FROM THE EDITOR

Welcome to the first issue of Science Diliman for 2017! Let me introduce the research articles in this issue. The journal cover features the work done by authors Pascual and Guevara on the development of automated reading tutors (ART) in Filipino language to improve reading literacy. The paper presents the positive effects of ART on the oral reading fluency and comprehension of a small group of children during pilot testing. Another paper by mathematicians Monterde and Paras characterized "square matrices which can be expressed as a sum of strictly k-zero matrices". In their paper on quantum communication, physicists Dumigpe and Galapon concluded that they have achieved "nearly perfect to perfect state transfer at an earlier time as the spin quantum number of the channel goes higher." Another group of physicists mentored by Salvador and Somintac controlled the geometry of the nanowires produced using metal-assisted chemical etching by changing the concentrations of etchants and etching times. A group of marine scientists supervised by Montaño determined the presence of quorum sensing inhibitors with potential anti-biofilm/biofouling applications in Philippine seaweeds and surface-associated microorganisms. Layman's abstracts are also included for the better appreciation of the results of the research included in this issue.

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