



Editorial

The state of the journal

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“The Philippine Journal of Allied Health Sciences (PJAHS) is the Official Publication of the University of Santo Tomas – College of Rehabilitation Sciences and is published semi-annually. Its mission is to produce quality allied health science clinical practice that will enhance performance, promote wellness in the prevention of diseases and improve function among healthy and physically challenged individuals.”

The year was 2006 when the first edition of the Philippine Journal of Allied Health Sciences came out. The following couple of years saw three more issues being published until 2008. The first two issues were print copies, while the latter were online copies accessible via the now-defunct journal website. I am going out on a limb to assert that at the time, PJAHS was one of the first (if not the first) UST-based academic journal to go online. However, after only four issues in the span of two years, as people in the research field like to put, was lost to follow-up.

As experienced by PJAHS and other scientific journals, one of the greatest challenges that publishers and the editorial board face is sustaining adequate quality articles submitted, reviewed and published in the journal^{1,2}. This, among other possible academic, political and economic reasons remain to be adamant as PJAHS embarks on a revival. With the advent of technology, information has become ubiquitous. The exactness of fidelity of such information, however, is questionable. Thus, scientific journals remain to be a vital player in

stakeholder dissemination of quality scientific information^{2,3}. Thus, despite the challenges previously, currently, and inadvertently, possibly faced by PJAHS, the journal made a bold decision to wake up from its slumber.

Inasmuch as I would like to think that PJAHS' revival is spreading like a wildfire, publishing an international peer-reviewed journal is never easy. Janairo¹ cited several challenges involved in reviving a scientific journal in the Philippines. The current plight of PJAHS is not far from home, experiencing similar propositions. Of great interest is confronting the competition for author submissions. The issue on appealing to researchers to submit in PJAHS as opposed to other more established ones is palpable. Sourcing manuscripts has involved grassroots strategies involving personal and institutional communications extending the call for paper submissions. Nevertheless, PJAHS is fortunate to be supported by the University of Santo Tomas (UST) and the College of Rehabilitation Sciences (CRS), who have graciously funded the resources needed for this revival to come in fruition.

The democratization of science fuelled by the technological innovations has pressured publishers of opening access to their traditionally subscription-based article repositories³. Humility aside, PJAHS was conceptualized and remained open access. Sharing similar ideals, the University Journal Affairs Committee of UST embarked on a herculean task of disseminating the research of the university to the masses. In fact, this

initiative catalyzed the revival of PJAHS, as well as its online presence rebirth through our new website which you can access at <https://pjahs.ust.edu.ph/>. Quality allied health science information accessibility will always be a standard placed high within the journal across the coming years.

With a renewed fervor in advocating for publishing scholarly articles in the field of allied health sciences, PJAHS re-opens its door, or should I say, inbox, to submission from authors in the fields of physical therapy, occupational therapy, sports science, speech-language pathology, nursing, psychology, biomedical engineering, pharmacy, nutrition, education and other allied health sciences. In this edition of PJAHS, we publish articles in research fields of geriatric and musculoskeletal physical therapy, nutrition, caregiving stress and occupational therapy, interprofessional education, health research ethics, and health innovations through collaborations.

PJAHS envisions the future as hall-full, adopting an optimistic perspective of things to come. I invite our readers to continuously develop and make history with us. PJAHS is back, and we are here to stay.

References:

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3. Zanchetti A. Editing a scientific journal: problems and challenges. *Journal of hypertension*. 2008 Jan 1;26(1):1-3.