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Editor's Note

Research as a Divine Calling: Serving Humanity, Serving the Almighty

In Research is often viewed through the lens of scientific inquiry and intellectual pursuit. However, there exists a deeper, more profound perspective—one that sees research as a divine calling, a sacred duty to serve humanity and, in doing so, serve the Almighty. This issue of our journal is dedicated to reflecting on this idea, examining how it can inspire and guide researchers in their work, and discussing the significance of producing research that addresses societal needs and benefits a broader audience.

Viewing research as a divine calling transforms the way we approach our work. It instills a sense of purpose that goes beyond personal ambition or professional recognition. When researchers see their efforts as a form of service to humanity, they are motivated by a higher purpose, striving to make a meaningful difference in the world. This perspective encourages a commitment to excellence, integrity, and compassion in all aspects of the research process.

This higher calling is exemplified in the countless studies and projects that have had a profound impact on society. Consider research that has led to breakthroughs in medical treatments, providing hope and healing to countless individuals. Think of environmental studies that have informed policies to protect our planet for future generations. These examples illustrate how research, when guided by the desire to serve humanity, can lead to significant and lasting contributions.

The significance of producing research that addresses societal needs cannot be overstated. When researchers focus on issues that directly affect communities—such as health, education, poverty, and environmental sustainability—they are answering a call to improve the human condition. This type of research is driven by empathy and a genuine desire to solve real-world problems. It requires listening to the needs of the community, engaging with stakeholders, and ensuring that the research outcomes are accessible and applicable.

Publishing findings that benefit a broader audience is a crucial aspect of this divine calling. It involves making research accessible not only to the academic community but also to policymakers, practitioners, and the general public. Open-access publications, community outreach, and public engagement initiatives are essential in ensuring that valuable knowledge reaches those who can use it to effect positive change. By sharing our findings widely, we honor our commitment to serve humanity and fulfill our higher purpose.

However, embracing this perspective comes with challenges. Researchers must navigate the pressures of academic productivity, funding constraints, and the complexities of interdisciplinary work. Yet, these challenges can be met with resilience and creativity when driven by a sense of divine calling. Institutions can support this by fostering environments that encourage research aligned with societal needs and by providing resources and recognition for work that serves the greater good.

To support researchers in this view, several recommendations can be made:

1. **Cultivate Purpose-Driven Research:** Institutions should encourage researchers to identify and pursue projects that align with societal needs and have the potential for significant impact. This involves promoting interdisciplinary collaborations and community-engaged research.



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2. Enhance Accessibility: Efforts should be made to ensure that research findings are disseminated broadly and are accessible to non-academic audiences. This includes supporting open-access publications and public engagement initiatives.
3. Foster Ethical Conduct: Upholding the highest ethical standards is essential for research that aims to serve humanity. Researchers should be trained in ethical practices and supported in maintaining integrity throughout their work.
4. Recognize and Reward Impact: Institutions should recognize and reward research that has a tangible impact on society. This includes acknowledging efforts to address societal challenges and contributions to public knowledge.

As we reflect on the role of research in our lives, let us embrace the idea that it is not just an academic endeavor but a divine calling. By dedicating ourselves to serving humanity through our work, we honor the Almighty and contribute to a more just, compassionate, and enlightened world. Let this higher purpose inspire us to pursue excellence, uphold integrity, and share our knowledge widely, ensuring that our research truly benefits all.

In conclusion, research as a divine calling invites us to see our work through a lens of service and devotion. It challenges us to address the pressing needs of society and to disseminate our findings for the greater good. By embracing this perspective, we can transform our research into a powerful force for positive change, fulfilling our higher purpose of serving humanity and the Almighty.

Dr. Adrian Lawrence P. Carvajal
Editor-in-Chief



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Table of Contents

Editor's Note	I
Table of Contents.....	III
Aims and Scope.....	XIII
About the Publisher.....	XIII
Editorial Board and Staff.....	XIV

Published Research Articles

Cabaylo, L. S., & Feleciano, D. T. (2025). Kasanayan sa Pagbasa ng mga Mag-aaral sa Baitang 7 sa Pagbuo ng Bangketa ng Kaalaman. International Journal of Open-access, Interdisciplinary and New Educational Discoveries of ETCOR Educational Research Center (iJOINED ETCOR), 4(2), 1-7. https://doi.org/10.63498/nxz2st249	1
Alam, J. L., Gasis, F. E. R., Lagan, R. U. L., & Estorico, G. C. (2025). Impact of Temperature Variations on Apis mellifera (Honey Bee) Productivity: A Systematic Review. International Journal of Open-access, Interdisciplinary and New Educational Discoveries of ETCOR Educational Research Center (iJOINED ETCOR), 4(2), 8-17. https://doi.org/10.63498/nxz2st250	8
Lomantas, C. S., & Bidad, W. D. (2025). Assessment on the Implementation of Transition Program Skills Packages Among Learners with Autism in SOCSARGEN. International Journal of Open-access, Interdisciplinary and New Educational Discoveries of ETCOR Educational Research Center (iJOINED ETCOR), 4(2), 18-32. https://doi.org/10.63498/nxz2st251	18
Maizano, M. S. (2025). Tripartite Collaboration: Strengthening Learner, Teacher, and Parent Partnerships. International Journal of Open-access, Interdisciplinary and New Educational Discoveries of ETCOR Educational Research Center (iJOINED ETCOR), 4(2), 33-43. https://doi.org/10.63498/nxz2st252	33
Castino, C. D., & Altaya, G. C. (2025). Pananaw ng mga Guro sa Worksheet-Based na Pagtataya sa Filipino: Isang Penomenolohikal na Pag-aaral. International Journal of Open-access, Interdisciplinary and New Educational Discoveries of ETCOR Educational Research Center (iJOINED ETCOR), 4(2), 44-54. https://doi.org/10.63498/nxz2st253	44
Marquez, J. C., & Dapitan, Y. C. (2025). Kakayahang Panliterasi sa Pagbasa at Pagsulat ng mga Mag-aaral sa Baitang 11 Akademik Trak sa Mataas na Paaralang Pambansa ng Kalamansig. International Journal of Open-access, Interdisciplinary and New Educational	



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<https://doi.org/10.63498/nxz2st254> 55
- Dela Peña, R. M. (2025). Management Practices of School Heads on School Performance and Career Growth of Teachers in Geographically Isolated and Disadvantaged Areas (GIDA) Schools. International Journal of Open-access, Interdisciplinary and New Educational Discoveries of ETCOR Educational Research Center (iJOINED ETCOR), 4(2), 65-73.
<https://doi.org/10.63498/nxz2st255> 65
- Bresenio, F. V. (2025). Learners' Perceptions of the Physical Classroom Environment and its Role in Promoting Positive Learning Behavior. International Journal of Open-access, Interdisciplinary and New Educational Discoveries of ETCOR Educational Research Center (iJOINED ETCOR), 4(2), 74-85. <https://doi.org/10.63498/nxz2st256> 74
- De Leon, M. I., & Castro, J. S. (2025). Effect of Integrated Approach in Communicative English Language Teaching. International Journal of Open-access, Interdisciplinary and New Educational Discoveries of ETCOR Educational Research Center (iJOINED ETCOR), 4(2), 86-90. <https://doi.org/10.63498/nxz2st257> 86
- Tutania, L. Y., & Manzano, E. C. (2025). Student Attitude and Academic Performance. International Journal of Open-access, Interdisciplinary and New Educational Discoveries of ETCOR Educational Research Center (iJOINED ETCOR), 4(2), 91-97.
<https://doi.org/10.63498/nxz2st258> 91
- Pascual, I. R. G., & Bangkulit, N. B. (2025). Modelong Eklektiko at Akademikong Pagganap sa Pagbasa ng mga Mag-Aaral sa Mataas na Pambansang Paaralan ng Lampayan. International Journal of Open-access, Interdisciplinary and New Educational Discoveries of ETCOR Educational Research Center (iJOINED ETCOR), 4(2), 98-108.
<https://doi.org/10.63498/nxz2st259> 98
- Guiraldo-Tutania, M. R., & Castro, J. S. (2025). Teachers' Narratives on Professional Growth and Career Advancement. International Journal of Open-access, Interdisciplinary and New Educational Discoveries of ETCOR Educational Research Center (iJOINED ETCOR), 4(2), 109-121. <https://doi.org/10.63498/nxz2st260> 109
- Salahuddin, C. S. (2025). Evaluating the Philippine Coast Guard Station and Sub-Station Personnel's Capabilities During Marine Casualty Investigations (MCI): A Framework for a Standardized Training Program. International Journal of Open-access, Interdisciplinary and New Educational Discoveries of ETCOR Educational Research Center (iJOINED ETCOR), 4(2), 122-128. <https://doi.org/10.63498/nxz2st261> 122
- Estacio, D. M., Racela, K. A. B., Ruiz, C. J. F., & Yabut, E. V. (2025). Mathematics in the Modern World: A Phenomenological Inquiry into University Students' Learning Challenges in Cavite. International Journal of Open-access, Interdisciplinary and New Educational Discoveries of ETCOR Educational Research Center (iJOINED ETCOR), 4(2), 129-136. <https://doi.org/10.63498/nxz2st262> 129



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- Bergado, C. M., & Ventura, C. V. M. (2025). Teachers' Grit and Growth Mindset in Adopting the MATATAG Curriculum. *International Journal of Open-access, Interdisciplinary and New Educational Discoveries of ETCOR Educational Research Center (iJOINED ETCOR)*, 4(2), 147-159. <https://doi.org/10.63498/nxz2st264> 147
- Quibuyen, C. B., & Accad, M. F. (2025). Organizational Commitment, Job Satisfaction, and Performance of Non-teaching Personnel in the Division of Tacurong City and Sultan Kudarat Amidst MATATAG Curriculum Implementation. *International Journal of Open-access, Interdisciplinary and New Educational Discoveries of ETCOR Educational Research Center (iJOINED ETCOR)*, 4(2), 160-171. <https://doi.org/10.63498/nxz2st265> 160
- Bechayda, J. J. V. (2025). Healthcare Delivery Situation in Naga City. *International Journal of Open-access, Interdisciplinary and New Educational Discoveries of ETCOR Educational Research Center (iJOINED ETCOR)*, 4(2), 172-184. <https://doi.org/10.63498/nxz2st266> ... 172
- Ramitterre, L. G. (2025). Mediating Role of Work Engagement on Job Motivation and Organizational Commitment of Public Senior High School Teachers. *International Journal of Open-access, Interdisciplinary and New Educational Discoveries of ETCOR Educational Research Center (iJOINED ETCOR)*, 4(2), 185-201. <https://doi.org/10.63498/nxz2st267> 185
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- Asuncion, D. T., & Accad, M. F. (2025). Values Integration in the Self-Learning Module and Its Formation among Elementary School Learners in South President Quirino. *International Journal of Open-access, Interdisciplinary and New Educational Discoveries of ETCOR Educational Research Center (iJOINED ETCOR)*, 4(2), 215-223. <https://doi.org/10.63498/nxz2st269> 215
- Dellava, L. D., & Naanep, N. D. (2025). Implementation of Competency-Based Merit Selection Plan (MSP) on School Administration Positions and Performance. *International Journal of Open-access, Interdisciplinary and New Educational Discoveries of ETCOR Educational Research Center (iJOINED ETCOR)*, 4(2), 224-234. <https://doi.org/10.63498/nxz2st270> 224
- Carvajal, A. L. P., Fernandez, T. M., Pangilinan, A. M., Obod, M. M., Amihan, S. R.,



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- Caitum, J. P. L., Intong, J. D., & Gutierrez, W. M. (2025). Knowledge, Attitudes, and Practices of Native Pig Raisers: Exploring Coconut-Based Ration Utilization in the Zamboanga Peninsula Region, Philippines. International Journal of Open-access, Interdisciplinary and New Educational Discoveries of ETCOR Educational Research Center (iJOINED ETCOR), 4(2), 253-267. <https://doi.org/10.63498/nxz2st272> 253
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- Dianasas, L. G. B. (2025). School Heads' Governance: Its Implications to Quality of Institutional Climate and School. International Journal of Open-access, Interdisciplinary and New Educational Discoveries of ETCOR Educational Research Center (iJOINED ETCOR), 4(2), 275-284. <https://doi.org/10.63498/nxz2st274> 275
- Ballado, A. N., & Ventura, C. V. M. (2025). Integration of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in School Management: MATATAG Implementation in Elementary Education. International Journal of Open-access, Interdisciplinary and New Educational Discoveries of ETCOR Educational Research Center (iJOINED ETCOR), 4(2), 285-292. <https://doi.org/10.63498/nxz2st275> 285
- Erolpan, J. K. P., & Maglantay, A. A. (2025). Perceived Leadership Competencies and Performance Ratings as Correlates of NQESH Success among School Heads. International Journal of Open-access, Interdisciplinary and New Educational Discoveries of ETCOR Educational Research Center (iJOINED ETCOR), 4(2), 293-306. <https://doi.org/10.63498/nxz2st276> 293
- Giday, M. B., & Naanep, N. D. (2025). Instructional Support System and Mechanism Among School Administrators: Springboard to Supervisory Tool Development. International Journal of Open-access, Interdisciplinary and New Educational Discoveries of ETCOR Educational Research Center (iJOINED ETCOR), 4(2), 307-313. <https://doi.org/10.63498/nxz2st277> 307
- Coreses, D. A., & Abad, D. J. V. (2025). MDAS (Multiplication, Division, Addition, Subtraction)-IT-ALL: An Android-Based Supplementary Tool in Math 3. International Journal of Open-access, Interdisciplinary and New Educational Discoveries of ETCOR Educational Research Center (iJOINED ETCOR), 4(2), 314-327. <https://doi.org/10.63498/nxz2st278> 314



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- Falsario, E. S., & Feliciano, D. T. (2025). Kasanayan sa Komprehensiyon sa Pagbasa ng mga Mag-aaral sa Panitikang Rehiyunal sa Pagbuo ng Interkultural na Modyul. *International Journal of Open-access, Interdisciplinary and New Educational Discoveries of ETCOR Educational Research Center (iJOINED ETCOR)*, 4(2), 340-352. <https://doi.org/10.63498/etcor280> 340
- Calingayan, F. M. (2025). Tuwali in Mathematics Instruction: Its Impact on Junior High School Student Learning and Performance. *International Journal of Open-access, Interdisciplinary and New Educational Discoveries of ETCOR Educational Research Center (iJOINED ETCOR)*, 4(2), 353-365. <https://doi.org/10.63498/etcor281> 353
- Zagala, G. N., Monge, A. F., & Laut, R. B. (2025). Competencies of Entry-Level Nurses Towards Quality Nursing Care in the Hospitals of Rinconada: Basis for Onboarding Training Program. *International Journal of Open-access, Interdisciplinary and New Educational Discoveries of ETCOR Educational Research Center (iJOINED ETCOR)*, 4(2), 366-379. <https://doi.org/10.63498/etcor282> 366
- Fabiania, D. D., & Cajandig, A. J. S. (2025). Grade Seven Least Learned Competencies on Number Systems: Context for Interactive E-Module Development and Validation. *International Journal of Open-access, Interdisciplinary and New Educational Discoveries of ETCOR Educational Research Center (iJOINED ETCOR)*, 4(2), 380-390. <https://doi.org/10.63498/etcor283> 380
- Fernandez, P. C. A. C., & De Alban, M. T. G. (2025). Assessing Patient Needs in the Emergency Room Department: An Evaluation of Service Delivery in Government Hospitals in the Province of Albay. *International Journal of Open-access, Interdisciplinary and New Educational Discoveries of ETCOR Educational Research Center (iJOINED ETCOR)*, 4(2), 391-409. <https://doi.org/10.63498/etcor284> 391
- Maglantay, M. G. G. (2025). Commitment and Satisfaction Amid Crisis: Examining the Impact of COVID-19 on Community Health Workers in Sultan Kudarat. *International Journal of Open-access, Interdisciplinary and New Educational Discoveries of ETCOR Educational Research Center (iJOINED ETCOR)*, 4(2), 410-425. <https://doi.org/10.63498/etcor285> 410
- Ecleo, J. C., & Celis, J. H. Q. (2025). Influence of Teachers' Artificial Intelligence Competence on Students' Academic Performance in Science. *International Journal of Open-access, Interdisciplinary and New Educational Discoveries of ETCOR Educational Research Center (iJOINED ETCOR)*, 4(2), 426-433. <https://doi.org/10.63498/etcor286> 426



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<https://doi.org/10.63498/etcor287> 434
- Carvajal, A. L. P., Bondoc, B., & Sanchez, R. D. (2025). From Stigma to Self-Expression: Uncovering the Motivations and Symbolic Meanings of Tattoos in Modern Society. *International Journal of Open-access, Interdisciplinary and New Educational Discoveries of ETCOR Educational Research Center (iJOINED ETCOR)*, 4(2), 446-464.
<https://doi.org/10.63498/etcor288> 446
- Pavilando, K. D. (2025). Social Work Interventions and Ecological Solid Waste Management of Indigent Households. *International Journal of Open-access, Interdisciplinary and New Educational Discoveries of ETCOR Educational Research Center (iJOINED ETCOR)*, 4(2), 465-476. <https://doi.org/10.63498/etcor289> 465
- Pedreña, S. C. A., & Dulin, V. J. N. (2025). Students' Perceptions, Behaviors, and Social Dynamics on Teacher- and Student-formed Cooperative Learning Groups in Mathematics. *International Journal of Open-access, Interdisciplinary and New Educational Discoveries of ETCOR Educational Research Center (iJOINED ETCOR)*, 4(2), 477-489.
<https://doi.org/10.63498/etcor290> 477
- Torres-San Jose, I. (2025). Instructional Approaches and Strategies for Bilingual Learners in Special Education. *International Journal of Open-access, Interdisciplinary and New Educational Discoveries of ETCOR Educational Research Center (iJOINED ETCOR)*, 4(2), 490-501. <https://doi.org/10.63498/etcor291> 490
- Dellava, K. C., & Accad, M. F. (2025). Breaking Barriers: Educational Program Transition from Elementary to Integrated Schools and Student's Outcome in Tboli, South Cotabato. *International Journal of Open-access, Interdisciplinary and New Educational Discoveries of ETCOR Educational Research Center (iJOINED ETCOR)*, 4(2), 502-515.
<https://doi.org/10.63498/etcor292> 502
- Saldo, Giovanni B., & Dulin, Velessa Jane N. (2025). Building Bridges: Exploring Mathematics Teachers' Journey Through Cooperative Learning. *International Journal of Open-access, Interdisciplinary and New Educational Discoveries of ETCOR Educational Research Center (iJOINED ETCOR)*, 4(2), 516-527. <https://doi.org/10.63498/etcor293> 516
- Camba, J. P., & Java, M. B. (2025). Instructional Competence of Non-Indigenous People Teachers on the Integration of Indigenous Knowledge Systems and Practices: Bridging Blaan Cultures. *International Journal of Open-access, Interdisciplinary and New Educational Discoveries of ETCOR Educational Research Center (iJOINED ETCOR)*, 4(2), 528-536.
<https://doi.org/10.63498/etcor294> 528



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- Baldelovar, R. S. (2025). End-of-Class Hurdle on Sentences: Its Effect on the Writing Skills of Creative Nonfiction Learner. *International Journal of Open-access, Interdisciplinary and New Educational Discoveries of ETCOR Educational Research Center (iJOINED ETCOR)*, 4(2), 550-559. <https://doi.org/10.63498/etcor296> 550
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