

## INTRODUCTION

The Journal of Philippine Librarianship (JPL) takes pride in being the only refereed library journal in the Philippines that features scholarly articles in the field of Library and Information Science. Since its birth in 1968, JPL continuously provides articles that bring forward informative and educational topics in the field.

This year, 2012, the 32<sup>nd</sup> volume of the Journal of Philippine Librarianship discusses some of the recent occurrences in the profession – from the areas of cataloging, to reference, and to the Librarians' Licensure Examination (LLE).

K.L.B. Obille's article entitled, *AACR2 to RDA: A Paradigm Shift?* discusses one of the recent vital topics in the area of cataloging. Obille looked into the current change from AACR2 to RDA and answered the question, "is there, indeed, a paradigm shift from AACR to RDA? She then further talked about the topic by discussing some changes employed in some Philippine libraries on practicing the RDA.

On the area of Reference, one cannot deny that technology has introduced changes in the way reference librarians perform their tasks and how users access information. These changes paved the way for some academic libraries in Metro Manila to offer a form of virtual reference service or DRS (Digital Reference Service). An example of such service is the Chat Reference Service, which is M.S. Ramos-Eclevia's focus on her paper entitled, *The Reference Librarian is Now Online!: Understanding Librarian's Perceptions of Quality Chat Reference Using Critical Incident Technique*. Ramos-Eclevia explores to understand the perceptions of librarians regarding such service in terms of its definition, advantages and disadvantages, and the librarians' experiences in using such service, among others.

Continuing with the discussion of providing services to library clients, G.A.C.O. Cabanilla's article entitled, *Towards Designing a*

*Library Research Instruction Program for English 10 (College English) at the University of the Philippines Diliman*, investigates how English 10 students acquire and use information and how these can assist the UP Diliman University Library in improving its Library Research Instruction Program (LRIE). The article provides insights as well to other libraries in providing a basis for designing an information literacy course, and in improving its LRIE and how it can be integrated in their classes.

Looking at how Library and Information Science graduates fare in the Philippines Librarians' Licensure Examination (LLE), the article of the Board for Librarians (BFL) entitled, *Factors Affecting the Performance of Library and Information Professionals in the Librarians' Licensure Examinations (LLE), 2006-2010: Age, Gender, and Type of Examinees (Part I)*, investigates the factors that might have influenced the declining performance of the examinees. The findings lead to a recommendation that amendments be done in the Republic Act 9246 and Its Implementing Rules and Regulations.

The four (4) articles mentioned above which composed the JPL 2012 are only fragments of the vastness of topics and areas that the field of library and information science holds. More topics can be researched on and these will be featured in the subsequent issues of the Journal of Philippine Librarianship.

The Editor