

MESSAGE

The unprecedented challenges brought about by the pandemic have created a ripple effect, affecting not just our healthcare system but also posing significant problems to our educational system. Transitioning to distance learning has amplified the unrecognized pre-existing gaps in our educational system, thus creating the need to restructure educational instruction delivery platforms.

Despite this educational crisis, the Cebu Doctors' University (CDU) has hurdled these painstaking obstacles by continuously generating means to deliver quality education to students remotely.

The launching of the second volume of CDU's official publication, *The Journal of Scientific Investigations* (JSI), is solid proof that CDU has endured and overcome these countless challenges in the field of research and continuing education, standing tall like the white herons in the open fields.

On behalf of the editorial team, it is with great pride that we showcase in this volume and issue, ten articles tackling relevant and current trends in research, two of which are review articles, five experimental research, and three descriptive research articles. We hope all our readers will find this year's second volume appealing.

The CDU Research Office has been committed to providing student, faculty, and non-teaching staff researchers an opportunity to establish linkages and collaborative studies with local and foreign researchers. May this platform become a stepping stone to increasing our institutions' research visibility and capability to connect to academicians, educators, scholars, and students from Asia and worldwide.

Enrico B. Gruet, MD

Editor-in-Chief