, simplifying lessons, seeking assistance from colleagues, and engaging in self-directed learning. Moreover, the participants viewed teaching music as both challenging and fulfilling, as it allowed them to develop professionally and discover new competencies. The study underscores the importance of music education in fostering students' creativity and holistic development. It also highlights the need for increased institutional support, greater access to resources, and continuous professional development programs to empower non-music-major teachers to deliver effective music instruction. These findings contribute to improving music education practices and affirm the significant role of teachers in overcoming instructional challenges in the absence of specialized training.

Keywords: *Music education, lived experiences, non-music major teachers, teaching challenges, professional development, Mati City, Philippines.*

The Mediating Effect of Regulation of Motivation in the Relationship Between Creative Potential Traits and Music Receptivity Among Secondary Schools Choir Members in Davao City

Jessyca Therese M. Roa

This study investigated the mediating role of motivational regulation in the relationship between creative potential traits and music receptivity among secondary choir members in Davao City during the 2025–2026 school year. A quantitative approach, employing a descriptive–correlational research design with path analysis, was used to examine relationships among variables and determine mediation effects. The primary purpose of the study was to assess whether regulation of motivation functions as a significant mechanism linking creative potential traits to music receptivity among student–singers. A total of 175 participants were selected through stratified random sampling. The study examined levels of creative potential traits, motivation regulation, and music receptivity, as well as the significant relationships among these variables and the mediating role of motivation regulation. Data were gathered using adapted survey instruments that measured creative potential traits in terms of transgression, challenge, and exploration; regulation of motivation in terms of regulation and willpower; and music receptivity in terms of affect and communality. The collected data were analyzed using mean, standard deviation, Pearson product-moment correlation coefficient, and mediation analysis. Results revealed that participants demonstrated high levels of creative potential traits and motivation regulation, while music receptivity was at a very high level. Significant positive relationships were identified among all variables. Furthermore, mediation analysis showed that regulation of motivation fully mediates the relationship between creative potential traits and music receptivity, as evidenced by a significant indirect effect and a non-significant direct effect. These findings indicate that motivation regulation plays a crucial role in transforming creative potential into meaningful musical engagement, underscoring the need to integrate motivational development into choral pedagogy.

Keywords: *music receptivity, regulation of motivation, creative potential traits, secondary school choir, mediation analysis, Philippines*

MASTER OF ARTS IN EDUCATION MAJOR IN PHYSICAL EDUCATION

The Mediating Effects of Coach–Athlete Relationship Between Behavioral Regulation in Exercise and Sports Leadership among Student–Athletes

Patrick D. Acuna

This quantitative descriptive-correlational study examined the mediating role of the coach–athlete relationship in the relationship between behavioral regulation in exercise and sports leadership among student–athletes in North Cotabato. Data were gathered using standardized survey questionnaires. Statistical tools used in the analysis included mean, standard deviation, Pearson product-moment correlation, and mediation analysis. Results revealed that high behavioral regulation among student–athletes was led by intrinsic motivation and identified regulation. The coach–athlete relationship was rated very high across the dimensions of trust, communication, support, and commitment. Sports leadership was also rated very high in terms of training and instruction, situational consideration, positive feedback, social support, democratic behavior, and autocratic behavior. Significant relationships were found among behavioral regulation, sports leadership, and the coach–athlete relationship. Mediation analysis further showed that the coach–athlete relationship partially mediated the relationship between behavioral regulation and sports leadership. The study concluded that behavioral regulation significantly influences sports leadership, and this influence is strengthened through the coach–athlete relationship. This implies that fostering athletes' internal motivation and building strong relational dynamics between coaches and athletes are essential strategies for enhancing effective sports leadership among student–athletes.

Keywords: *Physical education, coach–athlete relationship, sports, student–athletes, Philippines*

Strength in Connection: A Phenomenological Study of How Student-Athletes Competing in the National Competition Sustained Motivation

Christian John A. Agustin

Motivation is essential for sustaining performance among student-athletes, particularly in the demanding context of national-level competitions where academic and athletic responsibilities intersect. This study employed a qualitative phenomenological design to explore how student-athletes sustain motivation. It aimed to examine their lived experiences, challenges, coping strategies, and learning insights. Thirteen national-level student-athletes participated in the study. It addressed the issues related to competitive pressure, demanding training, and academic-athletic balance. Data were gathered through in-depth interviews and analyzed using Colaizzi's method to identify significant statements and thematic patterns. Findings revealed that motivation is shaped by competitive pressure, intensive training, role conflict, and personal growth. To cope, student-athletes utilize emotional regulation, social support, self-belief, self-care, and continuous training. Key insights emphasized discipline, time management, strong support systems, mental resilience, and passion for sport. The study concludes that sustaining motivation is not solely an individual effort but results from the interaction of personal, social, and institutional factors, highlighting the need for holistic support programs.

Keywords: *Sustained Motivation, Student-athletes, National Competition, Phenomenology, Philippines*

Linking Coaching Styles and Motivation to Perceived Sports Performance of Student-Athletes

Jhonamie Almar M. Aquino

Perceived sports performance reflects how athletes evaluate their technical execution and psychological readiness during competition, which may affect their motivation and continued participation in sports. This study analyzed the relationship and influence of coaching style and motivation on the perceived sports performance of secondary school student-athletes from Butuan City who qualified for the 2026 Caraga Regional Athletic Games in team sports, using a descriptive-correlational type of research design. A total of 145 student-athletes participated in the study through complete enumeration sampling. It used adapted and validated survey instruments to measure coaching styles, motivation, and perceived sports performance, and examined the relationships among these variables and their combined influence on perceived sports performance. Pearson correlation and regression analysis were used to analyze the data. The results showed that overall coaching styles were perceived by the student-athlete as high, while autonomy-supportive coaching was perceived as very high and controlling coaching as low. The level of motivation was rated very high, particularly intrinsic motivation. All aspects of perceived sports performance were also rated very high, particularly mastery, developmental, and athlete improvement. Motivation had a strong, statistically significant relationship with the perceived sports performance of the student-athletes; however, the relationship between coaching style and perceived sports performance was weak and mostly not statistically significant. Additionally, the regression model identified motivation as the most predictive factor of perceived sports performance. This suggests that while coaching style alone does not directly influence performance perceptions, motivation plays a crucial role in enhancing how student-athletes perceive their sports performance.

Keywords: *coaching styles, motivation, perceived sports performance, secondary school athletes, Butuan City-Philippines*

Stories of Self and Society: A Narrative Analysis of Body Image Satisfaction

Almera Mae A. Arabit

Body image plays a crucial role in shaping individuals' self-perception and social interaction within contemporary society. This study employed a qualitative research design using narratology to explore how individuals construct and negotiate their body image satisfaction through lived experiences. The purpose of the study was to examine participants' narratives regarding fitness experiences, societal expectations, and identity formation. The participants consisted of five purposively selected undergraduate students aged 18 to 25 from private higher education institutions in Davao City, representing diverse gender identities, including female, male, gay, lesbian, and transgender. The study addressed how individuals construct their sense of self, internalize societal standards of attractiveness, and reflect discursive patterns shaped by gender, age, and social context. Data were gathered through in-depth face-to-face narrative interviews, supported by field notes, documents, and participant validation procedures. The collected data were analyzed using narrative analysis guided by immersion, structuring, thematic coding, inter-narrative comparison, and interpretation based on the framework of temporality, sociality, and place. The findings revealed that only one participant expressed satisfaction with their body image, while the majority experienced dissatisfaction influenced by societal pressures and idealized standards. Participants' narratives demonstrated that body image is a dynamic and socially constructed experience shaped by gender identity, social comparison, and cultural expectations. The study concludes that body image satisfaction is continuously negotiated and emphasizes the importance of promoting self-acceptance and challenging dominant beauty norms within educational and social contexts.

Keywords: *body image satisfaction, narrative analysis, self-concept, gender identity, Philippines*

A Phenomenographic Study on Inclusive Education: Narratives Told by Physical Education Teachers

Carylmae B. Balmores

This phenomenographic qualitative study with 12 Physical Education teacher-participants investigated the variations in their experiences and comprehension of implementing inclusive education across four primary domains: conceptualizations of inclusion, challenges and facilitating conditions, teacher identity, and instructional methodologies. Research indicates that educators' perceptions evolve along a spectrum from participation to substantive engagement and comprehensive development, while execution exists within a dynamic tension between structural limitations, resources, time, instructional requirements, and adaptive assistance, as well as training, peer support, and innovation. Furthermore, teacher identity transitions from content provider to adaptive practitioner to inclusive advocate, signifying an intensified dedication to inclusion. To meet the diverse needs of learners, educators utilize various strategies, including activity modification, flexible planning, alternative roles, peer-assisted learning, and environmental structuring, demonstrating a transition from fundamental instructional adjustments to more relational and transformative inclusive practices. These variables collectively provide an outcome space that underscores the interrelation of understanding, context, identity, and practice in inclusive Physical Education.

Keywords: *Inclusive Education, Physical Education, Teacher Identity, Learner Diversity, Philippines*

Sex as a Moderating Variable on the Relationship between Cardiovascular Endurance and Fundamental Brain Function

Mariechille Roanne D. Benito

This study investigated whether sex influenced the relationship between cardiovascular endurance and fundamental brain function among Grade 12 Senior High School students from the TVL-ICT, ABM, and HUMSS strands of Manay, Davao Oriental. By employing a quantitative, non-experimental correlational approach with a moderation analysis, this research sought to assess the current state of cardiovascular endurance and fundamental brain function, investigate the relationship between these variables, and examine sex as a moderator. Participants were senior high school students, and data were collected using various standardized tools. The Progressive Cardiovascular Endurance Run (PACER) test was used to measure cardiovascular endurance; the Trail Making Test Part A to assess visual scanning; the Ruler Drop Test to measure reaction time; and the d2 Attention Test to measure attention. The statistical procedures were descriptive statistics, correlation analysis, and moderation analysis. Results showed that participants had moderate cardiovascular endurance and fundamental cognitive function, with visual scanning the most outstanding cognitive component. Reaction time and attention were moderate. The study found no significant relationship between cardiovascular endurance and fundamental brain function, and sex did not significantly moderate this relationship. This means that cardiovascular endurance, by itself, does not directly predict fundamental brain function, and the link between these variables does not differ significantly between male and female students.

Keywords: *Education, cardiovascular endurance, fundamental brain function, moderating effect, Philippines.*

The Moderating Effect of Socio-Demographic Profile on the Relationship between Time Management and Teacher Competence

Jonemyrrh D. Biñas

The study aimed to determine the moderating effect of socio-demographic profile on the relationship between time management skills and teacher competence among Physical Education (PE) teachers in selected public secondary schools in South Cotabato. A quantitative approach utilizing a descriptive-correlational research design was employed. The respondents in the study were PE teachers, and data were collected using a structured questionnaire that covered socio-demographic profiles, time management skills, and teacher competence. The findings revealed that the level of time management skills and teacher competence of PE teachers was very high. Further, the results showed no significant relationship between time management skills and teacher competence. In terms of moderating effect, socio-demographic variables such as age, sex, years of service, and educational attainment did not significantly moderate the relationship. However, marital status was found to have a significant moderating effect, indicating that it influences the relationship between time management skills and teacher competence.

Keywords: *Physical education, time management, teacher competence, socio-demographic profile, Philippines*

Between Sensitivity and Self-Expression: A Critical Discourse Analysis of Muslim Students' Engagement in Social Dances

Al-Jalil M. Brillantes Jr.

This study used critical discourse analysis to examine how cultural sensitivity and self-expression intersect in social dance performances among Muslim students in the physical education subject. This study focused on the insights and experiences of the Muslim students, Physical Education Instructors, and Parents, and the findings reveal that participation in social dance is created by means of the perceived negotiations among expression, identity, and morality of the Muslim students, resulting in how self-expression is performed within the limitations of the religious norms and institutional expectations. This study also shows that Muslim students and teachers provide their meaning to social dance in ways that still respect their religious and cultural norms. It also showed, within the study, how institutions provide holistic development and contribute to students' health through social dances in Physical Education activities. Participation is also supported through Modesty, Open Dialogue, and the institution's support, while their personal faith serves as their primary guide in decision-making. It also shows that social dance is seen as a way to share culture and traditional values, rather than merely as a performance. In addition, the study shows that institutional texts, religious values, and cultural norms influence how Muslim students participate in social dance activities during physical education. Different forms of power, such as School power and religious powers, affect their choices and actions, especially in social dance activities. In conclusion, this study shows that participation in social dance involves balancing sensitivity and self-expression within physical education activities.

Keywords: *Cultural Sensitivity, Self-Expression, Social Dances, Critical Discourse Analysis, Philippines*

Visual Acuity and Skill-Related Fitness on Sports Engagement among Athletes in Davao del Sur

Mechelle C. Calamba

This study examined the influence of visual acuity and skill-related fitness on sports engagement among 169 high school athletes in Digos City, Davao del Sur, Philippines. Using a quantitative, descriptive-correlational design, data were collected using the Snellen Chart, the DepEd Physical Fitness Test Manual, and a validated sports engagement scale. Pearson correlation and multiple regression analysis were used to analyze the data. Results revealed that athletes demonstrated very high visual acuity ($M = 4.74$), moderate skill-related fitness ($M = 3.30$), and high sports engagement ($M = 4.17$). Visual acuity had no significant relationship with sports engagement ($r = .06$, $p = .45$). In contrast, skill-related fitness showed a significant positive relationship with sports engagement ($r = .18$, $p = .02$), with speed, balance, reaction time, coordination, and power as significant components, while agility was not. In combined capacity, visual acuity and skill-related fitness significantly influenced sports engagement ($F = 3.27$, $p < .05$), with skill-related fitness as the significant predictor ($\beta = .19$, $p = .02$). The model accounted for four percent of the variance in sports engagement ($R^2 = .04$). Findings suggest that developing skill-related fitness is more critical than visual acuity in sustaining athletes' sports engagement.

Keywords: *sports engagement, visual acuity, skill-related fitness, student-athletes, Philippines*

Stress, Sport Motivation and Coping among High School Student-Athletes in Paquibato District, Davao City

Analyn I. Cordero

This study examined stress, sport motivation, and coping among high school student-athletes in Paquibato District, Davao City. Specifically, it determined the levels of perceived stress, sport motivation, and coping, as well as the relationships among these variables. A descriptive-correlational research design was employed. The study utilized purposive sampling in selected public secondary schools during the Academic Year 2024–2025, with a total of 151 respondents. Data were gathered using standardized instruments, namely the Adolescent Stress Questionnaire (ASQ), Sport Motivation Scale-II (SMS-II), and a structured coping scale based on established measures. Descriptive statistics, including mean and standard deviation, were used to determine the levels of the variables. Pearson product-moment correlation (r) was used to examine relationships among stress, sport motivation, and coping, and multiple regression was used to determine the influence of perceived stress and sport motivation on coping. The results revealed a significant, moderate, positive relationship between stress and coping ($r = .48, p < .05$), suggesting that increases in stress are associated with increased coping responses. Similarly, a significantly strong positive relationship was found between sport motivation and coping ($r = .61, p < .05$), indicating that higher levels of motivation are associated with stronger coping strategies. Furthermore, multiple regression analysis showed that perceived stress and sport motivation significantly predict coping, with sport motivation emerging as the stronger predictor. These findings suggest that coping among student-athletes may vary depending on both their perceived stress level and their sport motivation. The results highlight the importance of strengthening both motivation and coping strategies to help student-athletes manage academic and athletic demands.

Keywords: *Perceived stress, sport motivation, coping mechanisms, high school student-athletes, Philippines*

Exploring Team Beliefs of the Athletes: A Multiple Case Study

Jennifer S. Cordoves

This study employed a qualitative multiple-case study design to describe the dynamics among secondary team players in Davao Oriental regarding their belief in their team's ability to perform successfully in competitions. The study further explored the challenges participants faced, as well as the similarities and differences that emerged as they cultivated their team belief. Data were collected through in-depth interviews (IDI) and focus group discussions (FGD) with athletes from three team sports (volleyball, futsal, and baseball) and were analyzed using within-case and cross-case synthesis. The findings revealed that strategic communication in play, role clarity and coordinated execution, emotional regulation under pressure, in-game behavioral adjustment, and leadership as social regulation illustrate how team interactions and relationships influence performance during competition. Essential themes describing the difficulties faced by the teams were managing performance pressure, communication and coordination breakdowns, ego and internal team conflict, emotional disruption during competition, and environmental and resource constraints. While the three teams shared similar experiences in terms of communication, leadership influence, and emotional management, differences were also observed in their coping strategies, communication structures, and environmental contexts that shaped how each team cultivated its team belief.

Keywords: *Team dynamics, team beliefs, team sports, multiple case study*

Development and Validation of Petes: Physical Education Teachers' Effectiveness Scale

Alhana A. Ebrahim

This study aimed to develop and validate a Physical Education Teachers' Effectiveness Scale (PETES). A quantitative research design was employed, utilizing a systematic process that included item generation from the literature, expert validation using the Content Validity Index (CVI), and statistical analyses such as Exploratory Factor Analysis (EFA) and Confirmatory Factor Analysis (CFA). A total of 270 senior high school students from Secondary Schools of Aleosan, North Cotabato, participated in the study. Initial results from CVI indicated high content validity, with most items rated as highly relevant and clear. The EFA results revealed a four-factor structure consisting of 23 retained items, labeled as: General Engagement/ Performance, Cognitive/Competence, Social/Interpersonal, and Emotional/Attitudinal. The Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin (KMO) value and significant Bartlett's Test confirmed the suitability of the data for factor analysis. Subsequent CFA results demonstrated a parsimonious model fit, indicating that the proposed model adequately represents the observed data. Reliability analysis showed strong internal consistency across all factors, with Cronbach's alpha and composite reliability values exceeding the acceptable threshold. Overall, the findings support the validity and reliability of PETES as a multidimensional instrument for assessing physical education teacher effectiveness based on students' perceptions.

Keywords: Education, physical education, effectiveness scale, PETES, Philippines

Physical Education Attitude, Physical Exercise Peer-Support and Engagement among Public Junior High School Students

Adelle Rose E. Evangelista

This study aimed to determine the influence and relationships among physical education attitude, peer-supported physical exercise, and engagement among public junior high school students using a quantitative descriptive-correlational design. Stratified random sampling was employed to obtain 332 students in the Municipality of Arakan, Cotabato. Findings revealed that physical education attitude, peer support, and engagement were all at high levels, indicating that these variables are often manifested and that students are actively involved in PE classes. Significant relationships were found between physical education attitude and engagement, and between peer support and engagement. Moreover, both variables significantly influenced students' engagement in physical education. The results imply that sustaining positive attitudes requires engaging, student-centered teaching strategies. Additionally, collaborative and group-based activities should be strengthened to enhance peer support. Schools are encouraged to improve PE programs through supportive policies, adequate resources, and socially enriching learning environments to further promote active student participation.

Keywords: *Physical education, peer-support, engagement, quantitative research, Cotabato- Philippines*

Leadership Practices and Coaching Efficacy: Basis for an Enhancement Plan

Cheska Laine H. Garcia

This study investigated the important role of leadership practices in coaching efficacy and laid the foundation for an enhancement plan. It also utilized quantitative research, particularly a descriptive correlational design. Adapted questionnaires were used to collect data from the student-athletes in selected public junior high schools in Region XI, specifically in the Division of the Island Garden City of Samal. Mean, standard deviation, and multiple linear regression analyses were used. Results showed that leadership is high when it is frequently manifested, and that practices were deeply rooted in coaching, underscoring leadership's critical role in coaching efficacy. In addition, there was a significant association between coaching efficacy and coaching behaviors, including providing clear guidance, structured training, and task-related feedback. Findings from this study show that although leadership is a significant factor in coaching efficacy, it is not the only factor affecting a coach's overall effectiveness. Thus, an enhancement plan was developed, focusing on leadership training workshops, mentoring programs, continuous professional development, and structured feedback to strengthen coaches' competencies.

Keywords: *Physical education, leadership, coaching efficacy, enhancement plan, Philippines*

Demographic Factors as Moderators of the Relationship between Teacher Emotional Support and Motivational Climate in Physical Education

Mary Rose R. Jose

The classroom environment in physical education (PE) is a critical microsystem in which teacher-student interactions significantly shape student engagement and psychological well-being. This quantitative correlational study investigated whether demographic variables (sex, course, and type of school) moderate the relationship between teacher emotional support and PE motivational climate among 358 first- and second-year college PATH-FIT students in private and public higher education institutions in Davao City, selected through stratified random sampling. Data were systematically collected using structured survey questionnaires that measured perceived teacher emotional support and motivational climate. The data were analyzed using mean, standard deviation, Pearson product-moment correlation coefficient, and regression-based moderation analysis via the PROCESS macro in JASP. Results revealed that teacher emotional support was rated very high ($M=4.54$), while the motivational climate was high ($M=4.18$), indicating a generally positive learning environment. A significant positive relationship was established between teacher emotional support and motivational climate, with regression analysis confirming that emotional support is a strong predictor of the classroom atmosphere. However, the moderation analysis showed that sex, course, and school type did not significantly moderate this relationship, suggesting that the benefits of emotionally supportive teaching are universal across these demographic profiles. These findings highlight the importance of fostering warmth, sensitivity, and student engagement to sustain a positive motivational climate regardless of a student's background or institutional context.

Keywords: *Physical Education, teacher emotional support, motivational climate, college students, Philippines*

Navigating Cultural and Religious Boundaries: A Phenomenological Study of PATH-FIT Teachers Teaching Muslim Students

Daryll Jay M. Landero

This study explored the lived experiences of PATH-Fit teachers teaching Muslim students in the Province of Sultan Kudarat. The study employed a qualitative phenomenological research design to examine the cultural and religious challenges teachers encounter when delivering PATH-Fit courses. Specifically, it aimed to determine the experiences, coping mechanisms, and insights of PATH-Fit teachers in handling Muslim students with diverse beliefs and practices. The participants in the study were selected PATH-Fit teachers with direct teaching experience with Muslim students. Data were gathered through in-depth interviews and analyzed using thematic analysis to identify significant themes and patterns in participants' responses. Findings revealed that teachers encountered challenges related to cultural and religious sensitivities in participation, tensions between curriculum requirements and religious beliefs, and emotional burden in addressing students' needs. Participants coped with these challenges by practicing adaptive and flexible teaching approaches, maintaining open communication and consultation, and becoming resourceful in managing classroom situations. The experiences also shaped the teachers' beliefs, aspirations, and commitments by deepening their respect for diversity, transforming their teaching philosophy, and strengthening their sense of mission as educators. The study concluded that PATH-Fit teachers play an essential role in promoting culturally responsive and inclusive learning environments for Muslim students. It is recommended that educational institutions establish clear policies, conduct orientations, and provide support mechanisms to guide teachers in addressing cultural and religious considerations in PATH-Fit courses.

Keywords: *PATH-Fit teachers, Muslim students, cultural and religious boundaries, inclusive education, Philippines*

The Role of Perception and Student Engagement in Physical Education Toward Physical Literacy among Senior High School Students

Glydell A. Moscosa

This study examined the influence of students' perception of physical education (PE) and their engagement in PE on perceived physical literacy among senior high school (SHS) students in Prosperidad, Agusan del Sur. Using a descriptive-correlational research design, the study aimed to determine the levels of perception in PE, student engagement, and perceived physical literacy, and to examine the relationships among these variables and their combined influence on physical literacy. The participants were 233 SHS students selected through stratified random sampling. Data were gathered using an adapted and validated survey questionnaire administered to the respondents. The collected data were analyzed using descriptive statistics and inferential techniques, including correlation and regression analyses. Findings revealed that students' perceptions of PE, student engagement, and perceived physical literacy were all high. Moreover, perception in PE showed a moderate positive relationship with perceived physical literacy, whereas student engagement demonstrated a strong positive relationship with it. Further analysis indicated that the combined influence of perception and engagement in PE significantly predicted perceived physical literacy. These results suggest that both perception and engagement in PE play important roles in shaping students' physical literacy in PE contexts.

Keywords: *Physical education, student engagement, physical literacy, correlational research, Philippines*

Leisure Activity Participation as a Correlate to Body–Mind Spirit Wellness Behavior and Characteristics: Basis for Intervention Plan

James Jude S. Orilla

This study determined the relationship between leisure activity participation and body–mind–spirit (BMS) wellness behaviors and characteristics among tertiary students in selected higher education institutions in Davao City, Philippines, grounded in Ryff’s Psychological Well-Being framework. Using a quantitative descriptive–correlational design, stratified random sampling was analyzed using descriptive and inferential statistics. Findings revealed an equal number of respondents in terms of sex. The results further indicated moderate levels of both leisure participation and body–mind–spirit (BMS) wellness behavior and characteristics, with significant positive relationships identified between them. The findings highlight that meaningful and structured participation in leisure activities contributes significantly to students’ BMS wellness behaviors and the development of their characteristics. Moreover, no significant differences were found in leisure activity participation or in BMS wellness behavior and characteristics when grouped by sex. Lastly, the study revealed that participation in leisure activities is a significant predictor of BMS wellness behaviors and characteristics.

Keywords: *Physical Education, leisure activity, wellness, descriptive–correlational, Philippines*

Sports Anxiety and Perceived Available Support as Predictors of Sport Confidence among Student–Athletes

Norhan K. Pandulo

Sport-confidence refers to the belief, or degree of certainty, that athletes have in their ability to succeed in their sport. It's consistently shown that confident athletes tend to perform better. This study examined the significant influence of sport anxiety and perceived available support on sports confidence among student-athletes in public schools, using a quantitative, descriptive-correlational design. Stratified random sampling was used to select the respondents in this study. Data utilized in this study were gathered through adapted and validated questionnaires. The mean, standard deviation, Pearson product-moment correlation coefficient, and multiple regression analysis were the statistical tools used in this study. The results revealed that sport anxiety among student athletes was moderately demonstrated. Further, there was no significant relationship between sport anxiety and sports confidence, whereas there were significant relationships between sport anxiety and perceived available support in sports, and between sports confidence and perceived available support in sports among student-athletes. Additionally, though the combined influence of sport anxiety and perceived available support on sport confidence among student-athletes was significant, in a singular capacity, both sport anxiety and perceived available support in sport significantly influenced sports confidence.

Keywords: *Physical education, sport confidence, student-athletes, descriptive-correlational, Philippines.*

Teacher Grit and Sense of Efficacy as Predictors of Teachers Effectiveness in Physical Education

Kizia M. Rabino

This quantitative, descriptive-correlational, and predictive study determined the significant influence of teacher grit and sense of efficacy on teacher effectiveness among 67 physical education teachers drawn from different higher education institutions in North Cotabato. Understanding how these psychological and motivational constructs shape instructional performance is increasingly important in higher education, where teachers are expected to demonstrate both technical competence and sustained personal commitment. Adapted questionnaires from several established authors were used as the primary data-collection instruments to measure the three key variables. Mean, standard deviation, Pearson's r , and multiple linear regression were used to analyze the data and determine the nature and extent of relationships among the variables. The findings revealed that teacher grit, teacher sense of efficacy, and teacher effectiveness were all rated very high among the respondents. Furthermore, a significant positive relationship was found between teacher grit, teacher sense of efficacy, and teacher effectiveness, indicating that improvements in these constructs tend to correspond with stronger teaching outcomes. Among the predictor variables, teacher sense of efficacy emerged as a significant factor influencing teacher effectiveness, suggesting that higher levels of self-belief in one's instructional capabilities are closely associated with improved teaching performance in physical education settings. Teacher grit, while positively correlated, did not independently predict effectiveness when controlling for efficacy. Based on these findings, it is recommended that teacher grit, sense of efficacy, and effectiveness be further enhanced through targeted seminar workshops, capability-building activities, and structured training programs specifically designed for physical education teachers in higher education.

Keywords: *Physical education, teacher effectiveness, efficacy, college, Philippines*

Athlete Self-Efficacy and Sport Motivation as Predictors of Student Engagement in Physical Education (PE) Class

Odesyl C. Redulla

This study determined the influence of athlete self-efficacy and sport motivation on student engagement in Physical Education (PE) class. A quantitative, descriptive-correlational research design was employed in this study. Validated and reliability-tested adapted survey questionnaires were administered to 170 student-athletes in Davao Oriental. Mean, standard deviation, Pearson product-moment correlation, and multiple regression analysis were used as statistical tools for data analysis. The result of this undertaking revealed that the level of athlete self-efficacy was very high across sports discipline efficacy, psychological efficacy, professional thought efficacy, and personality efficacy. Likewise, it was revealed that the level of sport motivation was high in terms of amotivation, external regulation, introjected regulation, identified regulation, internal motivation to know, internal motivation to accomplish, and internal motivation to experience stimulation. Moreover, it was revealed that student engagement was high across intellectual, cognitive, and academic domains. Furthermore, it was found that athlete self-efficacy and sports motivation have a significant relationship and influence on student engagement in PE classes. The study recommends that student-athletes develop habits such as goal-setting, self-monitoring, and emotional regulation to maintain consistent involvement in both academics and athletics.

Keywords: *Physical education, athlete self-efficacy, sports motivation, descriptive-correlational, Philippines.*

Goal Orientation, Perceived Coach–Athlete Relationship, and Behavioral Regulation of Collegiate Athletes in Davao del Sur

April Grace R. Rosales

This study aimed to determine the relationships of goal orientation and perceived coach–athlete relationship with behavioral regulation in exercise among collegiate athletes in Davao del Sur, and to identify which predictor had the stronger influence. Using a descriptive–correlational research design, 133 athletes were selected through stratified random sampling with proportional allocation among four selected colleges in the province. Data were gathered using three standardized and adopted survey questionnaires measuring goal orientation, perceived coach–athlete relationship, and behavioral regulation in exercise. Results showed that collegiate athletes exhibited high levels of goal orientation ($\bar{x} = 3.47$, $SD = .83$) and behavioral regulation ($\bar{x} = 3.49$, $SD = .40$), along with a very high level of perceived coach–athlete relationship ($\bar{x} = 4.40$, $SD = .59$). Moreover, both goal orientation ($r = .30$, $p = .001$) and perceived coach–athlete relationship ($r = .32$, $p = .000$) were significantly and positively related to behavioral regulation in exercise. However, the perceived coach–athlete relationship ($\beta = .28$, $p = .001$) exerts a stronger influence on behavioral regulation in exercise than does goal orientation ($\beta = .24$, $p = .003$). Based on these findings, it was suggested that coaches and sports administrators implement programs and targeted interventions to increase goal and behavioral orientation among collegiate athletes while maintaining a positive coach–athlete relationship.

Keywords: *Goal orientation, coach–athlete relationship, behavioral regulation, collegiate athletes, Philippines*

Inactive in an Active Role among PE Teachers: An Interpretative Phenomenological Inquiry

Iris V. Sierte

The study utilized IPA to ten overweight PE teachers in SOCCSKSARGEN. They participated in an IDI on how they make sense of being physically inactive PE Teacher by redefining activity through professional participation, negotiating professional legitimacy through body awareness, reconstructing former athletic identity into teacher identity, accepting fatigue as an occupational consequence, viewing inactivity as a temporary life-phase constraint, maintaining symbolic commitment to activity ideals, interpreting inactivity as part of professional growth, understanding inconsistency as role multiplicity, transforming limitation into an empathetic teaching stance, and integrating activity identity within classroom boundaries. The study also revealed the challenges of participants encountered, like workload-driven activity, body-image pressure, and role-model anxiety, identity transition, accumulated physical fatigue during teaching, time fragmentation due to multiple roles, ideal role expectations versus limited personal agency, early-career adjustment and workload saturation, professional over-extension across teaching and coaching, health interruptions and reduced physical confidence, and classroom activity substitution for personal exercise. Lastly, their experiences highlighted the importance of realistic activity expectations, awareness of professional visibility and influence, need for identity adaptation across career stages, recognition of energy management in teaching practice, valuing opportunistic movement integration, commitment to symbolic role-modelling despite constraints, development of self-regulation and prioritization skills, understanding limits of professional over-extension, growth in empathy towards diverse student abilities, and reframing effectiveness beyond physical performance.

Keywords: *Physical Education, PE teachers, physical inactivity, interpretative phenomenological analysis, Philippines*

Body-Mass Index and Sleep Quality as Predictors of Skills-Related Fitness among Physical Education Students: Basis for Intervention Plan

Dynah C. Solis

Physical education students at the global level, despite their specialized training, continue to suffer from an alarming shortage of skills-related fitness, raising concerns about the adequacy of current physical education curricula and lifestyle practices. This quantitative, descriptive-correlational study aimed to determine the body mass index, sleep quality, and skills-related fitness among 208 physical education students from different programs at a tertiary institution in Davao City, as well as their relationships, differences in skills-related fitness across profiles, and the predictors associated with skills-related fitness. Data were gathered face-to-face using adapted and modified instruments, with the different skills-related fitness assessed. Data were analyzed using frequency and percentage, mean and standard deviation, Pearson's r , independent-samples t -test, and multiple linear regression. The results showed that most participants had a normal body mass index (40.4%), high sleep quality ($M=3.54$), and a moderate skills-related fitness level ($M=2.94$). In addition, no significant relationships were identified between skills-related fitness and either body mass index ($p>0.05$) or sleep quality ($p>0.05$) at the bivariate level. Moreover, males performed significantly better in power and speed than their female counterparts ($p=.000$), suggesting sex-based differences in specific fitness components. Regression analysis further revealed that BMI ($b=0.45$, $p=.003$) and sleep quality ($b=0.28$, $p=0.018$) are significantly associated with skills-related fitness when examined simultaneously as predictors. Despite non-significant bivariate relationships, an intervention plan was developed to holistically address participants' fitness concerns. It is recommended that students receive individualized nutritional counseling to support healthier body mass index levels, comprehensive sleep education programs, and progressive training interventions.

Keywords: BMI, sleep quality, skills-related fitness, physical education, Philippines

A Utilization-Focused Qualitative Evaluation of the Sports Skill Hour Program for Institutional Improvement

Manolo Tumanda Jr.

This study evaluated the implementation and outcomes of a Sports Skill Hour Program at Enfant Chéri Study Centre, Inc. A qualitative research design using a utilization-focused evaluation approach was employed to examine how the program operates and how evaluation results are used to improve it. The purpose of the study was to assess the program's implementation, strengths, challenges, outcomes, and utilization of findings. Participants included students, teachers/coaches, and school administrators selected through purposive sampling based on their direct involvement in the program. The study addressed key problems related to program effectiveness, resource limitations, instructional quality, and participation. Data were gathered through in-depth interviews and focus group discussions, supported by document analysis. Thematic analysis was used to identify patterns and themes across the data. Findings revealed that the program promotes skill development, engagement, teamwork, and holistic growth, while challenges include limited facilities, insufficient equipment, time constraints, and variations in implementation. Evaluation results were actively utilized to inform policy improvement, process enhancement, and sustainability planning, demonstrating the value of evaluation in guiding decision-making and program development.

Keywords: *Physical Education, sports skill, program, utilization-focused, Philippines*

MASTER OF ARTS IN EDUCATION

MAJOR IN SOCIOLOGY

On The Ground: The Lived Experiences of Women Engineers in A Male-Dominated Fieldwork

Ivan John B. Abela

This study explored the lived experiences of women engineers working in male-dominated fieldwork, focusing on the challenges they face, the coping mechanisms they use, and the insights they offer for the academe and society. The study employed a qualitative phenomenological research design to better understand their personal and professional experiences. Fifteen (15) licensed women engineers in Davao City were purposively selected as participants. The study examined issues related to gender-based discrimination, workplace interactions, unequal task assignments, safety risks, and limited access to appropriate facilities in field settings. Data were collected through in-depth interviews (IDIs) and focus group discussions (FGDs) using a validated interview guide. All sessions were audio-recorded and transcribed verbatim to ensure accuracy. The data were analyzed using thematic analysis to identify patterns and common themes across participant responses. The findings revealed five major challenges: gender-based doubt and credibility testing, gendered workplace language and humor, disparities in task assignment, logistical and facility limitations, and safety concerns in isolated environments. To address these challenges, participants developed coping strategies such as strengthening professional competence, establishing authority through clear and logical communication, practicing emotional control and resilience, seeking support and mentorship, and advocating for safety and personal boundaries. The study also highlighted important insights, including the need for gender-sensitive field design, improved engineering education, respectful workplace culture, promotion of confidence and self-advocacy, and stronger institutional policies and support systems. Overall, the findings emphasize the need for organizational, educational, and policy-level actions to promote gender equity and improve working conditions for women engineers in field environments.

Keywords: *women engineers, lived experiences, male-dominated fieldwork, coping mechanisms, phenomenology, gender disparity, Philippines*

From Hope to Triumph: Journeys of Graduated 4Ps Household Beneficiaries

Alona Mae C. Albite

The Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps) was often subjected to misconceptions regarding its long-term impact on human development. To address such concerns, this study employed a qualitative multiple case study design to examine the experiences of graduated 4Ps household beneficiaries and the perceived impact of the program on their educational success and quality of life. Specifically, the study explored two research questions: the experiences of graduated beneficiaries in advancing their education and their perceptions of how the 4Ps influenced their educational outcomes and overall well-being. Three 4Ps beneficiaries who graduated from Davao del Norte were purposively selected through maximum variation sampling to represent diverse cases. Data were gathered through in-depth interviews and analyzed using thematic and cross-case analysis. Findings revealed two key dimensions of beneficiaries' experiences. As they advanced their education, participants described bridging gaps in educational access, building adaptive financial resilience, and evolving social identity, illustrating how the program helped them navigate financial constraints and pursue educational opportunities. Regarding the perceived impact of the 4Ps on educational success and quality of life, participants emphasized outcomes such as promoted transformative self-sufficiency and improved social well-being, reflecting the positive changes in personal development and household stability.

Keywords: *Education, sociology, Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program, graduated beneficiaries, success stories, multiple case study, Philippines*

Past-Future: The Lived Experiences of the Sama Tribe Youth in Facing Cultural Changes and Practices

Kathy R. Banda

This study explored the experiences of Sama youth in the Island Garden City of Samal as they navigated cultural changes within their community. Specifically, it examined how youth experienced these changes, how they coped with them, and how they contributed to preserving their cultural identity. Grounded in Decolonization Theory, the study addressed a gap in understanding how Sama youth, as an Indigenous community facing the pressures of modernization and language shift, navigate and respond to cultural change. A descriptive qualitative research design was employed to examine participants' experiences of cultural change and continuity. The participants were youth leaders from the Sama community, selected through purposive and snowball sampling based on their cultural identity, age, and community participation. Data were collected using semi-structured and in-depth interviews and focus group discussions, supported by audio recordings. The data were transcribed verbatim and analyzed thematically. Findings revealed that Sama youth experienced both change and continuity in language, traditions, cultural practices, and participation in society. Despite these changes, they demonstrated a strong commitment to preserving cultural identity.

These findings emphasize the need for culturally responsive educational policies that actively support Sama youth in balancing the preservation of their heritage with the realities of modernization.

Keywords: *Education, sociology, Sama tribe youth, cultural changes, practices, descriptive qualitative, Davao City, Philippines*

Exploring Social Factors Contributing to Reading Difficulties Among Secondary School Students: A Multiple Case Study

Katherine B. Buscato

This qualitative multiple-case study aimed to explore the social factors contributing to reading difficulties among public secondary school students and the interventions implemented to address these factors. They were chosen through maximum variation sampling. The experiences of the three cases were examined using in-depth interviews. Triangulation was achieved through multiple data sources from the school head, parent, Academic Recovery and Accessible Learning (ARAL) Reading Program Coordinator, and ARAL Reading tutors. The study pursued two main inquiries: social factors and interventions implemented. The gathered data were transcribed. It was analyzed using thematic analysis, yielding three essential themes related to social factors: learning environment, parental capacity, and socio-economic status. The essential themes for interventions implemented included institutional reading interventions, parent support, and operational support. The three cases were generally similar in their descriptions of the social factors contributing to the students' reading difficulties. One of the three cases reported a unique factor not present in the others. As regards their interventions implemented, all three cases implemented national-level, division-based, and school-based reading interventions.

Keywords: *Social factors, reading difficulties, frustrated readers, ARAL Reading Program, secondary schools, Philippines*

Blueprints of Change: Examining Youth Narratives on DPWH Issues on Corruption and Visions of Good Governance in Philippine Politics

Kathleen C. Cervera

This paper explores how young people perceive corruption within the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) and how these perceptions shape their views on governance and reform in Philippine politics. Using a qualitative, narratological approach, in-depth interviews were conducted with six youth leaders active in their schools and communities. Using the three-dimensional narrative inquiry space—temporality, sociality, and spatiality—the study explores how ideas about corruption are formed through continuity of experiences, interactions, and situations, uncovering resonant patterns, forming narrative threads that show how the participants develop their own concept of corruption, express the notions of what governance should be, and what reforms are possible. The findings show that views on corruption grow over time, shaped by everyday conversations, media reports, and visible problems in infrastructure projects. At first, the DPWH is seen as a developmental icon, but later comes to be characterized by critical perceptions marked by issues of accountability, transparency, and integrity. These values are perceived as clearly practiced rather than abstract ideals. Despite repeated exposure to corruption, participants have long-term aspirations for reform, focusing on systemic change, inclusive participation, responsible voting, and better access to information. Although there is tension between staying involved and feeling disillusioned, the study shows that this generation remains aware, critical, and willing to take part in civic participation and improve governance.

Keywords: *Education, sociology, DPWH issues on corruption, youth, narratology, Philippines*

Bridging Service and Society: A Multiple Case Study on the Community Engagement Experiences of Philippine Air Force Reservists in Davao City

Angel Grace B. Culanag

This paper employed a multiple-case study to examine the community experiences of Philippine Air Force Reservists in Davao City. Data were gathered through in-depth interviews and analyzed using thematic analysis. The participants in this study are three cases of Philippine Air Force (PAF) Reservists, specifically a teacher, a medical doctor, and a civil engineer, who are residents of Davao City and have been actively engaged in community service for at least two years. Four primary themes emerged regarding their engagement: fulfilling through service, exposure to community realities, application of civilian professional skills, and the development of empathy and social responsibility. Regarding challenges and coping, participants relied on spiritual reflection, personal perseverance, teamwork, and organizational support. While the three reservists shared similar experiences of community engagement, their challenges and coping strategies varied. Their experiences indicate how individual and social coping processes interact dynamically. Finally, this research confirms that community engagement is not just helpful to the community but also is a transformative process for those participating, which underpins their claim as citizen-soldiers and contributors to social transformation.

Keywords: *Education, sociology, reservists, experiences, challenges, coping, multiple case studies approach, Philippines*

Multiple Case Studies of Women's Political Experiences in the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao

Rochel P. Fajardo

The paper has explored the experiences of female political leaders in the Special Geographic Area of the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao through a qualitative multiple-case study design. It also discussed how women negotiate their way into politics, their views on leadership, and the similarities and differences across the cases, through in-depth interviews with three elected and appointed officials. Based on the themes of service-based political leadership, learning-driven adaptation, dialogue and negotiation in Bangsamoro sociopolitical norms, empowered leadership, evolving BARMM leadership, and women in governance. The findings showed that women in politics followed strategic, service-based pathways, usually beginning with appointed positions before moving to elective positions. Cross-case leadership was characterized by lifelong learning, flexibility, and capacity-building, thereby enhancing governance effectiveness. Dialogue and negotiation became a new practice, defined by a collaborative political culture and by various methods of conflict resolution between grassroots and institutional actors. Despite demonstrating agency, women's leadership remained influenced by cultural norms, requiring them to balance societal expectations with their roles. On the whole, the paper emphasizes the dynamism and contextuality of BARMM leadership, as well as the growing recognition of the role of women in inclusive governance, peacebuilding, and community development.

Keywords: *Education, sociology, BARMM, women political leadership, multiple case study, gender and governance, Philippine*

Through Education: A Multiple Case Study on the Success Stories of Davao Del Norte Learning Institute Alumni

Mary Joy S. Ilagan

Adult learners working in government service often face assumptions about their ability to pursue higher education, particularly those in non-regular positions with limited stability. This study explored the success stories of Davao del Norte Learning Institute (DNLI) alumni and examined how they managed their academic responsibilities with government work. Using purposive sampling, specifically maximum variation sampling, three graduates who later secured regular employment were selected. Six major themes emerged from cross-case analysis: aspirations and career-driven motivation, reciprocal learning, conflicting demands, resource constraints, supervisor and peer support, and self-discipline and study management. Across the three cases, similarities and differences were identified. This study provides a deeper understanding of the experiences of working adult learners who pursued post-secondary education through DNLI. The study highlights how flexible learning arrangements and supportive government-HEI partnerships empower non-regular government workers to overcome systemic challenges, complete their degrees, and advance their careers. These findings underscore the importance of sustaining inclusive educational programs that enable adult learners to build confidence, strengthen resilience, and support both personal and professional development.

Keywords: *Education, sociology, adult learners, DNLI alumni, non-regular workers, success stories, multiple case study, Philippines.*

Examining the Mediating Role of Flood Mitigation Strategies in the Relationship Between Flood Risk Perception and Community Flood Resilience

Glebert N. Losentes

This study aimed to determine the mediating effect of flood mitigation strategies in the relationship between flood risk perception and community flood resilience. Descriptive-correlational statistics with mediation analysis were employed on primary data collected via quota sampling from households across three flood-susceptible communities in the study area. Three-part adapted and validated survey questionnaires were used in the study. Results showed that flood risk perception was high, flood mitigation strategies were moderate, and community flood resilience was high. Results also revealed that there was a significant, moderate relationship between flood risk perception and community flood resilience; a significant, but statistically weak, relationship between flood risk perception and flood mitigation strategies; and a significant, positive relationship between flood mitigation strategies and community flood resilience. Moreover, flood mitigation strategies partially mediate the relationship between flood risk perception and community flood resilience.

Keywords: *Education, sociology, flood risk perception, flood mitigation strategies, community flood resilience, households, mediation analysis, Davao Oriental, Philippines*

Social Media Use Integration and Social Well-Being of Senior High School Students: Basis of Intervention Plan

Charity G. Naquila

This study examines the integration of social media use and its relationship to social well-being, a basis for an intervention plan among senior high school students from four schools in the province of Alameda. Employing a quantitative, descriptive correlational design, the study utilized two validated and adopted questionnaires. Mean, Standard deviation, Pearson product-moment correlation coefficient, and multiple linear regression were used for data analysis. Respondents were selected through systematic random sampling. The results revealed a moderate level of integration of social media use among students in terms of social routines and emotional connections, while social well-being was described as high. Likewise, A statistically significant positive correlation was found between social media use integration and social well-being, although the strength of the correlation was negligible. Based on these findings, an intervention plan was developed to encourage responsible social media use among students.

Keywords: *Sociology, social media use integration, social routines, emotional connections, social well-being, Philippines*

Navigating Social Relationships of Parents of Children With Special Needs

She Ryl M. Peñaloga

This study explored the lived experiences of parents of children with special needs as they navigate social relationships. Using a qualitative phenomenological approach, the research aimed to understand the social challenges, coping mechanisms, and insights of parents within their communities and available support networks. Participants were selected through purposive and snowball sampling, and interviews were conducted through in-depth interviews and focus group discussions using a validated interview guide. The collected data were transcribed and analyzed using thematic analysis to identify emerging patterns and themes. Findings revealed several significant themes related to lived experiences, including selective trust in community support, social stigmatization, and family-centered social support. The themes extracted from the coping mechanisms include faith-anchored emotional self-regulation, emotion-focused coping, inward-focused adaptive coping, relational coping within supportive communities, and acceptance-based positive reframing. The participants shared insights on the systemic gaps in teacher preparedness and capacity for special needs education, the importance of inclusion and awareness as safeguards against stigma and bullying, the supportive role of Special Needs Education (SNED) program in promoting inclusive education, and the need for stronger government support and protective inclusion policies.

Keywords: *Parents of children with special needs, social relationships, inclusive education, phenomenology, Philippines*

A Phenomological Study of Survival Among Community Members in Conflict-Affected Areas in Mawab

Ashley B. Peralta

This study illuminates the lived experiences of community members in conflict-affected areas of Mawab, Davao de Oro, offering a compelling account of survival amid persistent insecurity. Grounded in a qualitative phenomenological design, it sought to uncover how individuals make sense of their realities, enduring ongoing threats, and sustain hope despite uncertainty. Participants were selected through purposive and expanded snowball sampling to capture those with direct, meaningful experiences of conflict. The study examined key concerns about daily exposure to danger, the strategies individuals employ to cope, and the aspirations they hold for a more stable future. Ethical standards were rigorously upheld prior to and throughout data collection, with in-depth interviews conducted in a manner that ensured confidentiality, safety, and voluntary participation. Data were systematically analyzed using a seven-step process to distill essential meanings from participants' narratives. The findings reveal a powerful narrative of resilience marked by constant fear and vigilance, perseverance in the face of unpredictability, and carefully managed social interactions. Participants demonstrated adaptive coping through faith and familial support, practical risk management, flexible livelihood strategies, self-directed learning, and collective systems of monitoring and information-sharing. Despite the weight of conflict, their voices reflect enduring hope, a determination to secure a safer future, continue education, and transcend the limitations imposed by instability. This study underscores the strength and agency of individuals living in fragile contexts, offering valuable insights into human resilience in the face of adversity.

Keywords: *Conflict-affected areas, phenomenology, survival, coping mechanisms, resilience, Mawab, Philippines*

Silent Voices, Strong Stories: A Narratological Study on the Educational Journeys of Hard-of-Hearing and Non-Speaking Students

Rufel John R. Tutor

This study examined the educational journeys of hard-of-hearing and non-speaking students in higher education through a qualitative narratological approach. It aimed to capture how these students construct and narrate their experiences, coping strategies, and the meanings they derive from their academic pursuits. Data were gathered through semi-structured interviews with five first-year college students who had prior experiences in both formal schooling and the Alternative Learning System (ALS). Using thematic narrative analysis, three dimensions emerged. First, students experienced communication barriers in learning, isolation, and miscommunication in school, and barriers to participation in school activities. Second, they employed coping strategies such as ignoring bullying and negativity, seeking help, using alternative communication strategies, using environmental support systems, and using motivation through goals and faith. Third, these experiences led to learning patience and perseverance, developing self-confidence and identity, understanding the value of education, and advocating for inclusive education. This study underscores the urgent need for inclusive institutional support, including the provision of sign language interpreters, teacher training in inclusive communication, and accessible learning resources. By foregrounding the voices of hard-of-hearing and non-speaking students, this research contributes to a more responsive, equitable, and inclusive higher education environment.

Keywords: *hard-of-hearing students, non-speaking students, narratological study, inclusive education, higher education, Philippines*

Navigating the Grind: A Multiple Case Study on the Lived Experiences of Working Students in the Gig Economy

John Marlou G. Wahing

Working students engaged in the gig economy face the challenge of balancing academic responsibilities with flexible work demands. This qualitative study employed a multiple-case study design grounded in Bronfenbrenner's Ecological Systems Theory to examine how these students navigate the competing roles of school and gig work, and how these experiences influence their future educational success. Using maximum variation sampling, three participants were purposively selected who are employed in various forms of gig work. Data were gathered through in-depth interviews and analyzed using thematic analysis. Findings revealed four key themes in students' management of the demands of academic responsibilities alongside gig work: prioritization, task negotiation, and structured time use. Likewise, their participation in gig work reveals the theme of empowerment. Moreover, Cases A and B are similar in how they prioritize and negotiate their tasks, while Case C focuses more on long-term goals.

Keywords: *Education, sociology, gig work, multiple case, Philippines*

MASTER IN BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Predicting Retirement Planning Behaviors: The Role of Financial Literacy, Financial Inclusion, And Locus Of Control Among MSME Employees in Davao City

Sheryl Ann R. Agohob

Retirement planning behavior is essential for determining the long-term financial security of employees of micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs). This study examined how financial literacy, financial inclusion, and locus of control predict retirement planning behavior among MSME employees in Davao City, using a quantitative, descriptive-correlational approach. The respondents were 300 MSME employees in Davao City, selected using the cluster sampling technique. Data were analyzed using mean, Standard Deviation, Pearson R, and multiple regression. Results showed very high levels of retirement planning behavior, financial literacy, financial inclusion, and locus of control among MSME employees. All three independent variables had a positive and significant relationship with retirement planning behavior. Findings further revealed that only financial literacy significantly predicted retirement planning behavior.

Keywords: *Business Management, financial literacy, locus of control, MSME employees, Davao City*

The Predictors of Revisit Intention Among Selected Food Service Establishments in Davao De Oro

Keenly G. Andoyo

This research has explored the relationship between corporate reputation and sustainability practices and revisit intention of customers at the chosen food service institutions in Davao de Oro. A quantitative descriptive-correlational design was used to collect data from 300 respondents in a sample of food service establishments, using quota sampling. The data were analyzed using statistical methods such as mean, standard deviation, Pearson's *r*, and multiple regression. The findings showed that the revisit intention, corporate reputation, and sustainability practices are rated very high. Corporate reputation and sustainability practices were significantly related to revisit intention. Additionally, both variables were important predictors of revisit intention, with corporate reputation being the stronger predictor. The model explained 46.8 percent of the variation in revisit intention. The results confirm that customers tend to return to establishments with high credibility, trustworthiness, and sustainability. These findings align with the Theory of Planned Behavior and the Expectancy-Disconfirmation Theory, which highlight the importance of positive perceptions, satisfaction, and congruent values for intention to revisit.

Keywords: *Business management, sustainability practices, food service establishment, regression analysis, Philippines.*

Beyond The Screen: Unveiling the Lived Experiences of Virtual Working Parents in Davao Del Norte

Rhonamae B. Asna

The rapid expansion of remote work has reshaped the dynamics of work and family life for parents who simultaneously manage professional and caregiving roles at home. This qualitative study aimed to explore the lived experiences of 12 virtual working parents who is raising young children (0-6 years old) with at least one year of experience as remote administrative virtual assistants in Davao del Norte, focusing on how they navigate the challenges of balancing work and personal responsibilities. Data were collected through in-depth interviews and focus group discussions and analyzed using thematic analysis to identify key patterns and shared meanings. Findings revealed that participants experienced continuous role negotiation as they balanced work demands and parenting responsibilities. Major challenges included emotional and psychological strain, blurred work-family boundaries, and environmental and technical disruptions such as unstable internet connectivity and frequent household interruptions. Despite these difficulties, participants demonstrated resilience by adopting a range of coping strategies, including intentional time management, boundary-setting, family collaboration, emotional regulation, and self-care routines. Notably, participants redefined work-life balance as “quality presence,” emphasizing meaningful engagement with their children over equal time allocation. The study concludes that while remote work offers flexibility and increased opportunities for family involvement, it also introduces complex, overlapping demands that require adaptive coping mechanisms and supportive environments. These findings underscore the need for responsive organizational policies, improved digital infrastructure, and community-based support systems. The study offers practical insights for policymakers, employers, and virtual assistant communities in developing interventions that promote well-being, productivity, and sustainable work-life integration among virtual working parents.

Keywords: *virtual working parents, remote work, work-life balance, phenomenology, Philippines*

Financial Well-Being, Financial Attitude, and Financial Behavior of Agribusiness Owners in Davao Del Norte

Mark Ian L. Bague

This study aimed to determine the status of financial behavior, financial well-being, and financial attitude, and to identify significant relationships among these variables among agribusiness owners. The study used a quantitative descriptive-correlational research design. The respondents were 291 agribusiness owners from Asuncion, Tagum City, and Kapalong in Davao del Norte, selected through cluster-stratified random sampling. Data were collected using adopted survey questionnaires and analyzed using the mean, standard deviation, and Pearson's *r*. The results showed that financial behavior had an overall mean of 4.39, indicating very high levels. Financial well-being was moderate overall, with high financial security and very low financial anxiety. Financial attitude was very high across daily financial behavior, safety planning, financial management, and future financial capabilities. Correlation analysis revealed that financial well-being was not significantly related to financial behavior, whereas financial attitude showed a significant, moderate, positive relationship with financial behavior. This indicates that financial attitude influences financial behavior, whereas financial well-being does not, among agribusiness owners in Davao del Norte.

Keywords: *Financial Behavior, Agribusiness Owners, Financial Anxiety, descriptive-correlation study, Philippines.*

The Influence Of Organizational Culture and Work-Life Balance on Employee Performance among Retail Superstores in Mangagoy, Bislig City

Daisybelle S. Bañas

This study examined the influence of organizational culture and work-life balance on employee performance among retail superstores in Mangagoy, Bislig City. It employed a descriptive-correlational research design to examine the relationships among variables and to assess the influence of organizational culture and work-life balance on employee performance. A sample of 217 employees was selected using stratified systematic sampling from various retail superstores. The study focused on addressing problems related to how organizational culture and work-life balance influence employee performance. The research instruments used were adapted survey questionnaires, validated to support the study's conduct. Mean, standard deviation, Pearson (r), and multiple regression were the statistical tools used to analyze and interpret the data collected. The study found that employee performance and organizational culture were high, while work-life balance was moderate. Moreover, the results indicated that both organizational culture and work-life balance were significantly correlated with employee performance. However, in its singular capacity, organizational culture exerts a stronger influence on employee performance than work-life balance, making it the most prevalent predictor among the variables examined in this study. It further indicates that improvements in organizational culture alone can contribute a greater positive impact on employee performance among retail superstores. While work-life balance improves satisfaction and well-being, its effect on performance is more limited, indicating that a strong cultural framework is essential to translate support into higher performance.

Keywords: *organizational culture, work-life balance, employee performance, retail superstores, Philippines*

Customer Experience And Service Quality as Determinants of Revisit Intention among Customers in the Selected Hotels in Tagum City, Davao Del Norte

Mike Joven B. Bastes

This study examined customers' revisit intention at selected hotels in Tagum City, Davao del Norte, focusing on the influence of customer experience and service quality. A quantitative descriptive-correlational research design was employed to determine the relationships and predictive effects among these variables. The purpose of the study was to assess the extent to which customer experience and service quality influence guests' intention to revisit. The respondents were 250 hotel guests selected through purposive sampling to ensure relevant, recent experiences. The study addressed the challenge of identifying key factors driving customer retention in the hospitality industry. Data were gathered using structured survey questionnaires and analyzed using means, standard deviations, Pearson correlations, and multiple regression. Results revealed that customer experience and service quality were both rated high by the respondents. Furthermore, correlation analysis showed a significant positive relationship among customer experience, service quality, and revisit intention, with customer experience demonstrating the strongest association. Regression analysis indicated that both variables significantly predicted revisit intention and jointly explained 55.6% of its variance. These findings suggest that enhancing customer experience plays a more substantial role in encouraging repeat visits and can serve as a basis for improving hospitality practices and guest retention strategies.

Keywords: *Business management, satisfaction, loyalty, descriptive-correlational, Philippines*

From Loss To Hope: A Multiple-Case Study of Small And Micro Enterprise Victims of Fraudulent Investment Schemes in Davao Del Sur

Jaycel P. Bayron

This study explored the journey from loss to hope among small and micro enterprise (SME) owners who became victims of fraudulent investment schemes in Davao del Sur. Using a qualitative multiple-case study design, the research aimed to understand the participants' experiences, coping strategies, and the similarities and differences across cases. Three (3) SME owners were purposively selected through the maximum variation sampling technique. Data were gathered through in-depth interviews, and triangulation was done to confirm and verify each case's narrative. The collected data were analyzed utilizing descriptive case analysis, within-case analysis, and cross-case analysis. Findings revealed that participants experienced temptation by comparison, reckless depletion, piled-up liabilities, and psychological distress characterized by hopelessness and entrapment. Despite these challenges, the participants showed resilience through financial adaptation strategies such as cost-cutting, diversification of income streams, borrowing, and intensified online selling, alongside emotional coping mechanisms such as acceptance, family support, and faith. These findings emphasized the importance of responsible investment decisions to protect entrepreneurs from fraud and maintain long-term business sustainability.

Keywords: *Investment schemes, SME owners, financial loss, coping strategies, Philippines*

Financial Planning and Debt Management as Determinants of Financial Well-Being among Employees of Banking Institutions in Tagum City

Sarah Mae T. Besinga

Financial well-being is a significant part of overall quality of life because it affects financial stability and the choices to make. Even though people are more aware of how to manage their finances, there is still a growing concern about identifying which specific factors have a significant impact on financial well-being, particularly among individuals who work closely in the banking industry. This study sought to investigate whether financial planning and debt management determine financial well-being. The researcher used a descriptive-correlational research design. An adapted survey questionnaire, which had been checked for reliability and accuracy by experts, was used to collect data. The statistical tools employed in the study comprised mean score, standard deviation, Pearson *r*, and regression analysis. This study concluded that both financial planning and debt management are high, indicating that these are evidently observed among the respondents. Also, the status of financial well-being is high, indicating that it is evident. The study proved that financial planning and debt management are significantly correlated with financial well-being. However, only financial planning can significantly determine financial well-being.

Keywords: *Business administration, quantitative research, descriptive-correlational, banking institutions, Tagum City, Philippines*

Navigating the Workplace: Workload Experiences of Generation Z Local Bakeshop Employees

Rodel G. Brinosa

This study explored the workloads of Generation Z employees in local bakeshops in Davao City, within the context of evolving workplace demands and generational values. Using a descriptive qualitative research design, the study aimed to understand how these employees perceive, manage, and respond to their workload in their day-to-day work environment. A total of ten Generation Z participants, selected through purposive and snowball sampling, participated in in-depth interviews to provide rich, contextualized insights. The study addressed key problems related to workload challenges, coping strategies, and insights for stakeholders. Data were gathered through face-to-face interviews using a validated interview guide, supported by audio recordings and note-taking to ensure accuracy. The collected data were analyzed using thematic analysis, involving coding, categorization, and theme development to identify patterns in participants' experiences. Findings revealed four major experiential themes: working with the team, salesmanship with soul, credibility risks, and emotional labor, highlighting both the collaborative and demanding nature of bakeshop work. Additionally, coping strategies included humility, collaboration and mentorship, divine guidance and familial strength, and composure through systematic service. The results underscore the importance of supportive workplace practices, effective leadership, and employee-centered policies to enhance job satisfaction, resilience, and performance among Generation Z workers.

Keywords: *Generation Z, workload experiences, emotional labor, coping strategies, Philippines*

A Comparative Study on Quiet Quitting among BPO Employees in Davao City: Basis for an Intervention Plan

Claire Ann E. Cepe

This study examined the level of quiet quitting among Business Process Outsourcing (BPO) employees in selected corporate workplaces in Davao City. Specifically, it aimed to determine whether significant differences in quiet quitting exist across employee groups defined by demographic characteristics, including age, gender, educational attainment, and tenure. A quantitative descriptive-comparative research design was employed in this study. The participants consisted of 400 BPO employees selected through stratified random sampling to ensure representation across job levels and departments. The study addressed the growing concern about employees' quiet quitting, characterized by detachment, lack of initiative, and low motivation. Data were collected using an adapted survey questionnaire based on the Quiet Quitting Scale, administered via paper-and-pencil. The data collected were analyzed using mean and standard deviation to determine the level of quiet quitting, and one-way analysis of variance (ANOVA) to test for significant differences across demographic groups. The findings revealed that quiet quitting among BPO employees in Davao City is very high, indicating detachment, a lack of initiative, and low motivation. Furthermore, the results showed no significant differences in quiet quitting across demographic groups. This suggests that quiet quitting is a widespread workplace phenomenon influenced more by organizational conditions than by individual characteristics. Based on the findings, an intervention plan was proposed to improve employee engagement and address quiet quitting behaviors.

Keywords: *Business Management, quiet quitting, BPO employees, detachment, Philippines*

Determinants of Pharmacy Employee Performance in Tagum City

Jemark P. Enanoria

Employee performance is crucial for pharmaceutical companies, especially in today's competitive global landscape. Additionally, employees' productivity helps develop an effective strategy that contributes to the company's sustainability, especially when they are well-rewarded. This study aimed to determine whether work-life balance and time management significantly affect the performance of pharmacy employees in Tagum City, Davao del Norte. A quantitative, descriptive-correlational research design was used, with 200 pharmacy employees selected via random sampling. Data were collected using an adapted survey questionnaire and analyzed using means, standard deviations, Spearman's rank correlation, and multiple regression. The findings revealed that employee performance is outstanding, while work-life balance and time management among pharmacy employees are evident and favorable. Likewise, among the two factors, time management emerges as the stronger determinant of employee performance, suggesting that better time management is likely to increase performance. Also, the combined influence of both factors on employee performance accounts for a substantial share, thereby improving their productivity. Ultimately, future researchers may explore additional variables that influence employee performance and are encouraged to extend this study across different locations.

Keywords: *Business Management, work-life balance, employee performance, descriptive-correlational design, Philippines*

The Mediating Role of Debt Management on the Relationship Between Financial Discipline and Business Performance among MSMEs in Tagum City

Mary Rose M. Kingco

This study examined the influence of financial discipline and debt management on the business performance of young MSME entrepreneurs in Tagum City's retail sector. Utilizing a quantitative, descriptive-correlational research design and mediation analysis, the investigation examined three primary variables: financial discipline, debt management, and business performance. The study collected 150 respondents via simple random sampling and found a strong, significant positive relationship between financial discipline and business performance. Following the mediation results, the analysis confirms that debt management significantly mediates the relationship between financial discipline and business performance. Specifically, partial mediation was found, indicating that while financial discipline has a strong direct impact on success, a significant portion of that influence is channeled through effective debt management. Anchored in Human Capital Theory, the study concludes that for young entrepreneurs, mastering debt management is the essential link that translates internal discipline into measurable organizational growth. The study recommends adopting digital tracking tools and aligning repayment schedules with revenue cycles to provide a nuanced blueprint for sustainability within the Philippine MSME sector.

Keywords: *young entrepreneurs, sustainability, MSME, business financial performance, Philippines*

Financial Literacy and Self-Efficacy as Influencers of Investment Intention among Micro Entrepreneurs in Davao City

Leogen F. Nalasa

The investment activity of micro-entrepreneurs is a critical driver of economic growth, as it improves individual welfare and indirectly supports national development. However, despite the rise of digital financial platforms and easier access to financial markets, investment participation remains very low in many developing countries, even in developed economies. This study explored how the relationship between financial literacy and self-efficacy influences investment intention among micro entrepreneurs. A descriptive-correlational approach was employed to survey 263 micro-entrepreneurs and managers operating service-oriented businesses in Davao City. Data analysis involved calculating mean scores, Standard Deviation, Simple r , and Multiple Regression, which were the statistical tools utilized to analyze the data. The study's findings showed that levels of investment intention, financial literacy, and self-efficacy among micro-entrepreneurs were very high. Additionally, significant, positive relationships were established between financial literacy and investment intention, as well as between self-efficacy and investment intention. Results further revealed that both financial literacy and self-efficacy could independently influence investment intention, with financial literacy exerting a stronger effect.

Keywords: *Financial literacy, self-efficacy, investment intention, micro-entrepreneurs, Davao City*

Self-Leadership as Mediator of Organizational Trust and Innovative Work Behavior of Cooperative Employees in Davao Del Sur

Deither O. Pasadilla

Innovative work behavior is generally believed to be an important source of cooperative-competitive advantage, yet it often faces several challenges. This study investigated the relationship between organizational trust and innovative work behavior, with self-leadership as a mediating variable, among cooperative employees in Davao del Sur. Employing a quantitative, descriptive-correlational research design, the study used simple random sampling and administered a survey to 250 cooperative employees. The participants in the study are those employees who conduct transactions in the cooperatives. Statistical analysis included Mean, Standard Deviation, Pearson's r , and SEM using Mediation Analysis. Findings show a high level of innovative work behavior, indicating it is evident; self-leadership shows a very high level, indicating it is consistently demonstrated; and organizational trust shows very high levels, indicating it is fully manifested. This study found significant positive correlations and strong effects between organizational trust and self-leadership, between self-leadership and innovative work behavior, and between organizational trust and innovative work behavior, with moderate effects. Results further revealed that the direct relationship between organizational trust and innovative work behavior is not substantial. Additionally, the direct effect of organizational trust and innovative work behavior is not significant, whereas the indirect and total effects are significant, indicating that self-leadership fully mediates the relationship between organizational trust and innovative work behavior. These findings highlighted the importance of both organizational trust and innovative work behavior in fostering self-leadership among cooperative employees.

Keywords: *Business management, self-leadership, organizational trust, cooperative employees, Philippines*

Risk Aversion, Family Financial Socialization, and Saving Behavior among Government Employees in Tagum City

Stephen C. Pedroso

This study examined the relationships among risk aversion, family financial socialization, and saving behavior among government employees in Tagum City, Philippines. It focused on how parental modeling, financial discussions, and experiential learning shape individual's behavior toward saving. Guided by social learning and behavioral finance theories, a quantitative correlational design was used. Data were collected through validated questionnaires and analyzed using descriptive and inferential statistics. Findings showed a very high level of saving behavior and a high level of family financial socialization, with parental modeling rated highest, followed by experiential learning and financial discussions. Risk aversion was moderate, indicating a preference for financial security. However, no significant relationships were found between family financial socialization and saving behavior, or between risk aversion and saving behavior. This suggests that financial upbringing and risk attitudes do not necessarily translate into actual saving practices. The results highlight the complex interaction between family influence, personal experience, and contextual factors in financial decision-making. The study emphasizes the need to combine parental guidance with experiential learning and financial literacy programs to strengthen financial competence and risk-management confidence.

Keywords: *Risk aversion, family, saving behavior, government employees, Philippines*

The Predictors of Entrepreneurial Intention among Business Graduate Students

Harold C. Riolalas

Business graduate students' entrepreneurial intentions are influenced by a variety of financial factors that determine their readiness to engage in company ventures. This research aimed to determine whether financial literacy, financial capability, and financial well-being are significant predictors of the entrepreneurial intentions of business graduate students in the Davao Region. The researcher adopted a descriptive-correlational study design. The respondents in the study were 191 business graduate students in selected colleges. Data were collected using modified survey questionnaires. Data were analyzed using means, standard deviations, Spearman's rho, and multiple regression. The findings indicate that entrepreneurial intention, financial literacy, and financial well-being were all rated high, suggesting that these attributes are evident. Financial capability, however, was rated as moderately transparent, suggesting it is somewhat transparent. Moreover, entrepreneurial intention was significantly correlated with financial literacy, financial capability, and financial well-being. Financial literacy was the only factor with significant independent predictive power for entrepreneurial intention, indicating a strong influence on students' entrepreneurial orientation.

Keywords: *Business Management, entrepreneurial intention, financial literacy, financial capability, Philippines*

The Status of Consumer Choice Behavior Towards Solar Photovoltaic Panel System in Aid of Policy Brief

Ian Jay M. Sapitula

In the Philippines, renewable energy initiatives have gained momentum due to their potential to enhance energy security and the environment. Despite these advancements, several barriers continue to hinder widespread adoption, including high installation costs, limited consumer knowledge, and institutional challenges. This study addresses these gaps by examining consumer choice behavior toward solar PV panel systems in Barangay Sudapin, Kidapawan City. Using a quantitative descriptive-comparative research design, data were gathered from 210 respondents to analyze how demographic characteristics and value dimensions influence adoption decisions. Environmental value emerged as the most influential factor, aligning with studies that highlight the role of environmental concern in shaping green consumption behavior. Social and emotional values also significantly affect decision-making, emphasizing the role of social influence and personal. Furthermore, functional value underscores the importance of perceived reliability and economic benefits, while epistemic value, though ranked lowest, remains relevant. Statistical analyses (binomial and chi-square tests) revealed significant differences ($p < 0.05$) in consumer choice behavior across key demographic variables, with females, individuals with higher educational attainment, homeowners, and residents of single-family dwellings exhibiting greater adoption propensity toward solar photovoltaic systems. These findings empirically support the Theory of Planned Behavior, emphasizing the influence of socio-demographic determinants on pro-environmental decision-making. The study concludes that solar PV adoption is multidimensional and provides empirical evidence to guide policy development and strategic interventions.

Keywords: *Marketing Management, Solar Photovoltaic Panel, Epistemic Value, Consumer Choice Behavior, Philippines*

Voices of a Generation: Exploring the Job-Seeking Experiences of Millennials in Davao City

Marjorie Keith J. Tambirao

This study explored the lived experiences of millennial job seekers in Davao City, focusing on their job search strategies, challenges, and insights for employers and institutions. Using a qualitative phenomenological design, data were collected from ten participants through in-depth interviews and focus group discussions, and analyzed using thematic analysis. The findings present that participants utilized strategies such as professional positioning, purpose matching, and digital recruitment tools. However, they encountered various challenges, including skill mismatches, limited experience, information overload, and perceived hiring biases. To cope, participants demonstrated adaptability through self-awareness, networking, and continuous skill development. The study further revealed that employability is influenced not only by individual effort but also by structural factors such as access to training and hiring practices. Guided by Self-Determination Theory and Social Construction Theory, the findings highlight that job-seeking behavior is shaped by both personal motivations and social context.

Keywords: *business management, millennial job seekers, employability, job search strategies, Philippines*

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN MEDICAL TECHNOLOGY

Molecular Characterization of Biofilm-Associated Genes in Methicillin-Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus and their Influence on the Antibiofilm Activity of Oregano (Plectranthus Amboinicus) Ethanolic Extract

Keziah Amor Salcedo-Catulong

Methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) is frequently associated with multidrug resistance and biofilm formation, leading to treatment failure and making it a significant global pathogen. Oregano (*Plectranthus amboinicus*) ethanolic extract shows strong potential to inhibit MRSA biofilm formation through its bioactive compounds. This study aimed to evaluate the biofilm-inhibitory efficacy of the oregano ethanolic extract against clinically isolated MRSA and determine the moderating influence of their phenotypic and genotypic characteristics. This study employed a quasi-experimental research design using ten bacterial isolates from a tertiary hospital, which were subjected to biofilm formation assays and molecular analysis. Among the ten isolates, six demonstrate multi-drug resistance. The isolates have demonstrated moderate (80%; 8/10) to strong (20%; 2/10) biofilm-forming capability, driven by the universal presence of *icaA*, *icaD*, and *sarA*, the absence of *bap*, and variable *agrII* status (50%; 5/10 positive). The oregano ethanolic extract has abundant phenols (+++), moderate tannins (++), and trace flavonoids (+), enabling moderate but dose-dependent biofilm-inhibitory activity (maximum of $32.98 \pm 1.18\%$ at 100% v/v) at higher concentrations ($p = .001$). Notably, isolates with moderate biofilm strength ($b = -3.09$; $p = .0177$) and negative for the *agrII* gene ($b = -3.01$; $p = .01$) displayed significantly greater susceptibility, indicating that the efficacy of the oregano ethanolic extract is significantly moderated by these factors at higher concentrations. Further research employing a broader and more heterogeneous isolate population is required to validate these observations.

Keywords: Medical technology, Methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus*, Anti-biofilm activity, *Plectranthus amboinicus*, Philippines

A Five-Year Retrospective Study of Drug-Susceptible and Drug Resistant Tuberculosis and Associated Risk Factors Under the TB DOTS Program of General Santos City, Philippines (2021–2025): Basis for Action Plan

Yvonne Claire S. Dela Peña

persistent concerns about disease burden and drug resistance. This study determined the prevalence, temporal trend, and associated risk factors of Drug-Susceptible Tuberculosis (DS-TB) and Drug-Resistant Tuberculosis (DR-TB) under the TB DOTS Program from 2021 to 2025. A retrospective cohort design was employed using eligible records of 15,163 TB patients enrolled in 13 TB DOTS Health Facilities, with data obtained from existing Form 6A DS-TB and Form 6B DR-TB registers of the National Tuberculosis Control Program. Data were analyzed using descriptive statistics, Pearson's Chi-Square test of Independence, and Binary Logistic Regression. Most patients were aged 25–64 years and were male. DS-TB accounted for 98.7% of cases, while DR-TB comprised 1.3%. DS-TB cases were distributed across Rural Health Units, whereas DR-TB cases were concentrated in Dr. Jorge P. Royeca City Hospital. A declining temporal trend in DR-TB was observed. Adjusted analysis showed that patients with previous exposure to TB treatment had significantly higher odds of DR-TB (adjusted OR= 5.11). Significant associations were found between TB classification and age, sex, TB DOTS health facility, previous exposure to TB treatment, and bacteriologic status. Strengthening retreatment case management, prioritizing early detection of drug resistance, targeting high-burden groups, and sustaining enhanced program monitoring are recommended to support local TB control efforts.

Keywords: *Medical Technology, tuberculosis, DS-TB, DR-TB, TB DOTS, Philippines*

Epidemiological Profile and Spatial-Temporal Associations of Leptospirosis in Davao City (2015 – 2025): Evidence For Action Plan

Rachelle Laine A. Durang

Leptospirosis remains a significant public health challenge in Davao City, with an alarming upward trend in reported cases from 2015 to 2025. This longitudinal study utilized Poisson regression and Mann-Kendall Trend Analysis (τ) to evaluate high-risk demographic, seasonal, and geospatial determinants. Results revealed statistically significant upward trajectories across all variables ($p < 0.001$). Incidence was significantly elevated among adults ≥ 15 years (IRR = 13.9, $\tau = 0.782$) and males (IRR = 4.7, $\tau = 0.818$), with high population density as a primary driver of transmission (IRR = 4.5). A notable epidemiological paradox was identified: high-flood-susceptibility zones exhibited lower incidence (IRR = 0.3) and mortality (IRR = 0.4) than low-susceptibility areas, indicating that structural urban vulnerabilities, such as poor sanitation, are more critical drivers than acute flooding. Regarding clinical severity, mortality was significantly higher among children (IRR = 0.03 vs. adults) and males (IRR = 7.9). Although the wet season correlated with increased incidence (IRR = 1.3, $\tau = 0.782$), it did not significantly affect mortality. These findings suggest that severe outcomes are decoupled from traditional environmental risks and are instead driven by persistent infrastructural deficits. Consequently, public health policy must transition from flood-centric mitigation toward comprehensive, infrastructure-based interventions in high-density urban settings.

Keywords: *Medical Technology, Leptospirosis, Epidemiology, Spatial-Temporal Analysis, Philippines*

Barangay-Level Spatiotemporal Analysis and Hotspot Analysis of Dengue Distribution in Davao City, Philippines (2012–2024): Basis for a Proposed Localized Public Health Action Plan

George Carr G. Plaza

Dengue remains a major public health concern in tropical urban, yet at Barangay-level spatiotemporal patterns are often obscured by aggregated reporting. This retrospective ecological study analyzed the spatiotemporal distribution of dengue cases across 182 barangays in Davao City, Philippines, from 2012 to 2024 using Philippine Integrated Disease Surveillance and Response Secondary surveillance data. The study aimed to characterize the descriptive epidemiological profile, determine temporal trends and seasonal patterns, assess spatial autocorrelation and clustering, and identify emerging hotspots to suggest a localized public health action plan. Data gathering involved a two-stage process of extraction, consolidation, and validation of anonymized records. Descriptive statistics summarized sex, age, and case classification. Temporal patterns were analyzed using Seasonal-Trend Decomposition based on LOESS (STL), while spatial dependence and clustering were assessed using Global Moran's I and Local Indicators of Spatial Association (LISA). Spatiotemporal dynamics were examined through Emerging Hotspot Analysis, integrating Getis-Ord G_i^* spatial statistics with Mann-Kendall trend tests. A total of 80,421 cases were analyzed, with a slight male predominance (51.32%), the highest burden among children aged 1–12 years (50.60%), and predominance of suspected cases (72.73%). Temporal analysis revealed a significant declining trend ($\tau = -0.300$, $p < 0.001$), strong seasonality peaking in July (seasonal index = 1.55) and lowest in December (0.76), and seven notable anomalies. Spatial analysis demonstrated significant clustering (Moran's I = 0.46, $p = 0.001$), with 14.28% of barangays forming high-high clusters. Spatiotemporal analysis identified four persistent hotspots—Talomo (Pob.), Matina Aplaya, Matina Crossing, and Matina Pangil—alongside sporadic and emerging hotspots. These findings highlight pronounced spatial heterogeneity and temporal variability in dengue transmission and provide an evidence-based basis for targeted interventions, including Case-Area Targeted Interventions, ovitrap surveillance, and autodissemination strategies.

Keywords: *Medical Technology, Dengue, Spatiotemporal Analysis, Hotspot Analysis, Philippines*

Antimicrobial Resistance among ESKAPE Pathogens at Cotabato Regional and Medical Center: A Five-Year Retrospective Study

Roxanne P. Subiaga

Antimicrobial resistance (AMR) among ESKAPE pathogens is a growing global health concern that limits therapeutic options, increases healthcare costs, and contributes to higher morbidity and mortality rates. This study utilized a retrospective descriptive-analytic research design to determine the distribution, five-year antibiogram trends, and multidrug resistance (MDR) patterns of ESKAPE pathogens isolated at Cotabato Regional and Medical Center, Philippines, from January 1, 2020, to December 31, 2024. The study included all recorded ESKAPE pathogen isolates obtained from clinical specimens. It specifically examined the prevalence of ESKAPE pathogens, resistance patterns, and their association with selected clinical variables, including year, type of infection, hospital ward, and specimen type. Data were gathered from secondary laboratory records, including respiratory, blood, urine, and wound specimens, using a complete enumeration sampling approach. The collected data were analyzed using both descriptive and inferential statistical methods to assess trends and determine significant associations. Results showed that *Klebsiella pneumoniae* accounted for the highest number of isolates, with hospital-acquired infections being more prevalent than community-acquired infections. *Klebsiella pneumoniae*, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, *Acinetobacter baumannii*, and *Staphylococcus aureus* were predominantly isolated in the Surgery Ward, while *Klebsiella pneumoniae*, *Acinetobacter baumannii*, and *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* were frequently recovered from respiratory specimens and demonstrated consistently high resistance rates across the five-year period. Multidrug-resistant *Klebsiella pneumoniae* ($p < 0.05$) was the only organism significantly associated with clinical variables, including year, type of infection, ward, and specimen type. These findings highlight the importance of continuous surveillance, strengthened antimicrobial stewardship programs, and strict infection prevention and control measures to guide empiric therapy, optimize patient outcomes, and reduce the spread of antimicrobial resistance in healthcare settings.

Keywords: *Medical Technology, Antimicrobial Resistance, ESKAPE Pathogens, Antibiogram, Philippines*

In Silico Analysis Of Musa Textilis (Abaca) Pseudostem Against Drug-Resistant Enterococcus Faecium, Staphylococcus Aureus, Klebsiella Pneumoniae, Acinetobacter Baumannii, Pseudomonas Aeruginosa, and Enterobacter Species (ESKAPE)

Christian Paul T. Tawat

The lack of target-specific, mechanistically resolved analysis of plant-based compounds against multidrug-resistant escape pathogens limits translational antimicrobial discovery. This computational, descriptive, and comparative study employed LC-MS-guided ADMET profiling and molecular docking to explore the in silico antibacterial potential of *Musa textilis* (abaca) pseudostem. Abaca pseudostems were air-dried, mechanically ground, macerated with 80% ethanol, and subjected to rotary evaporation, dessication, and freeze-drying. LC-MS identified 9 compounds, namely choline, betaine, nicotinic acid, L(-)-2-amino-3-phenyl-1-propanol, DL-carnitine, α -eleosteric acid, oleamide, 9-OXO-ODE, and 2-amino-1,3,4-octadecanetriol. All compounds conformed to Lipinski's Rule of Five. Only phytosphingosine (2-amino-1,3,4-octadecanetriol) passed the pharmacokinetic and toxicity profiling, with significant developability concentrations mainly related to lipophilicity and molecular flexibility. Phytosphingosine was docked against resistance-associated bacterial proteins of the ESKAPE group, including penicillin-binding proteins, DNA gyrase, MurAA, and dihydrofolate reductase. Outperforming numerous control antibiotics in vancomycin-resistant *Enterococcus faecium* and selectively in carbapenem-resistant *Acinetobacter baumannii* and methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus*, a total of 5 out of 18 ligand-protein simulations were considered hits, defined by stronger binding affinities than the control. Binding energy scores ranged from 0 to -5.362 kcal/mol, describing docking poses within active sites. Post-docking analyses revealed that interactions were generally driven by van der Waals, hydrogen bonds, and hydrophobic contacts, indicating the structural conformation. Overall, phytosphingosine exhibited diverse predicted binding capacity, warranting further validation in efforts to combat antimicrobial resistance. This study also emphasizes the advantages of early virtual screening of plant-based compounds, providing mechanistic insights into target interactions while reducing time and costly laboratory testing.

Keywords: antimicrobial resistance, in silico, ESKAPE, abaca

Distribution and Risk Factors of Medically Important Parasitic Infections in an Endemic Barangay of Koronadal City, South Cotabato: A Basis of Community-Based Action Plan

Winnelie Kris C Tadera

Intestinal Parasitic Infections (IPIs), caused by protozoa and helminths, remain a major challenge in global health. These infections are transmitted via the fecal-oral route, specifically through ingestion of contaminated food and water or exposure to environments with human waste. In Region XII, including South Cotabato, IPIs remain a significant public health concern, driven by environmental and socioeconomic vulnerabilities. This burden is reflected specifically in clinical records from Barangay Paraiso, Koronadal City, which documented cases of diarrhea from 2024 to 2025. However, there is limited recent, localized data documenting the specific parasite species and underlying risk factors responsible for these enteric symptoms. This study used a cross-sectional design to determine the distribution and risk factors for medically important intestinal parasitic infections among 191 preschool- and school-aged children (ages 1–12). Stool samples were collected alongside survey questionnaires and analyzed using a direct fecal smear and a closed-system fecal concentrator. The results showed a prevalence rate of 44%. No significant association was found between infection and age or sex. However, infection was strongly associated with low household income and parental occupation. Other factors include large animals, shared toilets, and limited access to safe water. These findings support the need for targeted community interventions.

Keywords: *Medical Technology, Intestinal Parasitic Infections, Prevalence, Risk Factors, Philippines*

Serodetection of Hepatitis A and Knowledge, Attitudes and Practices of Street Food Vendors in Barangay East, General Santos City, Philippines: A Basis for Action Plan

Danilyn M. Tinapao

Hepatitis A virus infection remains an important public health concern in areas with inadequate water, sanitation, and food safety controls, where street food vending is widespread. This community-based cross-sectional quantitative study utilized simple random sampling to determine HAV serodetection and assess food safety knowledge, attitudes, and practices among 83 randomly selected street food vendors in Barangay East, General Santos City. The study aimed to describe street food vendors' serologic profile for HAV antibodies, characterize their KAP on food safety and hepatitis A, and determine whether serodetection status was associated with sociodemographic factors and KAP levels. Data were collected using a validated, self-administered KAP questionnaire and venous blood samples for HAV IgG/IgM by a commercial rapid immunochromatographic assay. Data analysis employed descriptive statistics (frequency, percentage, mean, and standard deviation) and chi-square tests of association to explore relationships between serostatus, sociodemographic profile, and KAP scores. HAV seropositivity was low (3.60% IgG, 0% IgM), with no statistically significant associations between serodetection and any sociodemographic or KAP variables ($p > 0.05$). Street food vendors demonstrated moderate knowledge, very high attitudes, and moderate practices, indicating endorsement of key preventive measures but persistent gaps in symptom recognition, detailed transmission routes, and consistent safe food-handling behaviors, which may help explain the low HAV seropositivity (3.60%) observed in this study. A targeted action plan was proposed that includes regular, context-specific food safety training, strengthened implementation and monitoring of sanitary permits and health certificates, integration of HAV testing and vaccination for food handlers, and coordinated sanitation and infrastructure improvements at the barangay level.

Keywords: *Medical Technology, Food Safety, Hepatitis A virus, HAV antibodies, Philippines*

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN PHARMACY

Drug Utilization Pattern among Inpatients with Dengue, Leptospirosis, and Malaria at the Philippine Research Institute for Tropical Medicine

Isaiah Joshua B. Boo

Patients, the healthcare system, and entire communities are all impacted by drug use trends. If correctly monitored, it may enhance healthcare services, relieve patients of the financial burden of medication, and reduce hospital stays. This study investigates drug utilization patterns at the Research Institute for Tropical Medicine (RITM) in Metro Manila, Philippines, focusing on patients with confirmed dengue, leptospirosis, and malaria cases from January 01, 2023, to December 31, 2025. Employing a descriptive, cross-sectional, retrospective design, the research analyzes patient demographics and drug utilization data using World Health Organization (WHO) prescribing, patient care, and health facility indicators. The demographic profile shows that the pediatric population had the highest number of cases among the total population. Medication profiles emphasize the frequent use of paracetamol and omeprazole across all conditions, with variations in antibiotic use based on medical condition. All Medical Conditions show deviations from World Health Organization parameters, specifically in the average number of drugs per encounter, the percentage of encounters with antibiotics, the percentage of encounters with injections, and the average dispensing time. While generic name prescribing and availability of copies of essential drugs remained consistently high across all three diseases. The study concludes that prescribing practices generally align with WHO recommendations for rational drug use, though there are disease-specific variations in medication utilization. A Drug Utilization Handbook tailored to the institute's needs is proposed to enhance drug treatment management. Recommendations include interventions for areas that are suboptimal or exceed the WHO parameters. This study contributes valuable insights for optimizing drug utilization policies and improving patient care outcomes at RITM and similar healthcare facilities.

Keywords: *Prescribing Indicator, National Public Health Institute, Rational Drug Use, Case Rate, Philippines*

Molecular Docking And In-Vitro Determination of α -Glucosidase Inhibitory Effect of Ethanolic Leaf Extract of Talong-Talangan (*Solanum Torvum* Sw.)

Clea Angiela O. Bullina

Diabetes mellitus remains a growing health problem worldwide, with Type 2 diabetes accounting for the majority of cases and requiring effective management strategies such as α -glucosidase inhibition. This quantitative experimental study investigated the α -glucosidase inhibitory effect of the ethanolic leaf extract of *Solanum torvum* Sw. (Talong-talangan) through molecular docking and in vitro approaches. The study aimed to: (1) identify the phytochemical components using Gas Chromatography-Mass Spectroscopy (GC-MS); (2) determine potential compound candidates based on binding affinity; (3) measure percent inhibition at 0.1, 0.2, 0.3, 0.4, and 0.5 mg/mL; and (4) calculate the half-maximal inhibitory concentration (IC₅₀) of the plant extract. Dried leaves were macerated in 95% ethanol, concentrated via rotary evaporation, and lyophilized. GC-MS identified the phytochemical components present in the extract. Major constituents were docked against sugar beet α -glucosidase (PDB: 3W37) using AutoDock Vina, and the extract was tested using an α -glucosidase activity assay kit. Non-linear regression and a four-parameter logistic curve determined the IC₅₀ value from dose-response data, while molecular docking with PyMOL and Ligplot+ predicted binding modes and interaction patterns. Results showed that bis(2-ethylhexyl) ester 1,2-Benzenedicarboxylic acid exhibited the strongest binding affinity, interacting with seven amino acid residues: ALA 234 (2.96 Å), ARG 552 (2.90 Å and 2.97 Å), ASN 237 (2.91 Å), ASP 568 (2.62 Å), HIS 626 (3.06 Å and 3.11 Å). The extract demonstrated dose-dependent inhibition with an IC₅₀ value of 0.9105 mg/mL, indicating significant inhibitory activity. These findings validated the traditional use of *S. torvum* in managing postprandial hyperglycemia and suggest its potential as a natural source of an antidiabetic agent.

Keywords: Antidiabetic, Acarbose, Binding energy, bis(2-ethylhexyl) ester 1,2-Benzenedicarboxylic acid, IC₅₀

Antimicrobial Activity of Vitex Negundo Leaf Ethanolic Extract Against Gram Positive and Gram Negative Bacteria: A Systematic Review

Jeromie M. David, RPh

The purpose of this review was to conclude whether ethanolic extracts of *V. negundo* leaves have the potential to be used as antimicrobials against gram-positive and negative bacteria using zone of inhibition, as well as establish ethanol as the best solvent to extract phytochemicals, proving antibacterial activity. Google Scholar, PubMed, ResearchGate, journal websites, institutional repositories, and PDF documents were searched to identify literature on the antibacterial activity of the ethanolic leaf extract of *Vitex negundo* L. from 2019 to 2025. After applying the PRISMA screening process and the QUIN quality assessment tool, 19 studies were included. Ten Studies had a score greater than 70%, and were therefore considered to have a low risk of bias. Nine studies had scores between 50% and 70%; therefore, they were considered to have a medium risk of bias. Using the GRADE approach, six out of ten studies showed moderate-quality evidence, while the other four showed high-quality evidence; all studies demonstrated antimicrobial activity, used well-controlled experiments, took accurate measurements, and used proper strains of bacteria. Studies show that *V. negundo* leaf ethanolic extract has strong evidence supporting its use as a natural alternative for treating bacterial infections. For future research, the experimental methodology used to test the antimicrobial activity of the *Vitex negundo* leaf ethanolic extract should be standardized. Due to some studies using different methods, concentrations, and incubation times.

Keywords: *Pharmacognosy Vitex negundo L., ethanolic extract, antibacterial, PRISMA, systematic review, Philippines.*

Lived Experiences of Pharmacists in Rural Government Primary Care Facilities in Selected Provinces in the Bicol Region

Gillian Maurice B. Dioras, RPh

Pharmacists play a vital role in primary health care, yet their experiences in rural government facilities remain unexplored in the Philippine context. This descriptive qualitative study aimed to uncover the lived experiences and coping mechanisms of pharmacists in rural government primary care facilities in selected provinces in the Bicol Region. Nine pharmacists from rural health units were purposively selected and interviewed through semi-structured in-depth interviews lasting 45 to 60 minutes each. The study addressed two research questions: the lived experiences of pharmacists in rural primary health care settings and how they cope with the challenges encountered. Verbatim transcripts were analyzed using Braun and Clarke's six-phase thematic analysis. Ten themes emerged—five on lived experiences: expanded and overlapping roles, resource and infrastructure challenges, patient interaction and community dynamics, interprofessional collaboration and recognition, and emotional and professional fulfillment; and five on coping mechanisms: adaptation and flexibility, peer and professional support, personal commitment and professionalism, problem-solving and initiative, and emotional and mental resilience. Findings reveal that rural pharmacists perform far beyond their designated duties yet remain structurally unsupported, relying on personal resilience to sustain services. The study recommends clearer role definitions, plantilla positions, and stronger institutional support for pharmacists in rural primary care.

Keywords: *Qualitative, pharmacy workforce, resilience, Philippines*

Exploring the Competency Standards of Experiential Pharmacy Practice in the Community Pharmacy: An Exploratory Sequential Study

Cynthia Claire F. Guinto, RPh

Community pharmacy plays a vital role in developing pharmacy students' competencies. However, there is limited evidence on a competency-based assessment tool that could assess pharmacy interns' competencies in community pharmacy settings. This study employed an exploratory sequential mixed-methods design to explore the lived experiences of pharmacy interns during their community pharmacy internship and to develop a competency assessment tool grounded in these experiences. In the qualitative phase, 17 pharmacy interns were purposively selected to participate in in-depth interviews and focus group discussions using a validated interview guide questionnaire. The findings revealed five essential themes that reflect the lived experiences of pharmacy interns and served as the basis for generating 43 initial items for the tool. In the quantitative phase, 213 participants were recruited and purposively selected, of whom only 200 completed responses were included in the analysis using the initially developed tool. Validation of the tool was conducted using the Content Validity Index (CVI) and Exploratory Factor Analysis (EFA), which retained 34 of 43 items and supported a five-factor structure representing the core competency domains. These domains include antimicrobial stewardship, health promotion and patient safety, good dispensing practice, patient counseling, and inventory management. Data integration showed that the factor structure was supported by the lived experiences of pharmacy interns, indicating that the developed tool is grounded in real experiences and has been validated through quantitative analysis. Overall, the developed tool may be used to assess the competencies of pharmacy interns and help improve experiential pharmacy practice in community pharmacy.

Keywords: *Experiential learning, content validity index, exploratory factor analysis, Philippines*

Exploring the Roles, Practices, and Outcomes of Pharmacists in Healthcare Sustainability: A Scoping Review of Evidence Gaps

Catherine L. Panergo

The global healthcare landscape increasingly emphasizes sustainability, however, understanding of pharmacists' contributions to healthcare sustainability remains fragmented, with notable evidence gaps, particularly in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs). This scoping review seeks to investigate the roles, practices, and outcomes of pharmacists in healthcare sustainability; it seeks to (1) characterize existing studies, (2) identify emergent themes related to pharmacists' contributions, and (3) delineate evidence gaps to inform future research directions. A comprehensive literature search was conducted across multiple databases using the Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses extension for Scoping Reviews (PRISMA-Scar) and the Joanna Briggs Institute (JBI) methodology for scoping review guidelines. Included studies published between 2010 and 2025 were analyzed to extract research type, income level of study settings, populations involved, exposures, and outcomes related to pharmacists' practices. The review encompasses studies with varying methodologies, income levels, and scopes. Thematic analysis revealed core themes, including pharmacists' roles in mitigating environmental impact, health education, and supply chain sustainability. Evidence gaps identified include limited research from LMICs, scarcity of long-term outcome data, underrepresentation of primary care settings, and inadequate integration of sustainability competencies within pharmacy curricula. Additionally, empirical data on pharmacists' direct climate-health interventions and environmental impact assessments remain limited. Pharmacists play a crucial role in advancing healthcare sustainability, but significant gaps persist in the evidence base, particularly regarding LMIC contexts and long-term outcomes. Addressing these gaps through targeted research can enhance the integration of sustainability practices into pharmacy practice and policy, ultimately contributing to global health and environmental goals.

Keywords: *Pharmacists, Healthcare Sustainability, Evidence Gaps, Scoping Review, LMICs*

The Impact of Emotional Intelligence and Work–Life Balance on Individual Work Performance of Pharmacists in the City of San Fernando, La Union

Marc Benedict L. Panergo

This study sought to determine whether individual work performance of community and hospital pharmacists can be influenced by specific variables of emotional intelligence and work–life balance, using a quantitative, predictive, correlational research design. The 127 respondents were taken from the whole population of pharmacists in the locality using census sampling. Three adapted questionnaires, validated by experts and reliability-tested, were used to gather the necessary data for the study. Mean, Standard Deviation, Pearson r , and Multiple regression Analysis were the statistical tools used. Results revealed that their level of emotional intelligence, work–life balance, and individual work performance were all high. Correlation analysis between emotional intelligence indicators, empathy, and individual work performance, as well as work non-interference with personal life, shows significant relationships. Linear regression analysis on individual influence indicators work interference and empathy, as well as combined influence indicators work interference multiplied with empathy, both had significant relationships positively influencing work performance. This means that increased pharmacist empathy is a significant predictor of improved work performance, even after accounting for the statistically significant interaction between work interference and empathy.

Keywords: *Clinical pharmacy practice, evidence-based practice, study quality, mental fortitude, Philippines*

Financial Literacy on Knowledge, Behavior, and Attitude among Pharmacists in Region XII: A Cross-Sectional Study using OECD/INFE 2020 Guidelines

Christine Joy Paulio

Financial literacy is a critical competency for pharmacists as it influences effective financial decision-making, business sustainability, and overall professional practice. This study employed a descriptive, quantitative, cross-sectional, comparative design to assess the financial literacy of pharmacists in Region XII, Philippines. Specifically, it examined financial literacy in terms of financial knowledge, financial behavior, and financial attitude, and determined whether significant differences exist when grouped according to demographic characteristics. A total of 312 registered pharmacists from community, hospital, academe, and manufacturing settings were selected using quota sampling. Data were collected using a modified, structured questionnaire based on the OECD/INFE 2020 financial literacy framework, administered online and in person. The collected data were analyzed using descriptive statistics, independent-samples t-tests, and analysis of variance. The findings revealed that pharmacists generally demonstrated moderate levels of financial knowledge, financial behavior, and financial attitude. Overall, financial literacy was found to be predominantly moderate to high among respondents. However, notable gaps were identified in advanced financial knowledge, particularly in investment-related concepts, as well as in financial planning practices, including retirement preparation and separation of personal and business finances. Additionally, respondents showed moderate confidence in engaging with financial institutions and reliance on structured financial planning. Significant differences in financial literacy were observed only in terms of educational attainment and business ownership, while no significant differences were found across other demographic variables. These results highlight the need for targeted financial education and intervention programs to strengthen pharmacists' financial competence, improve financial practices, and support sustainable pharmacy operations.

Keywords: *financial literacy, pharmacists, financial behavior, financial attitude, Philippines*

Knowledge, Attitude, and Practices of Community Pharmacists Towards Drug Supply Chain Guidelines in Iloilo City

Fritzie Angeli P. Perez, RPh

Weak oversight in the drug supply chain heightens risks of substandard and falsified medicines, threatening public health. As the final quality checkpoint, community pharmacists ensure product integrity and mitigate the distribution of poor-quality medicines. This study assessed the knowledge, attitudes, and practices of community pharmacists in Iloilo City towards drug supply chain guidelines in procurement, storage, dispensing, and disposal. An explanatory sequential mixed-method design was employed. A validated questionnaire and interview guide were used for data collection. The study involved 92 community pharmacists selected through purposive nonprobability sampling for the survey, and 10 participants were randomly selected for in-depth interviews. Frequency, percentage, mean, standard deviation, and Pearson's correlation coefficient were used for statistical analysis, and thematic analysis was used for qualitative data. Results revealed very high scores across all domains (Knowledge: $M=86.52$; Attitude: $M=3.86$; Practice: $M=3.68$). However, Pearson's r showed no significant relationships between knowledge and attitude ($r = -0.046$, $p = 0.954$) or between knowledge and practice ($r = -0.810$, $p = 0.192$). Qualitative themes identified are (1) community-driven procurement and inventory decision-making, (2) quality assurance in procurement practices, (3) documentation and record-keeping systems, (4) storage and inventory control compliance, (5) pharmacists as medication safety gatekeepers, and (6) regulatory compliance challenges and improvement needs. The integration of quantitative and qualitative findings demonstrates strong convergence between survey results and pharmacists' lived experiences. Overall, findings demonstrate that community pharmacists exhibit a high level of knowledge, attitudes, and practices regarding drug supply chain guidelines, which can be attributed to professional accountability, established workplace protocols, and regulatory oversight that collectively shape pharmacy practice.

Keywords: *Pharmacy, KAP study, mixed method, procurement, disposal, Philippines*

Isolation, Characterization Through Vitek 2 Compact, and Antibacterial Screening of Actinomycete Isolate from the Soil of Mount Matutum

Apple Jane D. Siroy, RPh

Actinomycetes are a leading group of bacteria recognized as a primary source of antibiotics; however, their presence in local soil environments remains underexplored. This study employed an exploratory descriptive experimental research design. It aimed to isolate, characterize through the Vitek 2 Compact system, and conduct primary screening for the antibacterial activity of Actinomycete isolates from the soil of Mount Matutum, contributing to the existing body of knowledge on local Actinomycete isolation. The study addressed the limited data on the occurrence and antibacterial potential of Actinomycetes in local soils. Soil samples with pH ranging from 6.0 to 8.0 were collected at 10.0 to 12.5 cm depth, processed at room temperature, cultured on Actinomycete Isolation Agar, and subcultured to obtain pure isolates. The isolates underwent morphological examination, microbiological identification through the Vitek 2 Compact system, and antibacterial screening using the perpendicular streaking method. Data were analyzed using descriptive statistics. A total of seven (7) isolates were obtained, all of which were Gram-positive and exhibited distinct morphological characteristics. Identification results showed probabilities of 99% for *Micrococcus luteus*, 90% for *Gemella morbillorum*, 85% for *Leuconostoc mesenteroides*, 90% for *Staphylococcus warneri*, and 90% for *Staphylococcus vitulinus*, while two isolates remained unidentified. Among these, *Micrococcus luteus* was identified as an Actinomycete. The antibacterial screening revealed a zero (0) mm zone of inhibition, indicating no observable antibacterial activity. An infographic was developed to present the findings. In conclusion, although Actinomycetes were present, no antibacterial activity was detected. It is recommended that future studies collect soil from different elevations, explore alternative culture conditions, perform Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR), and further screen for secondary metabolites, as well as disseminate the infographic through various platforms.

Keywords: Mount Matutum, Actinomycete Isolates, Antibacterial Activity, Vitek 2 Compact, Philippines

Collaborative Working Relationship of Barangay Health Workers and Pharmacists in Tacurong City, Sultan Kudarat

Christian Rey G. Umadhay, RPh

The collaboration between Barangay Health Workers (BHWs) and pharmacists plays a vital role in strengthening primary health care and promoting the rational use of medicines in community settings. This study employed a qualitative phenomenological research design to explore the collaborative working relationship between BHWs and pharmacists in Tacurong City, Sultan Kudarat. It aimed to understand the lived experiences of BHWs, particularly in the current context of collaboration, the challenges encountered, coping mechanisms, and insights into interprofessional practice. The study involved ten (10) Barangay Health Workers selected through snowball sampling. It addressed issues related to the nature and consistency of collaboration, communication gaps, and the extent of professional interaction between BHWs and pharmacists. Data were gathered through in-depth interviews, allowing participants to share their experiences in detail. The collected data were analyzed using thematic analysis to identify recurring patterns and meaningful themes. Findings revealed that collaboration is mainly characterized by coordinated patient referrals, event-driven activities, and limited clinical communication. However, challenges such as inconsistent collaboration, fragmented communication, and minimal direct engagement with pharmacists were evident. To manage these challenges, BHWs adopted coping strategies including seeking support from colleagues, maintaining patience and positive communication with patients, and adapting to available resources. Participants also expressed a desire for enhanced patient-centered services, continuous skills development, and stronger interprofessional collaboration and communication. The study concludes that while collaboration contributes to primary health care delivery, it remains inconsistent and requires strengthened institutional support and more structured collaborative mechanisms.

Keywords: *Barangay Health Workers, pharmacists, interprofessional collaboration, primary health care, Philippines*

Navigating Medication Access and Adherence in Custodial Setting: A Multiple Case Study of Healthcare Practitioners in Davao City Jail

Florey May B. Valendez, RPh

Ensuring access to medication within correctional facilities such as Davao City Jail remains a significant logistical and public health challenge. This study employed a qualitative multiple-case study design to explore healthcare practitioners' experiences navigating medication access and adherence among persons deprived of liberty. The study aimed to examine the lived experiences, coping strategies, and insights of healthcare workers regarding systemic and operational barriers to medication management. A total of eleven healthcare professionals, including nurses and pharmacists from three dormitory jail units, participated in the study. The research addressed key problems, including insufficient medication supply, patient nonadherence, staffing shortages, and limited healthcare infrastructure. Data were gathered through focus group discussions, allowing participants to share in-depth perspectives and experiences. The collected data were analyzed using Braun and Clarke's thematic analysis, followed by cross-case analysis to identify patterns, similarities, and differences across cases. In the context of lived experiences, the results revealed themes of chronic medicine shortages and supply mismatches, poor behavior and non-adherence, staff shortages and workload imbalance, expanded responsibilities of healthcare practitioners, inventory and supply management, and counseling and adherence monitoring. Themes under coping strategies included dependence on external support and resource linkages, reinforcement of health education and adherence counseling, and utilization of structured monitoring systems. Insights emphasized the need for system-level strengthening, as well as challenges related to delayed or disrupted treatment continuity, overworked staff, reduced quality of care, and limited access to essential services and equipment. These results highlight the need for comprehensive policy and system improvements to enhance healthcare delivery in custodial settings.

Keywords: *Medication access, Correctional healthcare, Pharmacists, Medication adherence, Philippines*

Inpatient Opioid Prescribing Patterns Towards Length of Stay and Opioid Prescribing at Discharge: A Retrospective Cohort Study

Raisa Alyssa L. Vencer, RPh

Hospital opioid stewardship remains challenging amid balancing pain relief with safety risks in inpatient settings. This quantitative retrospective cohort study examined opioid prescribing patterns and their associations with clinical outcomes among adult ENT surgical inpatients at a tertiary hospital in General Santos City, Philippines, using anonymized electronic medical records from 2024 (n=96). The purpose was to describe opioid exposure relative to patient characteristics, prescribing patterns, length of stay, and discharge prescribing. Participants included medical inpatients undergoing ENT surgery, excluding ICU admissions, transfers, deaths, or DAMA cases. Opioids studied were fentanyl, morphine, nalbuphine, and tramadol. Key problems addressed include opioid exposure, equity, and the impact of patterns on outcomes. Data were extracted by a hospital data officer following ethical approval, then analyzed descriptively and inferentially (t-tests, chi-square tests, relative risks) by a statistician. No significant differences emerged in opioid exposure by age ($p=0.616$) or sex ($p=0.416$); prescribing aligned with pharmacology (morphine long-acting $p<0.001$, nalbuphine/tramadol intermediate $p<0.001$, fentanyl short-acting $p<0.001$). Opioid-exposed patients showed a slightly higher risk of stays ≥ 7 days ($RR=1.20$) and discharge opioids ($RR=1.0$), without statistical significance.

Keywords: *Opioid Analgesics, Inpatients, Length of stay, Opioid-Related Outcomes, Drug Prescriptions*

MASTER IN INFORMATION SYSTEM

Electrical Engineering Project Management System

Nelma Mae G. Loja

This study employed a developmental and evaluative research design to create and assess a web-based system. The primary purpose of the study was to design and develop the Electrical Engineering Project Management System (EEPMS) as an integrated platform to improve project control, coordination, and decision-making across engineering operations. The study focused on addressing key problems, including inefficient scheduling, fragmented documentation, limited resource monitoring, and delays in project execution. Data were gathered through User Acceptance Testing (UAT) using a structured questionnaire based on the ISO/IEC 25010 software quality model, where respondents evaluated the system using a Likert-scale instrument. The collected data were analyzed using descriptive statistics, particularly mean scores, to assess system performance across quality attributes. The system achieved an overall average of 4.59, indicating strong user satisfaction across most quality attributes and interpreted as Highly Acceptable. High ratings were observed in Compatibility (4.83), Security (4.74), Portability (4.75), Functional Suitability (4.66), Usability (4.66), and Reliability (4.53), all classified as Highly Acceptable. Meanwhile, Performance Efficiency (4.45) and Maintainability (4.16) were rated Acceptable, suggesting areas for potential improvement. Overall, the system demonstrates robust quality performance, with only minor aspects requiring enhancement. These findings indicate that the system improves data accuracy, enhances communication, and reduces delays associated with manual processes. The EEPMS serves as a comprehensive decision-support tool that enhances operational efficiency, promotes transparency, and supports data-driven project management, contributing to the digital transformation of engineering project environments.

Keywords: *Electrical Engineering Project Management System; Project Management Information System; Web-Based System; Document Management; PERT/CPM; ISO/IEC 25010; User Acceptance Testing; Digital Transformation*

Pagsubay: Foreshore Area Management System for Environmental and Natural Resources Office in Davao Del Norte

Philip John L. Paja

Foreshore management in Davao del Norte currently faces challenges due to fragmented record-keeping, a lack of spatial visualization of lease boundaries, and significant delays in application processing. This capstone project developed PagsuBay, a centralized hybrid platform integrated with Geographic Information System (GIS) capabilities, to streamline government land administration. The study aimed to provide essential features, including automated fee computation, geotagging, and comprehensive audit trails, to enhance data sovereignty and transparency. The project used the Iterative Model, enabling repeated cycles of design, implementation, and stakeholder testing to ensure the system aligned with evolving technical requirements. The system's quality was rigorously evaluated using two frameworks: the ISO/IEC 25010 Software Quality Model and User Acceptance Testing (UAT). Results from the ISO/IEC 25010 evaluation yielded a Grand Mean of 4.36, with the highest performance observed in Functional Suitability, Usability, and Security. Furthermore, the UAT results achieved an Overall Average Mean of 4.61 (Strongly Agree), with users specifically commending the system's functional requirements and seamless compatibility. These findings signify that PagsuBay is not only technically good but also highly effective in meeting the practical demands of coastal resource management. Ultimately, the system facilitates a successful digital transformation, significantly strengthening spatial accuracy and administrative integrity within Davao del Norte.

Keywords: *Foreshore area management, GIS integration, Iterative Model, ISO/IEC 25010, Davao del Norte*

CooPay: A Web-Based Decision Support System for Loan Application with Automated Repayment Reminders

Gertrude Grace M. Tampus

This study presents the design and development of CooPay, a web-based decision support system (DSS) developed for Del Monte Fresh Multipurpose Cooperative (DMFMPC). The system automates loan applications, repayment scheduling, and real-time savings monitoring to enhance operational efficiency and member engagement. The purpose was to streamline the loan processing workflow, provide accurate loan eligibility assessments, and automate repayment reminders. The study involved cooperative members, staff, and management during user acceptance testing (UAT). Data was collected through user feedback, performance metrics, and system interaction logs. Analysis was conducted using the ISO/IEC 25010:2011 framework, focusing on system functionality, usability, and performance. Results indicated that CooPay significantly improved loan processing speed and reduced delays in repayment management, meeting high standards for usability and functionality. The system's success highlights its potential for improving operational processes and decision-making in cooperatives.

Keywords: *Decision Support System, Loan Management System, Web-Based System, Cooperative Information System, Automated Repayment Scheduling, Financial Technology, ISO/IEC 25010.*

MASTER IN INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

LORS: Log-Based Operational Resolution System Leveraging Rag-Llm and Technical Support Ticket Data

Kimberly L. Cabagti

This capstone project presents the development and evaluation of the Log-based Operational Resolution System (LORS), a web-based, agent-assisted technical support platform designed for the University of the Immaculate Conception (UIC). The study addresses critical inefficiencies in traditional IT ticketing systems, including high ticket volumes, repetitive workloads, and underutilization of historical data for proactive problem-solving. Leveraging Retrieval Augmented Generation (RAG) combined with Large Language Models (LLMs), LORS transforms raw, historical support ticket data into an actionable on-premise knowledge base. The system was developed using a Django backend, ChromaDB for vector storage, and Qwen 2.5 (7B) as the primary local LLM. A key architectural innovation, the “Short-Circuit” mechanism, was implemented to instantly resolve approximately 95% of Level 1 tickets by delivering pre-approved solutions and automated n8n self-service workflows without invoking the full LLM. This project was evaluated using a multi-dimensional framework, including RAGAS metrics for technical accuracy and the Technology Acceptance Model (TAM) for user acceptability. Results indicated a 0% hallucination rate in testing and a “High Acceptable” rating from students, faculty, and MIS personnel across all TAM constructs, including perceived usefulness and ease of use. The study concludes that LORS provides a secure, on-premise solution that enhances operational efficiency and institutional resilience by bridging the gap between historical institutional knowledge and modern generative AI.

Keywords: *Retrieval Augmented Generation (RAG), Large Language Models (LLMs), Log-based Operational Resolution System (LORS), IT Support Automation, On-Premise AI Deployment, Technology Acceptance Model (TAM), n8n Workflow Automation, University Information Technology Support.*

OINKCHECK: A Mobile CNN-Based Skin Disease Detection App

Jay S. Gulanes Jr.

Despite representing the vast majority of the Filipino hog-raising sector, backyard swine production remains vulnerable to delayed disease intervention due to limited veterinary access in rural areas. This study employed a comparative experimental design integrated with a Modified Waterfall Model development framework to develop OINKCHECK, a mobile application optimized for the rapid, on-site detection of seven prevalent pig skin diseases: Swine Pox, Foot and Mouth Disease, Parasitic Mange, Fungal Ringworm, Sunburn, Greasy Pig Disease, and Erysipelas. The system was evaluated by backyard farmers, provincial veterinarians, and technical administrators in Davao del Norte. The research aimed to identify the most efficient CNN architecture for mobile deployment and to assess system utility for regional disease surveillance. Data gathering involved collecting a custom image dataset of swine lesions across various farms, followed by field testing and ISO 25010 quality evaluations. Data was analyzed through Mean Average Precision (mAP) and F1-score metrics for model performance, alongside descriptive statistics for user evaluation and expert agreement rates. Results indicated that YOLOv12 was the superior architecture, significantly outperforming Faster R-CNN and SSD, while the overall system quality received a "Very High" rating across all technical characteristics. By bridging the diagnostic gap through edge-inference technology, OINKCHECK provides a scalable solution that enhances regional biosecurity. This system effectively empowers smallholder farmers with immediate diagnostic capabilities while providing authorities with real-time surveillance data.

Keywords: OINKCHECK, CNN, YOLOv12, Swine Disease Detection, Mobile Health, Disease Surveillance, ISO 25010, Davao del Norte

ADAMS: Development of an Accreditation Data Administration & Management System for Efficient and Secure Preparation of Quality Assurance Documents of Schools

Hazel Joy M. Gadingan

Accreditation remains a critical requirement for higher education institutions, yet many processes are still hindered by manual workflows, fragmented document management, and inadequate security controls. These challenges often lead to inefficiencies, delayed submissions, and increased risk of data loss. To address these issues, this study developed and evaluated the Accreditation Data Administration and Management System (ADAMS), a centralized, web-based platform designed to streamline and secure accreditation processes. The system was piloted at Notre Dame of Midsayap College, particularly within the College of Information Technology and Engineering. The study utilized an iterative development methodology to allow continuous system improvement based on user feedback. ADAMS integrates key features such as role-based access control, centralized document management, workflow-based submission and approval, a monitoring dashboard with descriptive analytics, an audit trail for activity logging, and a built-in chat feature to support real-time communication and collaboration among users. To assess the system's effectiveness, ease of use, and overall satisfaction, the Unified Theory of Acceptance and Use of Technology (UTAUT) questionnaire was employed. This model evaluated key factors, including performance expectancy, effort expectancy, social influence, facilitating conditions, and behavioral intention. Respondents were selected through purposive sampling and consisted of members of the accreditation committee, including Admin, Middle Admin, Area Chairs, Sub-Area Chairs, and Members. Findings revealed a high level of user acceptance, indicating that ADAMS effectively improves efficiency, document organization, communication, and transparency. Users highlighted the benefits of real-time monitoring, streamlined collaboration, and enhanced data security. In conclusion, ADAMS provides a practical solution to accreditation challenges and supports digital transformation in education. It is recommended that future enhancements include advanced or predictive analytics, user interface improvements, system integration capabilities, and additional modules to further extend its functionality.

Keywords: *accreditation system, document management, UTAUT, centralized platform, web-based system*

Integrating Large Language Models for Data Analytics and Decision-Support on Daily Time Records of a Turnstile System for Educational Institutions

Danika Mae G. Lazarte

This study presents the design and development of an integrated turnstile-based Daily Time Record (DTR) system, enhanced with data analytics and decision-support capabilities using Large Language Models (LLMs). The project addresses the limitations of the existing turnstile system in educational institutions, particularly their dependence on proprietary software, lack of advanced analytics, and absence of intelligent decision-support features. To overcome these challenges, the proposed system retrofits existing turnstile infrastructure by integrating a custom microcontroller that interfaces directly with the control board, enabling real-time capture of entry and exit data without requiring hardware replacement. A centralized database and RESTful API architecture were implemented to ensure efficient data transmission and storage. The system supports employees, students, and visitors through RFID-based identification, with a dedicated visitor management workflow. Traditional data analytics techniques were applied to generate insights such as attendance trends, congestion patterns, and visitor logs. To enhance interpretability, a Retrieval-Augmented Generation (RAG) approach was used to integrate LLMs, enabling natural language queries and context-aware analytical outputs. Multiple open-source LLMs were evaluated based on accuracy, response time, and insight quality, with the optimal model integrated into the system. Results demonstrated that the proposed solution provides reliable decision-making. Additionally, the system reduces dependency on vendor-specific solutions while maximizing the use of existing infrastructure. This research contributes to the field of educational technology by demonstrating a cost-effective, scalable, and intelligent approach to modernizing access control and attendance systems. It highlights the potential of combining hardware integration, data analytics, and LLM-driven decision support to improve efficiency, security, and data-driven governance in educational institutions.

Keywords: *Turnstile System, Daily Time Record, Large Language Models, Retrieval-Augmented Generation, Educational Data Analytics, Decision Support System*

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN EDUCATION MAJOR IN EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP

Transformational Leadership and Research Competence as Predictors of Faculty Research Engagement: An Explanatory Sequential Design

Venchie C. Badong

This study determined the significance of transformational leadership and research competence on research engagement among faculty in higher education institutions (HEIs) offering natural science programs in Region XI. The study adopted an explanatory sequential mixed-methods research design, in which quantitative data were collected using validated questionnaires being administered to randomly selected faculty from HEIs. The qualitative data were obtained through in-depth interviews and focus group discussions using validated open-ended questions. Quantitative data analysis included the use of the mean, standard deviation, and multiple regression, while qualitative data analysis used thematic analysis. Findings revealed that transformational leadership was at a high level, indicating that it was oftentimes manifested, while research competence was at a very high level, implying that it was always demonstrated by the faculty. Additionally, the level of research engagement was high, which is consistently observed among faculty. Further analysis revealed that, in isolation, both research competence and transformational leadership had a significantly positive influence on faculty research engagement in HEIs, but research competence had a stronger influence than transformational leadership. Also, the combined influence of research competence and transformational leadership significantly strengthened the faculty's research base. The integration of quantitative and qualitative findings was a connecting confirmation, supporting convergence between statistical data findings and the participants' standpoints. Specifically, all the standpoints were connecting and confirming the high level of transformative leadership, the very high level of research competence, the high level of research engagement, and the significant influence of research competence and transformative leadership.

Keywords: *Transformational leadership, research competence, research engagement, higher education, Philippines*

Empowering Teaching Through Evaluation: A Multiple Case Study on Administrative Leadership in Integrated Schools in Region XI

Honey Mae B. Candelario

This qualitative multiple-case study examined the experiences of five school administrators regarding teacher evaluation to empower teaching and instructional leadership in the Integrated School in Region XI. The challenges school administrators face in using evaluation and strategies were examined through in-depth interviews. Triangulation of the gathered data was done in all cases by interviewing 10 teachers. Thematic analysis revealed five challenges: time constraints and scheduling conflicts; workload and administrative demands; teacher readiness and resistance; tool utilization and orientation gaps; and resource and support limitations. Five themes also emerged on how evaluations empower teaching and instructional leadership. These are mentoring through evaluation, instructional alignment, contextualized teaching, teacher capacity building, and strengthening instructional leadership. Lastly, strategies used to ensure meaningful feedback included maintaining feedback mechanisms, aligning objectives with assessment, ensuring consistent evaluation schedules, monitoring contextualized lessons, and sustaining fair and consistent rating practices. The five cases were generally similar in five themes. However, regarding the insights, three of the cases differ from the others. For the implication for educational practice, suggest that while teacher evaluation is a vital part of instructional leadership, the complexity of administrative responsibilities often limits school leaders' ability to consistently engage in deep instructional supervision and for the conclusion, it was revealed that administrators face several challenges in balancing managerial and instructional roles, however, they remain committed to supporting teachers through evaluation, feedback, mentoring, and instructional guidance.

Keywords: *Educational leadership, empowering teaching through evaluation, administrative leadership, integrated school, multiple case, Philippines*

Empowering Leadership, 21st Century Teaching Skills, and Organizational Commitment of Public Elementary Matatag Implementers: An Explanatory Sequential Design

Jotham A. Dayag

Empowering leadership and effective teaching skills are key factors in strengthening teachers' organizational commitment. This study examined the influence of empowering leadership and 21st-century teaching skills on the organizational commitment of public elementary school teachers implementing the MATATAG curriculum in Region XI using a mixed-methods design. Results showed that all variables were manifested at very high levels. School leaders demonstrated participative decision-making, coaching, recognition, and open communication, while teachers demonstrated strong competence in learner-centered, technology-integrated practices. Findings further revealed that both empowering leadership and 21st-century teaching skills significantly influenced organizational commitment, with teaching skills as the stronger predictor. Qualitative results confirmed that leadership support and effective teaching practices enhanced teachers' motivation and commitment, despite minor challenges such as limited participation and resource constraints. The study concludes that strong leadership and teaching competence foster a supportive school environment and recommends sustained leadership practices, continuous professional development, and improved resource support.

Keywords: *empowering leadership, 21st-century teaching skills, organizational commitment, MATATAG curriculum, public elementary teachers*

Narratives of Alternative Learning System Educators in Region XI on Reintegrating Muslim Out-of-School Youth in Formal Education: A Multiple Case Study

Jainal Abidin P. Ismael

This study examined the real-world experiences of educators and implementers of the Alternative Learning System (ALS) in Region XI, Philippines, regarding helping Muslim Out-of-School Youth (OSY) return to formal education. The study, based on a qualitative phenomenological design, sought to investigate leadership techniques, identify difficulties encountered, and evaluate cooperative and culturally sensitive tactics used across various educational settings. The participants were chosen as supervisors and education program specialists who worked as ALS educators in several Department of Education regional offices and Schools Division Offices. Semi-structured interviews and document analysis were used to gather data through thematic analysis (1) institutional and cultural integration, (2) community advocacy in displacement contexts, (3) flexible learning and retention strategies, (4) community advocacy and cultural engagement, and (5) system-level supervision and resource mobilization. Results showed that stakeholder engagement, culturally sensitive education, adaptive leadership, and context-sensitive program implementation all contribute to successful integration; however, issues such as institutional constraints, cultural hurdles, and resource scarcity persist. Improving ALS implementation requires a comprehensive, adaptable framework that incorporates culturally grounded practices, leadership innovation, and community participation. The results support the creation of policies and programs that promote inclusive and equitable education for Muslim OSY. Suggestions were made to enhance stakeholder engagement, resource allocation, and leadership competency in ALS reintegration projects.

Keywords: *Alternative Learning Systems (ALS), Muslim Out-of-School Youth (OSY), Educational Reintegration, Leadership Practices, Culturally Responsive Education, Community Engagement, Inclusive Education*

A Structural Model of Educational Management Practices as Estimated by Organizational Citizenship Behavior, Emotional Leadership, and Work-Life Balance

Cinderella A. Javier

This study aimed to determine the best-fit model of Educational Management Practices (EMP) among college administrators in Local and State Universities and Colleges in Davao, Region XI, Philippines. To attain its objectives, a descriptive correlational research design was used. Data were collected using validated questionnaires on educational management practices, organizational citizenship behavior, emotional leadership, and work-life balance. Instruments were reviewed by experts through pilot testing and confirmed to be reliable through Cronbach's alpha. The mean and standard deviation were used to describe all variables at the descriptive level, and Pearson's r was used to test relationships among variables. Meanwhile, multiple regression and Structural Equation Modeling (SEM) were applied to examine predictive effects and generate the best-fit model. Descriptive statistics revealed that organizational citizenship behavior, emotional leadership, and educational management practices were rated very high, while work-life balance was rated high. Among the factors, emotional leadership emerged as the strongest influence, indicating that when leaders show empathy, understanding, and emotional support, instructors are more likely to display cooperative, voluntary behaviors that benefit the institution. Additionally, multiple regression revealed significant predictive effects, while SEM confirmed both direct and indirect pathways contributing to educational management practices, resulting in a well-fitting model. The best-fit structural equation model of educational management practices demonstrated acceptable fit, as indicated by the goodness-of-fit indices. The findings show that emotional leadership and work-life balance both contribute to organizational citizenship behavior, which in turn supports effective educational management practices. This study presented a validated model tailored to the Philippine context that may guide school administrators and policymakers in supporting college instructors.

Keywords: *Educational leadership, organizational citizenship behavior, emotional leadership, work-life balance, educational management practices, structural equation modeling, Philippines.*

Leadership–Driven Success: A Multiple Case Study of Experience School Heads Leading Elementary Schools in Region XI

Unayssa Marie V. Jayoma

This study aimed to discover the different leadership-driven successes of experienced school heads leading elementary schools in Region XI. It employed a qualitative multiple-case study approach focusing on diverse participants, including master teachers, classroom teachers, an administrative officer 2, and a school principal 4 in Region XI, Philippines. To capture a wide range of diverse perspectives, maximum variation sampling was utilized. The primary data sources consisted of responses from in-depth interviews (IDIs) conducted using a validated interview guide. While reading various literature sources, transcripts of triangulated interviews, and field notes served as secondary sources that enriched and supported the findings. The data were collected through in-depth interviews and analyzed using thematic analysis, yielding essential themes. The findings revealed five essential themes describing the leadership styles and practices commonly employed by experienced school heads to achieve success in their schools, including visible and ethical leadership, democratic and participative decision-making, data-driven and instructional leadership, teacher empowerment through supervision and mentoring, and transformational and strategic leadership. In terms of how experienced school heads in Region XI lead their elementary schools toward programmatic success, five essential themes emerged: fostering positive school culture, strengthening instructional programs, managing resources strategically, building community partnerships, sustaining motivation, and collective ownership. Regarding the specific programs and initiatives led by school heads that have meaningfully contributed to school improvement and student outcomes, there are five essential themes: reading and literacy programs; holistic learner development; institutional awards and recognition; monitoring and accountability systems; and, lastly, collaborative governance. The results show the critical role of school heads in cultivating an environment conducive to academic excellence and offer a plan for future initiatives to enhance school leadership and student performance.

Keywords: *Educational leadership, leadership-driven success, multiple case study, educational leaders, elementary school, Philippines*

Instructional Leadership in the Margins: A Multiple-Case Study on Strategies and Philosophies of School Heads in Last-Mile Schools in Region XI

Ronilo B. Labrador

This qualitative multiple-case study examined the instructional leadership strategies and philosophies of school heads in last-mile schools in Region XI, Philippines. The study employed a qualitative multiple-case design to explore how school leaders navigate geographically isolated and disadvantaged contexts to sustain instructional quality, promote equity, and ensure continuity of learning. Participants included five purposively selected school heads assigned in diverse last-mile settings, with additional informants involved for data triangulation. The study addressed how leadership strategies are enacted, how leadership philosophies are applied, and how contextual challenges shape instructional leadership practices. Data were gathered through in-depth interviews and triangulated through interviews with individuals closely associated with the participants. The data were analyzed using thematic analysis to identify patterns and recurring themes across cases. Findings revealed five major themes: context-responsive instructional supervision, prioritization of foundational literacy, innovation through flexible learning modalities, resourcefulness in constrained environments, and collaborative, community-embedded leadership. Results further showed that school heads adopt adaptive, servant-oriented, and transformational leadership approaches, demonstrating situational flexibility in addressing diverse teacher competencies, learner needs, and contextual challenges. The study concludes that instructional leadership in last-mile schools is shaped by contextual realities and anchored in resilience, ethical commitment, and a strong moral purpose to ensure inclusive and quality education.

Keywords: *instructional leadership, last-mile schools, educational leadership, equity, Philippines, multiple-case study*

Navigating Organizational Trust and School Climate Among Higher Education Institutions: An Explanatory Embedded Multiple Case Study

Cliff Kirl F. Lubon

School climate and organizational trust are critical determinants of institutional effectiveness, yet their interplay in Philippine higher education remains underexplored. This study examined how organizational trust influences school climate among teachers in Region XII, using an explanatory, embedded multiple-case study within a mixed-methods framework. Quantitative data were collected through validated surveys, while qualitative insights were drawn from interviews and focus discussions among teachers in higher education institutions. Regression analysis revealed that organizational trust significantly predicts school climate, explaining a substantial proportion of variance across institutions. Trust patterns varied by leadership style, collegial relationships, and institutional culture. Teachers emphasized that competence, fairness, and recognition foster psychological safety, engagement, and collaboration, while a lack of trust undermines morale and relationships. The study concludes that strengthening organizational trust is essential for cultivating positive school climates in higher education. Findings highlight the need for leadership development, faculty support initiatives, and transparent policies to strengthen trust and climate. The study contributes to advancing quality education and aligns with Sustainable Development Goals on well-being and strong institutions.

Keywords: *Organizational trust, school climate, explanatory embedded multiple case study, SOCCSKSARGEN, Philippines*

The Mediating Effect of Job Satisfaction on the Relationship Between Servant Leadership and Faculty Retention of RVM Higher Education Institutions: An Explanatory Sequential Design

S. Maria Marilou B. Madronero, RVM

This study employed an explanatory sequential mixed methods design to investigate the mediating effect of job satisfaction on the relationship between servant leadership and faculty retention in the Religious of the Virgin Mary Higher Education Institutions. The purpose was to determine whether job satisfaction significantly mediated the relationship between servant leadership and faculty retention and to explain the quantitative results through participants' experiences. The participants were full-time faculty members from eleven RVM HEIs, with 250 respondents in the quantitative phase and 17 participants in the qualitative phase. The locale covered institutions across Northern Mindanao (Region X) and Southern Mindanao (Region XI). For data collection, structured survey questionnaires were administered to measure servant leadership, job satisfaction, and faculty retention, followed by in-depth interviews and focus group discussions to further explain the quantitative findings. Stratified random sampling was used in the quantitative phase, while purposive sampling was used to select participants for the qualitative strand. Quantitative data were analyzed using descriptive statistics, correlational analyses, and mediation analyses, while qualitative data were analyzed using thematic analysis. The results indicated significant relationships among servant leadership, job satisfaction, and faculty retention, with job satisfaction serving as a significant mediator. Qualitative findings revealed that supportive leadership, positive work environment, and opportunities for growth enhanced faculty satisfaction and strengthened their intention to remain in the institution. In terms of integration, the study employed a connecting-explanatory approach, in which qualitative findings provided deeper explanations of the statistical relationships identified in the quantitative phase, thereby offering a comprehensive understanding of the factors influencing faculty retention.

Keywords: Education, servant leadership, job satisfaction, faculty retention, explanatory sequential mixed methods, mediation analysis, higher education, RVM HEIs, Philippines

The Dimensions of Context-Specific Ignacian Marian Leadership Among Administrators of RVM Schools: An Exploratory Sequential Design

S. Maria Merma Liza M. Shalah, RVM

This study employed an exploratory sequential mixed-methods design to examine and empirically validate the dimensions of context-specific Ignacian Marian leadership among middle administrators in Religious of the Virgin Mary (RVM) schools. The purpose of the study was to develop a grounded and psychometrically sound questionnaire of Ignacian Marian leadership that reflects the unique administrative, professional, and spiritual roles of middle managers in Catholic educational institutions. The qualitative phase used in-depth interviews and focus group discussions to capture administrators' lived experiences and generate emergent leadership themes. The themes generated were: Faith-Guided Leadership; Servant Leadership and Humility; Integrity and Transparency; Transformative Decision-Making; Excellence Through Formation and Mentorship; Collaboration and Synodality; Resilience and Adaptability; and Ignacian Marian Identity and Mission Integration. These themes informed the development of a structured survey for the quantitative phase, which employed Explanatory and Confirmatory Factor Analysis. The resulting five-factor model comprises discernment-based leadership, spiritual servant leadership, collaborative leadership, formative leadership, and resilient leadership, with strong reliability indices (Cronbach's alpha and omega) ranging from .866 to .950. Integrating these strands through a connecting-confirmation approach, the study provides a validated framework that aligns with core Ignacian values, supporting the advancement of values-based leadership and quality education within Catholic school settings.

Keywords: *Education, leadership, middle administrators, RVM schools, exploratory sequential mixed methods, questionnaire development, faith-based administration, Philippines*

Servant Leadership and Organizational Culture as Predictors of Organizational Commitment in the Social Welfare Setting: An Explanatory Sequential Approach

Ramonita M. Salamanca

This study adopted an explanatory sequential mixed-methods design and used multivariate analysis of servant leadership and organizational culture as independent variables to explain variation in organizational commitment among employees of social welfare institutions in Region XI. The sampling method used in the quantitative phase was cluster random sampling, and the quantitative data were collected from a sample of social workers and staff at the social welfare institution, DSWD, Davao Region, using adapted five-point Likert-scale survey questionnaires, which were subjected to content validity and reliability analyses. Mean, standard deviation, and multiple regression were used for quantitative data analysis. Statistical analysis showed that servant leadership and organizational culture were of high status. Employee organizational commitment in a social welfare setting was also rated high. The analysis also indicated that, in an individual capacity, servant leadership significantly influenced employees' organizational commitment in a social welfare setting. Likewise, organizational culture significantly influenced employees' organizational commitment in social welfare settings. Consequently, the combined influence of servant leadership and organizational culture on employees' organizational commitment in social welfare settings was significant. Meanwhile, more than half of the variance in organizational commitment was explained by servant leadership and organizational culture. In the qualitative phase, in-depth interviews and focus group discussions were conducted with participants selected based on the quantitative findings. The participants' standpoints confirmed the quantitative results and highlighted the high levels of servant leadership, organizational culture, and organizational commitment, as well as the significant influence of servant leadership and organizational culture on employees' organizational commitment in social welfare settings. Hence, the integration of the quantitative and qualitative data was a connecting confirmation.

Keywords: *Servant leadership, organizational culture, organizational commitment, social workers and staff in Davao Region-DSWD, explanatory sequential design, Philippines*

Contingent Educational Management Response and Transformational Leadership Practices as Predictors of Organizational Commitment in BARMM Region: Explanatory Sequential Design

Senaida N. Salibangsa

This study examined the status and influence of contingent educational management response, transformational leadership practices, and organizational commitment among private higher education faculty members in the BARMM Region. Employing a mixed-method explanatory sequential design, the research employed validated survey questionnaires, in-depth interviews, and focus group discussions to collect data from faculty members. Quantitative findings revealed that contingent educational management responses were consistently rated very high, indicating that faculty regularly experienced structured communication and interactions, human-centric adaptability, planning and delivery, professional and personal growth, and decision-making within their institutions. Transformational leadership practices were likewise assessed as always observed, reflecting the strong presence of idealized influence, inspirational motivation, intellectual stimulation, and individualized consideration among school deans. Faculty members also demonstrated a high level of organizational commitment, characterized by emotional attachment, loyalty, and sustained effort toward institutional goals. Further, analysis showed that contingent educational management response had a modest yet significant effect on organizational commitment, while transformational leadership had a stronger influence, highlighting the critical role of inspirational and supportive leadership behaviors in fostering deeper faculty engagement, with their combined effect being statistically significant. Qualitative findings supported these results, with faculty describing their leaders as communicative, adaptable, trust, inspiring, value and supportive. Consequently, the study recommends that administrators strengthen structured communication and adaptive management, intensify transformational leadership practices, develop integrated policies combining management and leadership, and belong to sustain faculty commitment and institutional resilience.

Keywords: *contingent educational management, transformational leadership practices, organizational commitment, higher education, faculty commitment, explanatory sequential design*

Ethical Leadership and Self-Efficacy as Predictors of Teacher Engagement in Public Secondary Schools in Region XI: A Convergent Design

Karen Joy I. Sobrecarey

This study employed a convergent mixed-methods approach to investigate the influence of ethical leadership and self-efficacy on teacher engagement. The quantitative data were collected from a sample of public secondary school teachers in Region XI, Philippines, using adapted five-point Likert-scale survey questionnaires, which were subjected to content validity and reliability analyses. Mean, Standard Deviation, and multiple regression analysis were used for quantitative data analysis. Statistical analysis showed that ethical leadership and self-efficacy of teachers have very high status, and teacher engagement has a very high status. While no significant influence was found between ethical leadership and teacher engagement. A strong, positive influence was observed between self-efficacy and teacher engagement. The analysis also indicated that there is no significant difference in teacher engagement across age, sex, years of teaching, and subject type. In the qualitative phase, in-depth interviews and focus group discussions were conducted with participants selected based on the quantitative findings. The qualitative data confirmed the quantitative results and highlighted the merging- confirmation of the status of teacher engagement and significance difference in teacher engagement when analyzed according to age, sex, years of teaching, and type of subject taught. The study identified merging-confirmation as the nature of data integration, which concludes that teacher self-efficacy serves as a key predictor of engagement in public secondary schools.

Keywords: *Education, ethical leadership, self- efficacy, teacher engagement, public secondary school teachers, school heads, convergent design*

An Explanatory Embedded Multiple Case Study on Decision Making Style and Financial Management Behavior Among Middle Administrators of Diocesan Schools in Region X

Vince Jayson A. Villorijo

This study examined the influence of decision-making styles on the financial management behavior of middle administrators in diocesan schools in Region X, highlighting how leadership practices shape fiscal governance. The research employed a mixed-methods explanatory, embedded, multiple-case design. Quantitative data were collected from 250 middle administrators using validated instruments, while qualitative insights were gathered from 17 participants through in-depth interviews and focus group discussions. Quantitative results indicated that decision-making style characterized by participative and collaborative leadership was rated high to very high. Financial management behaviors, including budgeting, cash management, and resource allocation, were also rated high. Regression analysis confirmed that decision-making style significantly influenced financial management behavior, while qualitative findings elaborated these results by identifying patterns of participative, situational, selective autocratic, delegated, and policy-driven decision-making across cases. Administrators described their financial management behavior as structured, accountability-driven, and sustainability-oriented. Integration of quantitative and qualitative strands demonstrated a connecting-confirmation pattern, and cross-case analysis revealed consistent themes of collaborative leadership, situational autonomy, structured financial management, strategic planning within constraints, and delegated leadership with controlled accountability. Overall, the study contributes to theory by validating the link between leadership style and fiscal governance, and to practice by underscoring the pivotal role of middle administrators in fostering accountability, efficiency, and sustainability in diocesan school administration.

Keywords: *decision-making style, financial management behavior, complex mixed methods, explanatory embedded case study, diocesan schools, educational leadership, Philippines*

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN EDUCATION MAJOR IN APPLIED LINGUISTICS

The Language of Risk: A Social Semiotic Analysis of Disaster Public Service Announcements in the Philippines

Kyndra B. Aradillos

This study analyzed the multimodal construction of risk language in Philippine disaster public service announcements (PSAs) and explored how Filipino stakeholders interpreted these official directives. Using the social semiotics framework of Kress and van Leeuwen, the researcher identified 15 distinct semiotic patterns in a corpus of posters from relevant government agencies. The study's background was grounded in the need to address the growing multimodality of disaster risk communication in the Philippines. Results indicated that agencies relied heavily on hazard visualization, institutional authority encoding, and color-coded urgency to project high-modality warnings. Textual structures, such as the given-new and ideal-real axes, were strategically employed to guide viewers from the abstract concept of a threat to practical, life-saving actions. However, qualitative interviews with seventeen stakeholders revealed a complex, negotiated process of meaning-making. While the government intended a text-based interpretation, many Filipinos engaged in visual-semiotic or emotionally triggered interpretations, in which meaning was derived instinctively from color salience and iconic symbols rather than linguistic instructions. This disparity often led to a hybrid trust system, in which official information was cross-verified with social networks and personal experience. The study concluded that for disaster communication to be truly effective, it must move beyond top-down authoritative mandates toward cultural mediation. By aligning scientific data with the visual culture of urgency and localized cultural identities, agencies can transform the language of risk from a clinical directive into a culturally resonant, life-saving communal conversation. This research highlighted that the success of risk communication depended on bridging institutional authority with the lived realities of the population.

Keywords: *Education, social semiotics, disaster risk communication, public service announcements, Philippines*

Debate Speeches of Student World Champions Through the Lens of Aristotle's Rhetorical Triangle

Maria Liza A. Baldonado

Debate speeches are organized, argumentative discourses that function as a means of civic education and verbal communication. This paper aimed to analyze the debate speeches of world champion debaters using Aristotle's Rhetorical Triangle and to probe the rhetorical strategies employed in these speeches, and how the rhetorical triangle and strategies exemplify the discursive arguments. This study employed a descriptive, qualitative method using a rhetorical discourse analysis approach. Through purposive sampling, 40 debate speeches taken from five debate competitions served as the corpora for this study. Throughout the data collection process, the findings revealed that logos is the dominant appeal used by debaters, followed by ethos, and pathos as the least utilized appeal. Moreover, the rhetorical strategies of cause-and-effect thinking, emotion-laden vocabulary, and demonstration of expertise and analytical authority surfaced as the most frequently employed. Consequently, the rhetorical triangle and strategies exemplify the discursive argument, with logos serving as the structural backbone, ethos strengthening it, and pathos humanizing it. The key findings of this study deepened understanding of these strategies and raised new questions about how to explore debate speeches rhetorically.

Keywords: *Applied linguistics, Aristotle's rhetorical strategies, debate speeches, rhetorical discourse analysis, Philippines*

The Intersection of Language, Theology, and Community Building in United Church of Christ in the Philippines Keynote Addresses: A Discourse Analysis

Gorgonia Joy M. Veloso

This qualitative research investigates the intersection of language, theology, and community-building in the keynote addresses of the United Church of Christ in the Philippines (UCCP) for the Ecclesiastical Years 2022–2025, using a discourse-analytic approach. Guided by Aristotle’s rhetorical triangle (ethos, pathos, logos) and Halliday’s Systemic Functional Linguistics (SFL), particularly the transitivity system, the study analyzes ten purposively selected keynote addresses to identify dominant linguistic and rhetorical patterns. Findings reveal that material, relational, and mental processes are most prominent and closely aligned with rhetorical appeals: material processes with logos (action and mission), relational processes with ethos (doctrinal clarity and authority), and mental processes with pathos (emotional and experiential engagement). These linguistic strategies construct key theological themes of hope, justice, mission, renewal, and community while fostering communal identity through inclusive language, shared narratives, and action-oriented discourse. The study concludes that UCCP keynote discourse functions as public theology, in which language serves as a dynamic resource for meaning-making, persuasion, and community formation, thereby contributing to discourse studies, theological communication, and applied linguistics.

Keywords: *discourse analysis, systemic functional linguistics, rhetorical analysis, public theology, Philippines*

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN EDUCATION MAJOR IN FILIPINO

Masusing Pagsusuri sa Nakagawiang Translanguaging ng mga Mag-Aaral sa Pampublikong Kolehiyo ng Rehiyon XI: Isang Convergent na Pag-Aaral

Sancho I. Macalisang

Ang pag-aaral na ito ay gumamit ng convergent mixed-methods design upang masuri ang nakagawiang translanguaging ng mga mag-aaral sa mga pampublikong kolehiyo (SUCs) sa Rehiyon XI at ang implikasyon nito sa kanilang pagkatuto. Lumahok sa pag-aaral na ito ang 300 na mag-aaral para sa kwantitatibong bahagi at 18 na piling kalahok para sa kwalitatibong panayam. Ang mga kalahok ay pinili sa pamamagitan ng angkop na sampling technique mula sa iba't ibang pampublikong kolehiyo sa rehiyon, kung saan ginawa ang pananaliksik. Ginamit ang beripikadong talatanungan upang makuha ang kwantitatibong datos. Samantala, isinagawa ang in-depth interview (IDI) at focus group discussions (FGD) upang makalikom ng mas malalim na datos tungkol sa kalidad. Sa pagsusuri ng datos, ginamit ang Mean, Standard Deviation, independent t-test, One-way ANOVA, at Tukey Post-Hoc Test, habang thematic analysis naman ang ginamit sa kwalitatibong bahagi. Ipinakita ng resulta na napakataas ang antas ng translanguaging sa mga dimensyon ng epektibidad, inklusibidad, pakikilahok, suporta, pagpapaunlad ng kasanayan, at mga bunga, habang ang mga hamon ay nasa katamtamang antas. Natuklasan din na may makabuluhang pagkakaiba batay sa kasarian, edad, at kurso, kung saan mas positibo ang pananaw ng mga babae, mas batang mag-aaral, at mga kursong may kinalaman sa edukasyon. Sa pagsusuri, lumitaw ang mga temang tumutugma sa kwantitatibong resulta, at ipinakita ng triangulation ang malinaw na pagsasanib ng datos. Sa kabuuan, ang translanguaging ay isang epektibo at inklusibong estratehiya sa pagkatuto at inirerekomenda ang sistematikong implementasyon nito upang higit pang mapahusay ang pagkatuto at pagtuturo sa multilingguwal na konteksto.

Mga Susing Salita: *Edukasyon, Translanguaging, mixed methods, mag-aaral, multilingguwal, pagkatuto, Rehiyon XI, Pilipinas*

Paglalayag sa Digital Na Silid-Aralan: Isang Multiple Case Study sa Pasalitang Kakayahang Komunikatibo ng mga ALS Learners sa Paglahoksa Regular na Klase sa Filipino

Jaxson C. Mollida

Ang kwalitatibong multiple-case na pananaliksik na ito ay naglalayong ilarawan ang karanasan sa paglalayag sa digital na silid-aralan at ang pasalitang kakayahang komunikatibo ng mga mag-aaral ng Alternative Learning System sa paglahok sa regular na klase sa Filipino. Gamit ang maximum variation sampling, limang mag-aaral mula sa iba't ibang paaralan sa Rehiyon XIII ang naging kalahok. Nakalap ang datos sa pamamagitan ng malalalim na panayam at pinagtibay sa pamamagitan ng trayanggulasyon mula sa iba pang impormante. Mula sa tematikong pagsusuri, lumitaw ang mga temang: adaptasyon at pakikilahok sa digital na kapaligiran, emosyonal na tugon sa digital na pagkatuto, positibong epekto ng digital na klase, at mga hamon sa digital na paglahok. Naitala rin ang epekto ng digitalisasyon sa pamamagitan ng: paggamit ng mga digital na kagamitan, pagpapabilis at pagpapahusay ng pagkatuto, mga suliranin sa digital na pagkatuto, at mga paraan ng pag-angkop at paglutas ng mga suliranin. Sa estratehiya ng pagpapaunlad ng kakayahang komunikatibo, lumitaw ang: personal na estratehiya sa pagkatuto ng Filipino, gawain sa klase bilang daluyan ng paglinang, interaksyon bilang estratehiya, at pag-unlad ng kasanayang pangkomunikasyon. Bagaman may pagkakatulad ang mga kalahok, kapansin-pansin ang pagkakaiba sa ilang dimensyon. Ipinahihiwatig ng pag-aaral na mahalaga ang demokratiko at inklusibong kapaligiran upang mapaunlad ang mga kasanayang digital at komunikatibo.

Mga Susing Salita: *Paglalayag sa digital na silid-aralan, pasalitang kakayaang komunikatibo, ALS learners, multiple case study, estratehiya sa paglinang ng pagsasalita, klase sa Filipino, Pilipinas*

Mga Dimensyong Context-Specific Translanguaging na Talatanungan sa mga Mag-Aaral ng Asignaturang Filipino: Isang Exploratory Sequential na Disenyo

Argielou M. Pecante

Ang pangunahing layunin ng pag-aaral na ito ay bumuo at magbalideyt ng isang context-specific na translanguaging na talatanungan para sa mga mag-aaral ng asignaturang Filipino. Ginamit ang mixed methods sa pamamagitan ng exploratory sequential design. Dalawampung (20) mag-aaral ang lumahok sa kwalitatibong yugto, habang ang instrumento ay sinuri sa pamamagitan ng content validity index (CVI) ng limang (5) eksperto. Sa kwantitatibong bahagi, pitumpung (70) mag-aaral ang sumailalim sa exploratory factor analysis (EFA), 351 sa unang confirmatory factor analysis (CFA), at 100 sa pangalawang CFA. Mula sa kwalitatibong datos, natukoy ang walong (8) dimensyon ng translanguaging. Sa ikalawang confirmatory factor analysis (CFA), pinagtibay ang apat (4) na pinal na factor: (1) pag-unawa sa pamamagitan ng translanguaging, (2) kolaboratibong translanguaging, (3) code-switching para sa kalinawan, at (4) daloy ng pagpapahayag. Napatunayan na ang apat (4)-factor na modelo ang pinakaangkop batay sa mga fit indices. Bilang resulta, nabuo ang isang 25-aytem na talatanungan na may mataas na reliability at katanggap-tanggap na validity. Ipinakita rin ng pag-aaral na walang makabuluhang pagkakaiba sa antas ng translanguaging batay sa baitang at dayalekto, ngunit may makabuluhang pagkakaiba sa antas batay sa kasarian. Samakatuwid, ang instrumento ay angkop na gamitin sa pagsukat ng translanguaging practices sa kontekstong multilingguwal.

Mga Susing Salita: *Edukasyon, translanguaging, talatanungan, mixed methods, exploratory sequential, validity, reliability, edukasyong multilingguwal, Pilipinas*

Paggalugad sa mga Salitang Balbal Ng LGBTQ+ Sa Filipino: Isang Sosyolingguwistik at Sentiment Analisis sa Diskursong Bekimon sa Midyang Panlipunan

Arnel T. Serentas

Ginamit ang pag-aaral ng kuwalitatibong disenyo ng pananaliksik na nakatuon sa sosyolingguwistikang pagsusuri at sentiment analysis, gamit ang Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA) bilang pangunahing lapit sa pagsusuri ng datos. Ang mga datos ay kinuha mula sa pangunahing plataporma: Facebook, Instagram, Reddit, at Threads (pampublikong post, komento, at talakayan sa mga grupo), X/Twitter (mga tweet, retweet, at quote-tweet), at sa TikTok (mga video caption, komento, at tekstong lumalabas sa video) Instagram, Reddit, at Threads. Isinagawa ang pagsusuri sa pamamagitan ng tematikong pag-uuri ng mga datos upang matukoy ang karaniwang anyo, estruktura, at ekspresyon ng Bekimon; ang paggamit nito sa pagpapahayag ng identidad at pakikilahok ng LGBTQ+ community; ang mga sosyolingguwistikong uso gaya ng code-switching at pagbuo ng leksikon; at ang mga nangingibabaw na emosyon batay sa konteksto ng paggamit nito. Natuklasan sa pag-aaral na ang Bekimon ay nagsisilbing malikhein at adaptibong anyo ng wika na ginagamit upang ipahayag ang identidad, emosyon, at pakikipag-ugnayan sa lipunang digital. Lumitaw din na ang paggamit nito ay nagtataguyod ng inclusivity, solidarity, at emotional expression, habang ang humor at sarcasm ay nagsisilbing estratehiya upang mapanatili ang harmonious na pakikipag-ugnayan sa online na espasyo.

Mga Susing Salita: *Bekimon, LGBTQ+, kritikal na pagsusuri ng diskurso, sosyolingguwistika, wika at identidad, emosyon, social media, Pilipinas*

Isang Genre-Based Na Pagsusuri ng mga Abstrak sa mga Proyektong Action Research sa Filipino sa Departamento ng Edukasyon

May Marie T. Suico

Ang kwalitatibong disenyong pananaliksik gamit ang genre-based na pagsusuri sa mga abstrak ng proyektong action research sa Filipino upang matukoy ang kanilang estruktura, mga tampok na lingguwistiko, at layuning komunikatibo sa pag-aaral ng abstrak. Layunin ng pananaliksik na mailarawan ang estruktural na padron, matukoy ang mga katangiang lingguwistiko, at maipaliwanag ang ugnayan ng mga ito sa layuning komunikatibo. Ginamit ang korpus ng mga aprobadong action research sa dibisyon o rehiyon na binubuo lamang ng limampu't limang (55) abstrak ng pampublikong paaralan sa Departamento ng Edukasyon mula sa elektronikong repositoryong imbakan ng website o portal. Ipinakita sa resulta na karamihan sa mga abstrak ay sumusunod sa limang (5) bahagi ng estruktura at sa paggamit ng pormal na wika, ngunit nagkaiba ang antas ng pagiging teknikal at lalim ng paglalahad. Lumabas na ang mga abstrak ay nakatuon sa iba't ibang layuning komunikatibo, subalit may ilan na nanatili sa deskriptibong antas at kulang sa analitikal na pag-unawa. Batay sa pagsusuri ng pag-aaral, kinakailangang paunlarin ang estruktura, wika, at lalim ng pagsusuri sa abstrak upang mapahusay ang kalidad ng pananaliksik sa edukasyon. Sa pamamagitan nito, ang mga institusyong pang-edukasyon ay dapat magbalanse sa pagitan ng malinaw na pamatayan at pahintulot sa malikhaing pag-angkop ng mga guro.

Mga Susung Salita: *Edukasyon, abstrak, action research, genre-based na pagsusuri, Pilipinas*

Sa Likod ng Mahusay na Pagtuturo: Isang Interpretib na Penomenolohikal na Pagsusuri sa mga Pinakamabisang Gawi sa Pagpapatupad ng Senior High School sa Filipino

Melchor Jr. M. Valmoria

Ang kwalitatibong Interpretib na Penomenolohikal na Pagsusuri (IPA) ay naglalayong masuri ang pinakamabisang gawi sa pagpapatupad ng Senior High School sa Filipino, partikular na ang kanilang pananaw, karanasan, mga salik na nakaaapekto, at gampanin bilang tagapagpatupad ng kurikulum. Ginamit ang snowball sampling upang makuha ang siyam na guro mula sa Rehiyon V, Rehiyon XI, Rehiyon XII, at National Capital Region (NCR). Nakalap ang datos gamit ang malalalim na panayam. Mula sa tematikong pagsusuri, lumitaw ang mga hamon na naranasan ng mga partisipante na nakaranas ng pagkalito, pagkabalisa, at matinding presyon sa simula ng kanilang mga tungkulin, kasabay ng pagharap sa stress, pagod, at emosyonal na hamon dulot ng maraming responsibilidad. Gayunman, napagtagumpayan nila ang mga ito sa tulong ng pakikipag-ugnayan sa mga kasamahan, paggabay o mentorship, at sariling pagsisikap, kabilang ang paglinang ng kasanayan sa pamamahala ng oras, organisasyon, at pag-aangkop sa iba't ibang sitwasyon. Lumitaw din na sa paglipas ng panahon, nagbunga ito ng pagtaas ng kumpiyansa, mas matibay na propesyonal na identidad, at patuloy na pag-unlad sa personal at propesyonal na aspeto. Higit pang palawakin ang pagsusuri sa parehong pribado at pampublikong paaralan upang maunawaan at masuri ang mga pinakamabisang gawi sa pagpapatupad ng Senior High School sa Filipino.

Mga Susing Salita: *Edukasyon, kurikulum, implementasyon, guro sa Filipino, Senior High School, Interpretib na Penomenolohikal na Pagsusuri, Pilipinas*

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN EDUCATION MAJOR IN PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Teaching Competencies, School Culture and Job Satisfaction among Physical Education Teachers of Higher Education Institutions in Region XII: A Convergent Design

Marichu A. Calixtro

This study examined the influence of teaching competencies and school culture on the job satisfaction of physical education teachers in higher education institutions in Region XII, Philippines. Using a convergent mixed-methods design. Quantitative data were collected from 302 teachers across 72 institutions, while 18 teachers were involved in in-depth interviews and focus group discussions for the qualitative phase. Quantitative data were analyzed using descriptive statistics and multiple linear regression, while qualitative data were analyzed through thematic analysis. Findings revealed that teaching competencies and school culture were rated very high, while job satisfaction was rated high. Regression analysis showed that teaching competencies and school culture jointly predicted job satisfaction, explaining 51.6% of its variation, while 48.4% was attributed to other factors not included in this study. However, only school culture had a significant positive influence on job satisfaction, whereas teaching competencies did not. Qualitative findings revealed themes on teachers' accountability and professionalism, supportive yet challenging work environments, fulfillment from student progress and engagement, collaborative and inclusive beliefs, including holistic development, and proactive, passionate, and goal-oriented attitudes. Integration of findings showed overall convergence, with divergence observed in the pay indicator under job satisfaction, which emerged as an important qualitative concern. Overall, both teaching competencies and school culture contribute to understanding job satisfaction, with school culture emerging as the significant predictor.

Keywords: Education, Teaching competencies, school culture, job satisfaction, physical education teachers, higher education institutions, convergent design. Region XII, Philippines

Integration of Traditional Games in Physical Activities from the Perspectives of Stakeholders: Multiple Case Study

Shelley P. Labra

This qualitative research employed a multiple-case study design, involving public secondary schools in Tagum City Division, Davao del Norte. This study explored how traditional games are integrated into Physical Education (PE) classroom learning activities and how various systems and approaches shape this integration across multiple school contexts. This study examined management practices, pedagogical perspectives, and cross-case similarities and differences in implementing traditional games in PE. The participants included school heads, MAPEH teachers, IPED coordinators, parents, and students, selected through purposive sampling. Data were gathered through in-depth interviews and analyzed using thematic analysis. The essential themes generated revealed that participants integrated traditional games through contextualization, resourcefulness, cultural sensitivity, collaboration with communities, and alignment with institutional and curricular requirements. Traditional games were viewed as effective culture-responsive and experiential pedagogical tools that enhanced student engagement, motivation, and value formation, despite systemic and structural challenges such as limited resources and varying institutional support. Cross-case analysis showed shared commitments to cultural preservation and learner-centered practices, while differences emerged in implementation strategies influenced by school context, resources, and stakeholder involvement. The study highlighted the importance of culturally responsive PE instruction and sustained institutional support in promoting meaningful integration of traditional games. Findings offered practical implications for educators, school leaders, and policymakers seeking to strengthen inclusive and culturally grounded PE programs.

Keywords: *Physical education, traditional games, physical education classes, multiple case, Tagum City, Davao del Norte, Philippines*

The Moderating Effect of Digital Competence on the Relationship Between Technology Integration and Technostress: An Explanatory Sequential Design

Vence Lloyd E. Quinit

This study employed an explanatory sequential design to determine the moderating effect of digital competence on the relationship between technology integration and technostress among physical education teachers in Region XI. Participating schools were selected through purposive sampling. The study examined the levels of technology integration, digital competence, and technostress, as well as the relationships among these variables and the moderating role of digital competence. Quantitative data were collected using validated questionnaires and analyzed using descriptive statistics, correlation, and moderation analysis, while qualitative data were obtained through interviews and analyzed using thematic analysis. Findings revealed that both technology integration and digital competence were at a very high level, while technostress was at a moderate level. Correlation results showed that technology integration had a weak, non-significant relationship with technostress. Technology integration and digital competence demonstrated a significant positive relationship, while digital competence and technostress showed a significant negative relationship. Results further indicated that digital competence does not moderate the relationship between technology integration and technostress. The integration of findings confirmed very high digital competence, moderate technostress, a significant negative effect of digital competence on technostress, and the absence of a significant interaction effect between technology integration and digital competence. Qualitative results supported these findings, indicating that technostress is not significantly associated with technology integration but is negatively associated with digital competence. Overall, the model explained a small proportion of the variance in technostress.

Keywords: *technology integration, digital competence, technostress, physical education teachers, moderation analysis, explanatory sequential design*

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN PHARMACY

Comparative Evaluation of Tween 80- and Cremophor Rh40-Based Ferulic Acid Alginate Raft Powder for Suspension: Physicochemical Characterization, Antioxidant Activity, and Drug Release Kinetics

Jayson B. Canja

Ferulic acid is a promising antioxidant compound, but its limited aqueous solubility may restrict its formulation performance. This study aimed to develop and compare ferulic acid alginate raft powder formulations prepared without surfactant, with Tween 80, and with Cremophor RH40 in terms of flow properties, physicochemical characteristics, antioxidant activity, compatibility, and drug release behavior. An experimental laboratory-based formulation design was employed. The formulations were prepared as raft-forming powders and evaluated for flow properties, physicochemical properties, X-ray diffraction profile, DPPH free-radical scavenging activity, cumulative drug release, release kinetics, and dissolution profile similarity. Results showed that surfactant incorporation improved the overall performance of the formulations. The Cremophor RH40-based formulation demonstrated the most favorable flow and packing behavior, highest drug content, acceptable gel formation, prolonged buoyancy, and the most enhanced drug release. XRD findings suggested reduced crystallinity and improved dispersion of ferulic acid within the alginate matrix. All formulations retained antioxidant activity, and drug release followed a time-dependent pattern best described by the Korsmeyer-Peppas model with Fickian diffusion. Overall, Cremophor RH40 transformed the alginate raft powder into the most promising platform for improving ferulic acid delivery, combining manufacturability, stability, antioxidant preservation, and modified release in one formulation.

Keywords: *alginate raft, natural products, Korsmeyer-Peppas model, powder for suspension*

DOCTOR IN BUSINESS MANAGEMENT

The Predictors Of Sustainable Consumption Behavior: An Explanatory Sequential Approach

Grace G. Balgos

Sustainable consumption behavior is essential in mitigating environmental issues, imposing the need to better understand the factors influencing consumers' sustainable practices, particularly within local contexts. This study examined how internal motivation, external context, and consumer engagement predict sustainable consumption behavior among fast-food chain customers in Region XII (SOCCSKSARGEN) using an explanatory sequential mixed-methods design. Survey data from 340 randomly selected participants were complemented by qualitative insights from 10 interviewees and seven focus group discussants selected through purposive sampling. Results reveal that internal motivation and consumer engagement significantly predict sustainable consumption behavior, with internal motivation emerging as the strongest predictor. This was confirmed by the qualitative findings, indicating a connecting-confirmation form of integration. The study concludes that strengthening intrinsic motivation and consumer engagement is crucial in promoting sustainable consumption, and recommends value-based programs and participatory sustainability initiatives to reinforce environmental responsibility and active consumer involvement. It also recommends further research on additional factors and potential mediating or moderating relationships to deepen the understanding of consumer behavior.

Keywords: *Business Management, Fast-food chain, sustainable consumption, consumer engagement, Philippines*

Resilience Capacity Among Banana Farm Workers in Mindanao

Danica Ana B. Bendigo

This study examined the resilience capacity of banana farm workers in corporate-managed plantations in Mindanao, Philippines. Using a convergent mixed-methods research design, the study aimed to determine the level of resilience capacity among workers, identify whether significant differences existed across age, sex, educational attainment, years of service, and employment status, and examine key resilience dimensions influencing adaptive capacity. The participants included 250 banana farm workers selected through stratified random sampling, along with 10 participants in in-depth interviews and 7 in a focus group discussion. The study investigated resilience dimensions related to access to basic services, assets, social safety nets, climate shocks, social capital, adaptive capacity, and stability. Quantitative data were collected using a structured questionnaire, while qualitative data were collected through interviews and focus group discussions. Quantitative data were analyzed using descriptive and inferential statistical tools, and qualitative responses were analyzed through thematic analysis. Results revealed a generally high level of resilience among banana farm workers, with employment status the only variable to show a significant difference: seasonal workers demonstrated stronger adaptive responses than regular and contractual workers. Qualitative findings further supported the identified resilience dimensions affecting workers' coping capacity. Based on these findings, a Resilience Capacity Strengthening Program for Banana Farm Workers in Mindanao (RCSP-BFWM) was proposed.

Keywords: *resilience capacity, banana farm workers, plantation workforce, Mindanao*

Job Satisfaction and Organizational Culture as Determinants of Employee Engagement among Export-Oriented Companies in Davao Region: An Explanatory Sequential Design

Maria Cristina D. Cadorna, DBM

Employee engagement is not only an outcome of behavior but also a reflection of organizational support manifested through cognitive, emotional, and physical perspectives in retaining a talented and highly productive workforce. This study examined how job satisfaction and organizational culture determined employee engagement of food-processed agricultural produce export-oriented companies in the Davao region. Explanatory sequential mixed-methods research was used to gather the quantitative strand, followed by qualitative data to explain the quantitative results in more depth. There were 300 participants in the quantitative strand and 17 in the qualitative strand, of whom 10 were for IDI and 7 for FGD, all rank-and-file employees with at least 3 years of tenure. The study showed that all variables were at very high levels; the independent variables significantly influence employee engagement. Job satisfaction has a greater influence on employee engagement than organizational culture. Supporting the findings, a joint display of the quantitative and qualitative results, and a confirmation of additional factors. Thus, management can sustain job satisfaction by regularly reviewing organizational structures and performance metrics, promoting career growth opportunities, strengthening organizational culture and CSR initiatives, and enhancing support systems to foster employee commitment, collaboration, and innovation.

Keywords: *Business management, job satisfaction, organizational culture, employee engagement, Philippines*

Strategic Digital Transformation of Financial Governance: A Cloud-Based Centralized Accounting Framework for the Subsidized Communities of St. Ezekiel Moreno

Lea Mae D. Canilla

This study addresses the challenges posed by fragmented, manual financial management practices. Using a design and development research approach, the study aimed to design, develop, implement, and evaluate a cloud-based centralized accounting framework to improve efficiency, accuracy, transparency, and financial governance. Participants included purposively selected bookkeepers, treasurers, local administrators, and provincial finance officers involved in financial operations. The study focused on issues in decentralized Excel-based accounting systems, including inconsistent reporting formats, delayed consolidation, data inconsistencies, and limited financial oversight. Data were gathered from financial documents, Excel records, interviews, observations, system testing, and user evaluation questionnaires during pilot implementation. Descriptive statistical methods and system testing evaluations were used for data analysis. Results showed that the framework was fully functional, achieving a 100% success rate in testing and a high level of user acceptance with an overall mean of 4.35. The system significantly improved financial governance by enhancing internal controls, enabling real-time reporting, reducing errors, and promoting transparency and accountability across communities.

Keywords: *business management, financial governance, cloud-based accounting, technology acceptance model, digital transformation*

Customer Adoption Factors Toward Mobile Banking Services As Determinants of Customer Loyalty: An Explanatory Sequential Mixed Methods Study

Raylin O. Castillo

Despite rapid growth, mobile banking in the Philippines faces challenges in maintaining customer loyalty due to security and infrastructure concerns. This study examined the impact of customer adoption factors on customer loyalty among commercial bank users in the SOCCSKSARGEN Region using an explanatory sequential mixed-methods research design. The quantitative phase surveyed 225 mobile banking users selected through snowball and quota sampling to evaluate time effectiveness, convenience, safety and security, operational simplicity, and ease of navigation. The qualitative phase included in-depth interviews (n=10) and focus group discussions (n=7) to explore user experience. Data from both quantitative and qualitative phases were used to fully develop the understanding of how adoption factors impact customer loyalty for commercial bank customers in the region. Although participants rated all adoption factors highly, only operational simplicity and time effectiveness showed significant relationships with customer loyalty, with operational simplicity being the strongest predictor. The qualitative findings validated these results, showing that respondents perceived time-effective, simplified transaction processing as improving their overall experience, reducing effort, and motivating them to continue using the service. Therefore, both the qualitative and quantitative findings suggest that ease of use and a well-functioning mobile banking system are important for building and maintaining customer loyalty.

Keywords: *Business Management, customer loyalty, time-effectiveness, convenience, Philippines*

Developmental and Evaluation of a Student Record Information System for a Technical-Vocational Institution: A Strategic Approach to Operational Efficiency

Rosso R. Cuyos

This study aimed to design, develop, and evaluate a Student Record Information System (SRIS) for the Technical-Vocational (TECHVOC) Department of Cronasia Foundation College, Inc., to address operational inefficiencies arising from manual enrollment and fragmented student record management. Despite national digitalization initiatives in education, the department continued to rely on paper-based processes, resulting in delayed record retrieval, duplicate entries, data inconsistencies, and difficulties generating TESDA-compliant reports. Using a developmental research approach guided by the Technology Acceptance Model (TAM) and the DeLone and McLean Information Systems Success Model, the study employed the Agile-Scrum methodology for iterative system design, development, and evaluation. The developed SRIS integrated modules for student profiling, document verification, payment tracking, TESDA reporting, security and access control, and analytics-based decision support. Results showed that the system significantly reduced enrollment processing time from approximately 30–45 minutes to about 0.5 minutes per transaction, improved data accuracy through automated validation, and enhanced administrative productivity through centralized record management. User acceptance testing indicated high levels of perceived usefulness, reliability, and organizational impact among administrative users. Cost-benefit analysis further confirmed the system's financial and operational feasibility, while preparing a Utility Model patent draft demonstrated its innovation potential. Overall, the SRIS provides a scalable digital solution that strengthens operational efficiency, supports regulatory compliance, and improves data-driven decision-making within technical-vocational education environments.

Keywords: *Information System, student records, tech-voc, operational efficiency, Philippines*

A Convergent Mixed Methods Study on the Adoption of Improved Rice Production Technologies among Farmers in Region XII

Lj Joy Taeza-Dematais

This convergent mixed-methods study examined the level of adoption among rice farmers in the SOCCSKSARGEN. Adapted survey questionnaires for the quantitative strand and an interview guide for the qualitative strand were used in this study. The quantitative strand involved 250 rice farmers in the region, using stratified random sampling. Another 10 participants were included in the qualitative strand for in-depth interviews, using a snowball sampling technique, along with 7 participants for focus group discussions. Quantitative data analysis employed statistical tools such as Mean, Standard Deviation, One-way ANOVA, and independent t-tests. Results showed a high level of adoption in the region. Farmers adopt practices differently based on age, sex, years of rice farming, and educational attainment. Meanwhile, there is no clear difference in adoption across farm status groups. The qualitative phase used thematic analysis to confirm the three indicators of adoption level: access to improved seeds, access to machines, and access to farm inputs. Also, an intervention program is necessary to improve farmers' knowledge, advance access to technology, and strengthen institutional support systems to sustain and increase the adoption of developed rice production technologies. The integration of both datasets revealed a combination of convergence, divergence, contradiction, and expansion, emphasizing the complexity of technology adoption in rice farming. This mixed-methods approach therefore provides a more comprehensive understanding of the issue by combining statistical trends with farmers' lived experiences and perspectives.

Keywords: *Business Management, technology adoption, rice farmer, access, Philippines*

Caught in the Scheme: A Multiple Case Study on the Experiences and Mindsets of Business Professionals Victimized by Ponzi Investments

Lovella Faith B. Diez

This qualitative multiple-case study investigated financial fraud and the behavioral patterns of investors, focusing on Ponzi schemes involving business professionals in the Soccsksargen Region of the Philippines. Addressing a critical literature gap regarding the lived experiences of 'expert' victims, this study utilized maximum variation sampling to select five target cases, including an MBA graduate and a certified public accountant. Data collection involved in-depth interviews triangulated with narratives from family members and close associates. Analysis was conducted using thematic coding to derive core patterns. Results revealed three core theme categories: experiences (highlighting professional autonomy and systemic collapse), challenges (spanning insufficient literacy to emotional fallout), and lessons learned (prioritizing rigorous verification among other insights). Participant motivations were similar, driven by profit and overconfidence; however, emotional responses to victimization varied significantly. Although most participants experienced severe distress, some revealed more measured psychological resilience. These findings challenge the assumption that professional expertise provides immunity against fraud, suggesting that cognitive biases and social factors override traditional financial acumen. Consequently, this study provides significant implications for financial education and regulatory policy, urging targeted, vulnerability-informed interventions. By moving beyond a 'one-size-fits-all' educational approach, these findings offer a blueprint for protecting even the most highly trained professionals from predatory cycles in today's complex market.

Keywords: *Business Management, Ponzi schemes, investment fraud, multiple case studies, Philippines*

Writing Motivation, ChatGPT Usage, and Creative Writing Skills among HUMSS Students

Niño Angelo A. Duran

This study explored the influence of writing motivation and ChatGPT use on the creative writing skills of Grade 12 Humanities and Social Sciences (HUMSS) students in three private schools in Digos City, Davao del Sur. The respondents were 250 HUMSS students selected through stratified random sampling during the school year 2024–2025. This study employed a descriptive-correlational design. Mean, standard deviation, Pearson's r , and regression analysis were used to analyze the data. Findings revealed that students exhibited a high level of writing motivation, driven primarily by intrinsic and extrinsic factors and by self-regulation. ChatGPT usage was also high, particularly as a writing aid and task support. Meanwhile, students demonstrated moderate to high levels of creative writing skills. A significant positive relationship was found between writing motivation and creative writing skills. At the same time, ChatGPT usage showed mixed effects—supporting and posing risks, particularly for students' originality and critical thinking. Multiple regression analysis indicated that writing motivation had a more substantial influence on creative writing skills than ChatGPT usage.

Keywords: *English, ChatGPT, creative writing, HUMSS students, Philippines*

Entrepreneurial Orientation, Technological Readiness and Business Performance: An Explanatory– Sequential Investigation of SME Food Processors

Marilou S. Encabo, DBM

This study examined the influence of entrepreneurial orientation and technology readiness on the business performance of SME food processors in Region XII, where firms operate in a dynamic environment shaped by competition, digitalization, and market uncertainties. Anchored on the core concepts of entrepreneurial orientation, technology readiness, and business performance, the study aimed to determine both the individual and combined effects of these variables. An explanatory sequential mixed-methods design was employed, beginning with a quantitative phase involving 150 SME owners and managers, analyzed using correlation and regression techniques, followed by qualitative interviews and focus group discussions to explain and expand the statistical results. Findings revealed that business performance, entrepreneurial orientation, and technology readiness are generally high among SMEs. Both entrepreneurial orientation and technology readiness significantly influence business performance, with entrepreneurial orientation emerging as the stronger predictor. However, technology readiness was only partially utilized due to limited digital skills, infrastructure issues, and security concerns. Additionally, external factors such as market conditions, competition, and support systems were found to significantly shape business performance, indicating that SME success is influenced by both internal capabilities and external conditions.

Keywords: *Entrepreneurial Orientation, Technology Readiness, Business Performance, SMEs, Philippines*

Transformational Leadership And Employee Engagement As Determinants of Organizational Agility in the Canning Industry: An Explanatory Sequential Mixed Methods Study

Joan R. Espinoza

Organizational agility is an important capability in the canning industry, enabling organizations to respond quickly to operational changes and market demands. This study examined the relationships among transformational leadership, employee engagement, and organizational agility in the canning industry in Region XII. An explanatory sequential mixed-methods design was employed, with quantitative data collected first, followed by qualitative data to further explain the results. The quantitative phase included 200 respondents, while the qualitative phase had 17 participants. 10 joined in-depth interviews, and 7 took part in focus group discussions. All were regular employees from selected canning companies in Region XII. The statistical tools used to analyze the quantitative data included the mean, standard deviation, correlation, and regression. The study revealed that transformational leadership, employee engagement, and organizational agility were all at a high level. All variables were found to have a significant relationship and influence on organizational agility. However, employee engagement had a greater influence than transformational leadership. Thematic analysis showed that employees were proactive, coordinated well, and responded quickly in their tasks, confirming the quantitative results. Some inconsistencies in leadership and operations were noted. The integrated results showed both confirmation and expansion, with employee engagement having a more direct influence on organizational agility than transformational leadership.

Keywords: *Organizational Agility, Transformational Leadership, Employee Engagement, Mixed Methods, Philippines*

Predictors Of Performance among Multipurpose Cooperatives: An Explanatory Sequential Design

Genaro D. Guadalquiver Jr.

The performance of a multipurpose cooperative is vital to sustaining its operations, providing benefits to its members, and ensuring compliance with regulations and standards. This study aimed to explore the relationships among financial management practices, strategic orientation, and their combined and singular influences on the performance of multipurpose cooperatives. The study employed an explanatory sequential QUAN-QUAL mixed-methods design, using cluster and purposive sampling. Data were obtained from 220 respondents across Region XI. Findings show the status of performance, financial management practices, and strategic orientation, the relationships among the variables, and the combined and singular influences of financial management practices and strategic orientation on performance. In-depth interviews and focus group discussions were conducted, and thematic analysis was used to interpret the data. The study reveals that the performance status, financial management practices, and strategic orientation of multipurpose cooperatives are very high. A significant relationship exists between the variables, and the independent variables exert a significant singular and combined influence on performance. The data integration findings reveal the integration of connecting-confirmation, connecting-expansion, and connecting-discordance in terms of performance status; the integration of connecting-confirmation and connecting-expansion in financial management practices; and the integration of connecting-confirmation in strategic orientation. The combined and singular influences of financial management practices and strategic orientation on performance were consistently confirmed. There were other factors not included in the study, but shows connecting-confirmation data integration.

Keywords: *Business Management, multipurpose cooperatives, financial management practices, explanatory sequential design, Philippines*

Determinants of Job Satisfaction among the Small and Medium Enterprises' Employees in Region Xii: An Explanatory-Sequential Design

Vanessa B. Jimenez

This study examined the determinants of job satisfaction among employees of small and medium enterprises (SMEs) in Region XII, Philippines, using an explanatory sequential mixed-methods design. The quantitative study assessed the status and relationships of human resource management practices (HRM), work-life balance (WLB), and leadership styles (LS) with job satisfaction among 385 respondents selected through stratified random sampling, while the qualitative study employed purposive sampling involving 10 in-depth interviews (IDIs) and 7 focus group discussions (FGDs) to provide contextual explanations. Results revealed moderate job satisfaction, while HRM practices, work-life balance, and leadership styles were rated highly. Regression analysis indicated that WIPL was not a significant predictor, whereas PLIW and WPLE were significant predictors of job satisfaction, collectively explaining 8.3% of the variance. Qualitative findings supported these results and highlighted the importance of supportive leadership, positive work environments, and strong colleague relationships in shaping employee satisfaction. In general, the study underscores the multidimensional nature of job satisfaction and suggests that SMEs can enhance employee well-being by strengthening HR development initiatives, promoting work-life balance, and fostering leadership practices that improve engagement and motivation.

Keywords: *Business Management, job satisfaction, leadership styles, SMEs, Philippines*

A Convergent Mixed-Methods Study Exploring Self-Service Technology Quality and Technology Readiness Among Customers of Fast-Food Chains in Region XII, Philippines

Queencyfaith C. Montaña

As self-service technologies expand in the fast-food industry, understanding customers' readiness is crucial. This study examined the relationship between Self-Service Technology Quality (SSTQ) and Technology Readiness (TR) among fast-food customers in Region XII, Philippines using a convergent mixed-methods design. Quantitative data were collected from 250 customers via stratified random sampling using a contextualized survey questionnaire based on the SSTQUAL scale and the Technology Readiness Index. Qualitative data were gathered from 17 participants via purposive sampling through interview guides for In-Depth Interviews (IDIs) and Focus Group Discussion (FGD). Thematic Analysis and statistical tools, such as mean, standard deviation, and Pearson correlation, were used for data analysis. Results showed high levels of both SSTQ and TR. A significant positive relationship was found between the two variables, indicating that higher perceived technology quality increases customer readiness, although the relationship was a low-to-positive correlation. Qualitative findings validated these results, showing that while system features, such as convenience, efficiency, ease of use, and perceived security, drive readiness, customers' related factors, such as familiarity, are equally critical. The study concludes that while improving SSTQ boosts readiness, fast-food operators must combine technical enhancements with customer support and awareness strategies to ensure sustained adoption.

Keywords: *Business Management, self-service, technology readiness, convergent mixed-method, Philippines*

The Influence of Digital Literacy Competence and Digital Engagement on Employee Performance in Multi-Purpose Cooperative: An Explanatory Sequential Mixed-Methods Approach

Jeni Nicolas

The inability of multi-purpose cooperatives to adapt to the complexities of digitalization could significantly affect employee performance. This study aimed to determine the influence of digital literacy competence and digital engagement on employee performance among multipurpose cooperatives in Davao Region, Philippines. The researcher employed an explanatory sequential research design, in which quantitative data were collected first, followed by qualitative data to explain the results. The data were obtained from 268 cooperative officers and employees in Davao Region using stratified random sampling, and their responses were analyzed through regression and thematic analysis. Results revealed that digital literacy competence significantly influences employee performance, whereas digital engagement does not exert a singular influence; rather, it supports communication and coordination. Moreover, these findings were further substantiated through the essential themes, which confirmed the contribution of digital literacy competence to employee performance and highlighted digital engagement as a supporting mechanism in achieving work outcomes

Keywords: *Business management, digital literacy, employee performance, explanatory sequential design, Philippines*

A Path Analysis of Entrepreneurial Decision-Making among Agricultural MSMEs in Davao Region: An Explanatory Sequential Mixed-Methods Research

Rodjard B. Paro

Entrepreneurial decision-making is critical to the sustainability and growth of agricultural micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) in dynamic environments such as the Davao Region. This explanatory sequential mixed-methods study examined how entrepreneurial resilience, emotional intelligence, and entrepreneurial alertness influence decision-making among agricultural MSMEs. The quantitative phase surveyed 200 MSME owners and managers selected through stratified random sampling using path analysis. The qualitative phase followed with 17 purposively selected participants via phenomenological interviews and focus group discussions to elaborate on the quantitative findings. Quantitative results revealed high to very high levels across all variables. Path analysis confirmed that resilience and emotional intelligence directly influenced decision-making, with emotional intelligence also serving as a key mediator. Alertness demonstrated a lesser influence. Qualitative data integrated through patterns of confirmation, expansion, and discordance provided deeper insights into how MSME owners make strategic decisions amid constraints. The study highlights resilience and EI as essential core competencies and recommends targeted capacity-building programs for agricultural entrepreneurs.

Keywords: *entrepreneurial resilience, emotional intelligence, decision-making, agricultural MSMEs, Philippines*

The Mediating Role of Work Engagement on the Relationship Between Organizational Support and Entrepreneurial Orientation: An Explanatory Sequential Mixed-Methods Study

Teody Rey Ponce

Amidst sufficient evidence of the role of micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) in promoting economic growth across regions, MSMEs face challenges in maintaining innovation and entrepreneurial spirit, which are critical components of competitiveness and sustainability. Limited data exist on organizational factors influencing entrepreneurial orientation in developing countries; one such factor is work engagement. Thus, this study aimed to examine the mediating role of work engagement in the relationship between organizational support and MSME employees' entrepreneurial orientation. A sequential explanatory mixed methods design was employed. At the quantitative stage, 200 MSME employees participated in the survey and completed standardized questionnaires assessing their perceptions of organizational support, work engagement, and entrepreneurial orientation. Analysis included descriptive statistics, correlational analyses, multiple regression analyses, and mediation analyses. At the qualitative stage, individual in-depth interviews and focus group discussions were conducted with 17 MSME employees. Results revealed that MSMEs demonstrated high levels of organizational support, work engagement, and entrepreneurial orientation, with significant positive relationships among all three variables ($p < .05$). Mediation analysis indicated that work engagement significantly mediated the relationship between organizational support and entrepreneurial orientation, absorbing much of the direct effect. Quantitative drivers such as psychological safety, trust, respect, constant communication, and empowerment enhanced employee engagement and entrepreneurial behaviors. Ultimately, managers should foster these supportive workplace elements to cultivate innovation, proactivity, and strategic risk-taking.

Keywords: *business management, organizational support, work engagement, entrepreneurial orientation, Philippines*

Financial Literacy and Social Capital as Determinants Of Economic Sustainability of Micro-Enterprises In Region XI: An Explanatory Sequential Mixed-Methods Study

Geneveive J. Qteish

This study examined how financial literacy and social capital influence the economic sustainability of micro-enterprises in Region XI, Philippines, using an explanatory sequential mixed-methods design, in which quantitative data were collected and analyzed first, followed by qualitative data to explain the results. It aimed to determine the levels of the key variables, analyze their relationships, and assess their singular and combined effects on business sustainability. A total of 376 micro-enterprise owners or authorized managers were selected through stratified random sampling. Data were gathered through a structured survey questionnaire, followed by in-depth interviews and focus group discussions. Quantitative data were analyzed using descriptive statistics, Pearson's correlation, and multiple regression, while qualitative data were analyzed using thematic analysis. Results showed that financial literacy, social capital, and economic sustainability were all at very high levels. Both financial literacy and social capital were positively associated with economic sustainability, with social capital having a stronger effect. In combination, financial literacy and social capital explained 78% of the variation in economic sustainability. Qualitative findings showed that financial discipline and strong social relationships are key to sustaining business operations. The study concludes that financial literacy and social capital are complementary drivers of economic sustainability among micro-enterprises in Region XI.

Keywords: *Business management, micro-enterprises, financial literacy, social capital, economic sustainability, Philippines*

The Influence of Financial Literacy and Technology Readiness on Business Sustainability among MSEs in Davao Region: An Explanatory Sequential Approach

Khristine Mae Y. Ramiro

This study investigated the influence of financial literacy and technology readiness on business sustainability among micro and small enterprises (MSEs) in the Davao Region, Philippines. It aimed to determine the levels of key variables, assess their individual and combined influence, and explain the results through qualitative insights. An explanatory sequential design was employed, consisting of a quantitative strand followed by a qualitative inquiry. Stratified random sampling was used to select owners and managers of registered MSEs. Data were collected through survey questionnaires and follow-up interviews. Quantitative data were analyzed using regression, while qualitative data were analyzed using thematic analysis. Results revealed that financial literacy significantly predicts business sustainability, while technology readiness does not show a significant individual effect ($\beta = 0.108$, $p > .05$). However, the overall model was statistically significant ($F = 49.234$, $p < .05$), explaining 23.1% of the variance. Financial literacy strongly influenced sustainability through financial management, debt, investment, and insurance literacy. Technology readiness contributed modestly, with optimism and innovativeness supporting adoption, while discomfort and insecurity hindered digital transformation. Integration of findings confirmed that financial literacy plays a dominant role, while technology readiness provides complementary support.

Keywords: *Business management, business sustainability, financial literacy, technology readiness, Philippines*

A Convergent Mixed Methods Study on Consumer Medication Adherence among Adult Consumers in Davao Region

Emiliano Z. Sison Jr.

This convergent mixed methods study examined consumer medication adherence (CMA) among adults in the Davao Region. The quantitative strand employed modified and adapted survey questionnaires with 300 respondents from urban and rural barangays selected through stratified sampling, while the qualitative strand included 10 in-depth interview participants and six focus group discussion participants. Quantitative data were analyzed using non-parametric statistical methods, applying both descriptive and comparative approaches. Results indicated that CMA across all four dimensions ranged from high to very high. Significant differences in active coping with health problems (ACHP) were observed across locality and income groups, and in lack of discipline (LoD) across sex, locality, and income groups. In contrast, positive attitudes toward medication (PAM) and aversion toward medication (ATM) remained consistent across socio-demographic variables. The qualitative phase employed a priori thematic analysis, confirming the four dimensions of CMA. Findings suggest that CMA is a multifaceted lived experience shaped primarily by behavioral and experiential factors rather than socio-demographic characteristics. The nature of integration reflected merging and confirmation of quantitative and qualitative strands. Based on these findings, the Empowered Medication Adherence Support Initiative (EMASI) for Improved Health Outcomes was proposed to address limitations in adult consumers' medication adherence.

Keywords: *Business management, consumer medication adherence, convergent mixed methods, adult consumers, Davao Region, Philippines*

The Influence of Perceived Value and Brand Equity On Buying Decision among Restaurant Patrons in BARMM: An Explanatory Sequential Approach

Randy G. Tamayo

This explanatory sequential mixed methods study examined the influence of perceived value and brand equity on buying decisions among restaurant patrons in the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM). Using adapted survey questionnaires and an interview guide, quantitative data were collected from 300 restaurant patrons selected through random sampling, while qualitative data were obtained from 17 purposively selected participants through in-depth interviews and focus group discussions. Quantitative data were analyzed using means, standard deviations, correlations, and multiple regression, while qualitative findings were used to explain and validate the quantitative results. Findings revealed high levels of buying decision, perceived value, and brand equity among respondents. Significant relationships were found between perceived value and buying decision, and between brand equity and buying decision. Regression results showed that both variables significantly influence buying decision, explaining 82.8% of its variance, with brand equity emerging as the stronger predictor. Qualitative findings confirmed that consumers rely on both value-based evaluation and brand-based judgment in making restaurant choices, reflecting an integration of the findings. The study highlights that strengthening perceived value through quality and value delivery, while simultaneously building strong brand equity through trust and reputation, can enhance customer decision-making, loyalty, and restaurant competitiveness. Findings contribute context-specific evidence on consumer behavior in a Muslim-majority emerging market and offer strategic implications for hospitality and business management practice. The findings further emphasize the need to integrate value-based strategies and brand-building initiatives to sustain customer retention and support competitive positioning in emerging regional restaurant markets.

Keywords: *Business Management, buying decision, brand equity, restaurant patrons, Philippines*

Green Sustainability Practices among Hotels in Davao Region: A Convergent Mixed Methods

Jillovelyn B. Tolosa

This study examined the green sustainability practices among hotels in the Davao Region, focusing on the extent of implementation across key operational areas, including energy conservation, water management, and waste reduction. As environmental concerns continue to shape the global hospitality industry, hotels are increasingly expected to adopt sustainable practices that minimize their ecological footprint while enhancing operational efficiency and guest satisfaction. The study aimed to assess the level of green practice implementation and identify areas for continuous improvement. This convergent mixed-methods study investigated the implementation and impact of green practices on sustainability within the hotel industry of the Davao Region. Utilizing purposive random sampling, data were gathered from 286 hotel employees via questionnaires, complemented by 10 in-depth interviews and a 5-member focus group discussion. Results indicate a very high overall implementation level [$\mu = 4.28$] with a significant disparity between newer hotels (<10 years in operation) [$\mu = 4.37$] and older hotels (>10 years in operation) [$\mu = 3.93$]. Data integration revealed a merging-confirmation pattern regarding water conservation and waste management, whereas energy conservation practices exhibited merging-discordance, signaling a disconnect between quantitative trends and qualitative insights. Based on these findings, an intervention plan was developed to address implementation gaps and standardize sustainability initiatives across the region's hospitality sector.

Keywords: *Business Management, Green Practices, Sustainability, Hotels, Philippines*

Exploring Workplace Resilience and Well-Being of Contractual Employees in Shopping Malls of Region XII, Philippines: A Convergent Mixed Methods Study

Ellah Jessa G. Tomampas, MBM, LPT

This convergent mixed-methods study examined the well-being and workplace resilience of contractual employees in shopping malls in Region XII, Philippines. It aimed to determine the level of well-being and workplace resilience and to assess the significant relationship between these variables. The quantitative strand involved 234 contractual employees, while the qualitative strand included 17 participants, with ten participating in in-depth interviews and seven in a focus group discussion. Data were gathered using adapted survey questionnaires and a semi-structured interview guide. Quantitative data were analyzed using mean, standard deviation, and Spearman's rho, while qualitative data were analyzed using a priori thematic analysis. Findings revealed very high levels of well-being and workplace resilience and a significant, moderate, positive relationship between the two variables. Qualitative results confirmed and expanded these findings, highlighting that employees demonstrate adaptability, persistence, and emotional regulation while maintaining well-being through social support and workplace satisfaction despite challenges such as stress, workload pressure, and job insecurity. The integration of the findings provided both confirmation and expansion, offering a deeper understanding of the relationship between workplace resilience and well-being. Based on these findings, the study proposed practical, low-cost, and sustainable workplace-based strategies to enhance resilience and well-being through supportive supervision, peer connection, emotional regulation, stress recovery, and employee encouragement.

Keywords: *Business management, workplace resilience, contractual employees, shopping malls, Philippines*

DOCTOR IN BUSINESS MANAGEMENT SPECIALIZED IN INFORMATION SYSTEMS

Online Inventory and Asset Management System: A Model for Institutional Efficiency

Janette M. Claro

This study developed and evaluated an Online Inventory and Asset Management System as a model for improving institutional efficiency in managing physical fixed assets. The study employed a developmental research design integrating system development and quantitative evaluation. It aimed to address challenges associated with manual, fragmented asset management processes, which lead to data inconsistencies and delays in reporting. The participants included department heads, the Procurement and Asset Management Office (PAMO) personnel, and quality assurance staff who served as system users and evaluators. The study focused on issues related to non-uniform processes, lack of centralized records, absence of real-time tracking, and limited auditability in asset management. Data were gathered through system implementation, user interaction with the platform, and survey instruments based on the Modified Technology Acceptance Model. Quantitative data were analyzed using descriptive statistical methods to determine user acceptance in terms of perceived usefulness, ease of use, attitude toward use, and behavioral intention to use the system. The results indicated a very high level of user acceptance across all evaluated constructs. System-generated performance metrics also demonstrated high asset tracking accuracy, reflecting improvements in operational efficiency, data reliability, financial management, and decision-making effectiveness. These findings affirm that the system is a reliable and sustainable solution for enhancing asset management practices and supporting institutional quality assurance processes.

Keywords: *Information Systems, Inventory, Asset Management System, Technology Acceptance Model, Institutional Efficiency*

Digital Transformation of Clinical Management: Implementing a Departmental HIS for Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation to Enhance Operational Excellence

Mizhelle D. Dela Cruz, MIT

This study aimed to develop and evaluate a Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Department Hospital Information System (PMRD-HIS) to address operational inefficiencies in scheduling, documentation, and report generation. The study employed a design-and-development research approach using the Agile Scrum methodology, supported by Business Process Re-engineering and Time-Motion Analysis to redesign workflows and measure productivity improvements. The system was implemented and evaluated among healthcare professionals in the department, including therapists, administrative staff, and a physiatrist. Data were gathered through time-motion observation and user acceptance surveys, and analyzed using descriptive statistics and the Wilcoxon Signed-Rank Test to determine significant differences before and after system implementation. Results revealed significant reductions in task completion time across scheduling, documentation, and reporting processes, indicating improved operational efficiency. User acceptability, as measured by the Technology Acceptance Model, demonstrated high perceived usefulness and ease of use. The findings confirm that the PMRD-HIS effectively reduces administrative workload, enhances service delivery, and supports data-driven decision-making. The study concludes that the system is an effective and sustainable solution for improving clinical workflow and advancing digital transformation in healthcare operations.

Keywords: *Information System, Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, Clinical Workflow Automation, Patient Scheduling System, Technology Acceptance Model (TAM)*

