

INTRODUCTION

We take pride in publishing this issue of the JPL for 2008. It is the School of Library and Information Studies' (SLIS) contribution to the centennial celebration of the University of the Philippines.

The theme for this issue "The School of Library and Information Studies: 47 Years of Excellence" marks the achievements of the School since its inception in 1961.

Subjects of articles included therein range from the incunabula to the application of the new ICTs to library operations/processes that symbolize the dramatic transformation of Library and Information Science (LIS) into a vibrant field of study. V. R. Totanes' article "*What Was the First Book Printed in the Philippines?*" maintains that there were two books printed in the Philippines in 1953 and explores some possibilities for further research. *The Philippines Strategic Roadmap for the ICT Sector* by Angelo Timoteo M. Diaz de Rivera presented in the First Congress on Digital Libraries in October 2008 is included in this issue to introduce the accomplishments of libraries and institutions in the country and to emphasize the successful union of library and information sciences not only in the SLIS but also in libraries in the Philippines. *The UP iLib : an In-house Developed Integrated Library System* by Salvacion M. Arlante tells the story of a successful migration of the University of the Philippines Library to open source for which an in-house software was customized and developed by professional library staff who are alumni of the School. This applied research resulted into the deployment of said software to the entire UP Library System. Moreover, the article on the UP Open University and its library signifies the contribution of the School's alumni in the application of the new technology to distance education. *Authorship Structure of Scholarly Disciplines:: An Application of Lotka's Law to Philippine Research Journals in the Social Sciences* by Nathalie N. Dela Torre is a bibliometrics

study of authorship characteristics in the Philippines. Finally, this issue features the notable achievement of the SLIS since its establishment in 1961 and the abstracts of the best theses written by graduates of the School every semester since 2000 that manifest basic to advanced ICT applications.

The SLIS, through the years, has successfully re-engineered itself by continuously revising and refining its curricular offerings to be in tune with the insistent demand for the inclusion of ICT applications in libraries and services. The School has continually upheld high standards as set by its mother institution. As the University of the Philippines celebrates its centennial, the SLIS is ready to face future challenges. Indeed, it is ready to step into the next 100 years of the University of the Philippines.

The Editors