

# **RESEARCH AND PUBLICATIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH AND COMPARATIVE LITERATURE, 1997–2006**

PATRICIA MAY B. JURILLA

## ***Introduction***

THIS IS A REPORT ON THE WRITTEN ACADEMIC OUTPUT of the Department of English and Comparative Literature (DECL) produced during the ten-year period 1997 to 2006. It provides an account of the published works of the faculty members of the DECL and the unpublished research of its graduate students. It also offers suggestions for the future research directions and strategies of the DECL in line with the mission and vision of the College of Arts and Letters (CAL). This report was commissioned by the College as part of the CAL-CASAF Centennial Research Grant and Lecture Series for the formulation of the CAL Research Agenda.

The following written materials are covered in this report: (a) published academic and creative books (full-length works) authored or, in the case of anthologies in book and journal forms, edited by faculty members; (b) published academic and creative articles (short works) authored by faculty members; (c) unpublished theses and

dissertations written by faculty members; and (d) unpublished theses and dissertations written by graduate students. The works of the faculty members included in this study were those produced while their authors were employed in the DECL either in full-time or part-time capacities. The academic works deal with the areas of literature (British and American, Philippine, Southeast Asian, and others in English translation), English language, some Philippine languages, education and pedagogy as well as other disciplines areas such as cultural studies and social history. The creative works are in the genres of children's literature, drama, fiction, non-fiction, and poetry. Not included in this report are articles published in newspapers, commercial magazines, newsletters, and other non-academic periodical publications.

The data for this report was derived from the records of the DECL. There is likely some margin of error as to the accuracy or completeness of these records whether owing to the oversight of the DECL office or the individual faculty members. Nevertheless, the data presented in this report is thus far the most comprehensively and extensively assembled in the history of the DECL.

## ***Publications***

### ***Books (full-length works)***

From 1997 to 2006, a total of 149 published books were produced by the faculty members of the DECL. Of this total, six books (4 percent) were published in 2006, sixteen (around 11 percent) in 2005, eighteen (12 percent) in 2004, eighteen (12 percent) in 2003, sixteen (around 11 percent) in 2002, ten (around 7 percent) in 2001, eight (around 5 percent) in 2000, seventeen (around 11 percent) in 1999, twenty-three (around 16 percent) in 1998, and seventeen (around 11 percent) in 1997 (see fig. 1 below). All the books were published in the Philippines except for one title—*Mga Alagad ng Mahiwagang Sirkulo* by Natasha Vizcarra, published by the Asia Pacific Cultural Center for UNESCO in Japan in 1998.

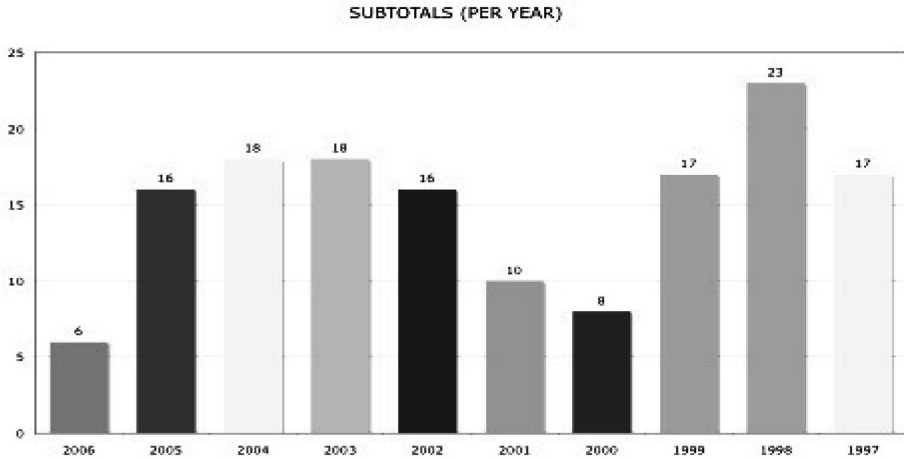
**BOOKS (FULL-LENGTH WORKS)****TOTAL 149**

Figure 1. Books published by the DECL faculty, 1997–2006, by year

Of the total number of published books produced by the faculty members of the DECL during the period, the academic works comprised one book (around 0.7 percent of the total number of books) on English literature; twenty-seven books (18 percent) on Philippine literature; three books (2 percent) on South East Asian literature; six books (4 percent), mainly made up of issues of the DECL's publication *Journal of English and Comparative Literature*, on various literature and language topics; thirteen reference books (around 9 percent) on English language usage; three reference books (2 percent) on literature; twenty-five textbooks (around 17 percent), some for the elementary level and others for the university level; ten books (around 7 percent) on other areas such as cultural studies and social history. As for the creative works, they comprised ten books (around 7 percent of the total number of books) of children's literature; one book (around 0.7 percent) of drama; thirteen books (around 9 percent) of fiction; twenty books (around 13 percent) of non-fiction; sixteen books (around 11 percent) of poetry; and one book (around 0.7 percent) of fiction and poetry (fig. 2).

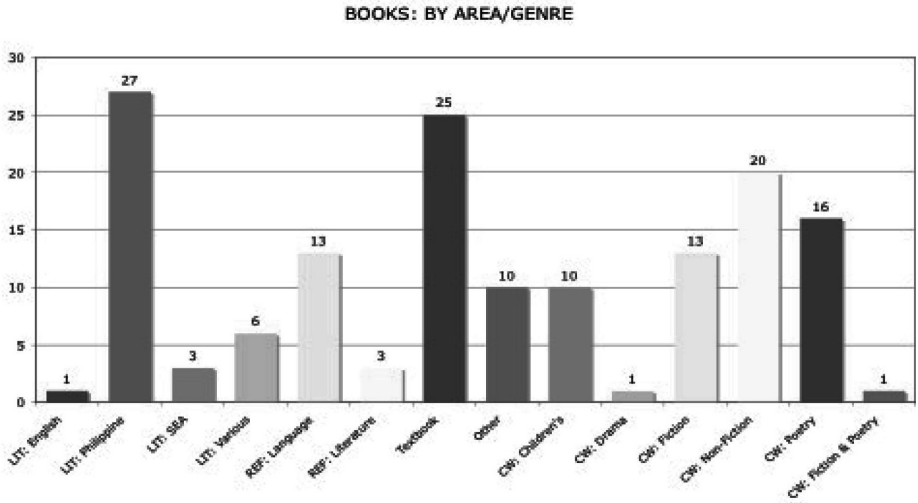


Figure 2. Books published by the DECL faculty, 1997–2006, by area/genre

### *Articles (short works)*

From 1997 to 2006, a total of 300 published articles were produced by the faculty members of the DECL. Of this total, fourteen articles (around 5 percent) were published in 2006, twenty-two (around 7 percent) in 2005, thirty (10 percent) in 2004, thirty-seven (around 12 percent) in 2003, twenty-two (around 7 percent) in 2002, thirty-two (around 11 percent) in 2001, fifty (around 17 percent) in 2000, thirty-two (around 11 percent) in 1999, forty-two (14 percent) in 1998, and nineteen (around 6 percent) in 1997 (fig. 3). Of the total number of articles, 237 (79 percent) were published locally while sixty-three (21 percent) were published internationally—mainly in the United States but also in other countries such as Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, South Korea, Taiwan, Australia, Austria, Spain, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom (fig. 4).

**ARTICLES** (SHORT WORKS)

**TOTAL 300**

SUBTOTALS (PER YEAR)

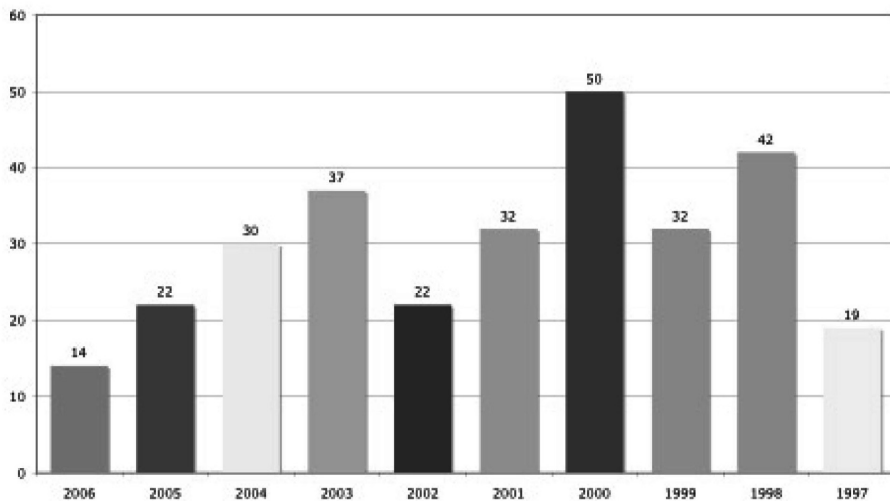


Figure 3. Articles published by the DECL faculty, 1997–2006, by year

**ARTICLES: PLACE OF PUBLICATION**

LOCAL 237  
INTERNATIONAL 63

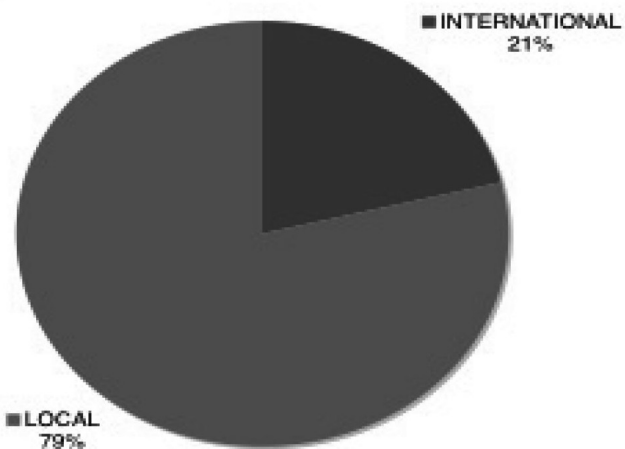


Figure 4. Articles published by the DECL faculty, 1997–2006, by place of publication

Of the total number of published articles produced by the faculty members of the DECL during the period, the academic works comprised five articles (around 2 percent of the total number of articles) on English literature; seventy-six (around 25 percent) on Philippine literature; seven (around 2 percent) on South East Asian literature; seven (around 2 percent) on other literatures; seventeen (around 6 percent) on other literatures; thirty-two reference (around 11 percent) on language; thirty-three (11 percent) on education and pedagogy; and forty-nine (around 16 percent) on other areas. As for the creative works, they comprised twenty titles (around 7 percent of the total number of articles) of fiction; sixteen (around 5 percent) of non-fiction; and forty-five (15 percent) of poetry (fig.5).

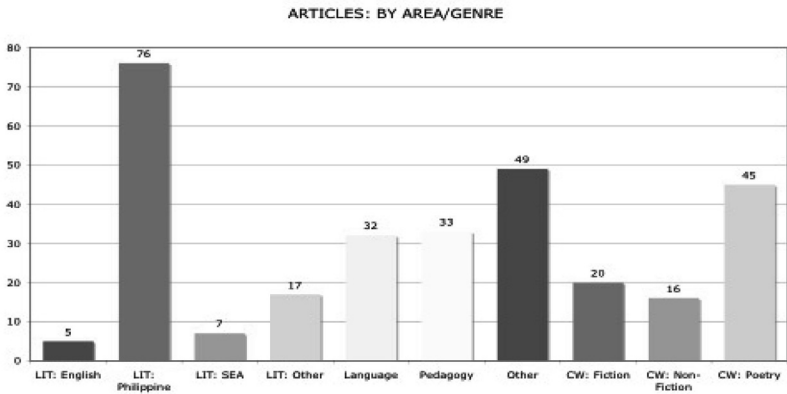


Figure 5. Articles published by the DECL faculty, 1997–2006, by area/genre

## **Research**

### ***Unpublished MA theses and PhD dissertations by faculty***

From 1997 to 2006, the faculty of the DECL produced twenty-seven graduate research works. Of this total, fifteen (56 percent) were theses for the Master of Arts degree and twelve (44 percent) were dissertations for the Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) degree (fig. 6).

**FACULTY THESES AND DISSERTATIONS**

MA 15  
 PhD 12  
 TOTAL 27

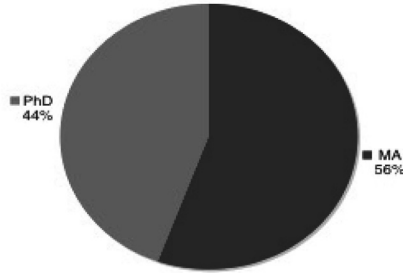


Figure 6. Unpublished MA theses and PhD dissertations by the DECL faculty, 1997-2006

Of the MA theses, thirteen (around 87 percent of the total number produced) were completed in UP-Diliman, all with the DECL, and two (around 13 percent) in universities overseas (Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University in the US and University of London in the UK). Of the PhD dissertations, nine (75 percent) were completed in UP-Diliman, all with the DECL except for one with the College of Education, and three (25 percent) in universities overseas (National University of Singapore, Cornell University in the US, and School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London in the UK) (fig. 7).

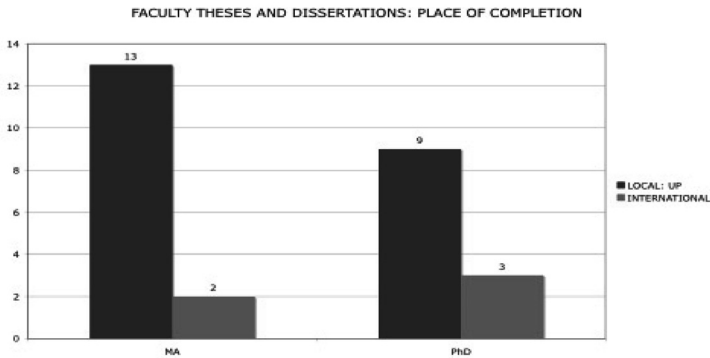


Figure 7. Unpublished MA theses and PhD dissertations by the DECL faculty, 1997-2006, by place of completion

Of the MA theses, three were completed in 2006, two in 2004, three in 2003, one in 2001, one in 1999, and five in 1998. Of the PhD dissertations, three were completed in 2006, three in 2005, one in 2003, one in 2002, one in 2001, one in 2000, and two in 1998 (fig. 8).

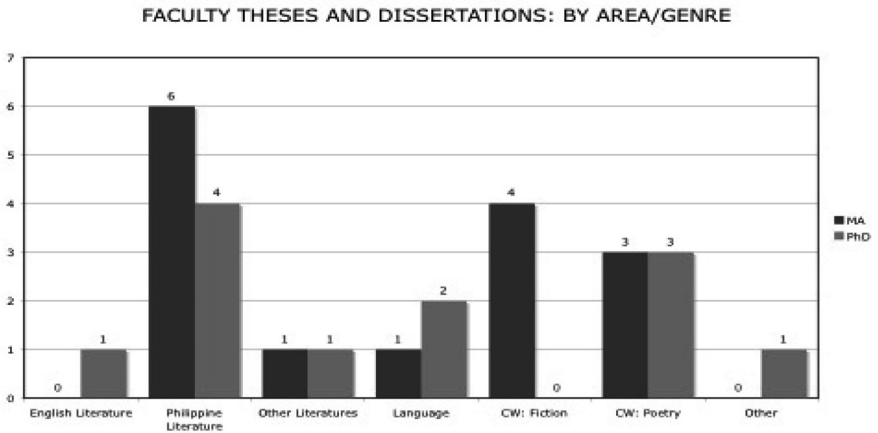


Figure 8. Unpublished MA theses and PhD dissertations by the DECL faculty, 1997–2006, by year

In terms of academic areas of concentration and literary genres, of the MA theses completed by faculty members of the DECL during the period, six (40 percent of the total number produced) were on Philippine literature, one (around 7 percent) on other literatures (Chicana), one (around 7 percent) on language while four (around 27 percent) were works of fiction and three (20 percent) works of poetry. Of the PhD dissertations, one (around 8 percent of the total number produced) was on English literature, four (around 33 percent) on Philippine literature, one (around 8 percent) on other literatures (Southeast Asian), two (around 17 percent) on language, three (25 percent) were works of poetry, and one (around 8 percent) was on education (other) (fig. 9).



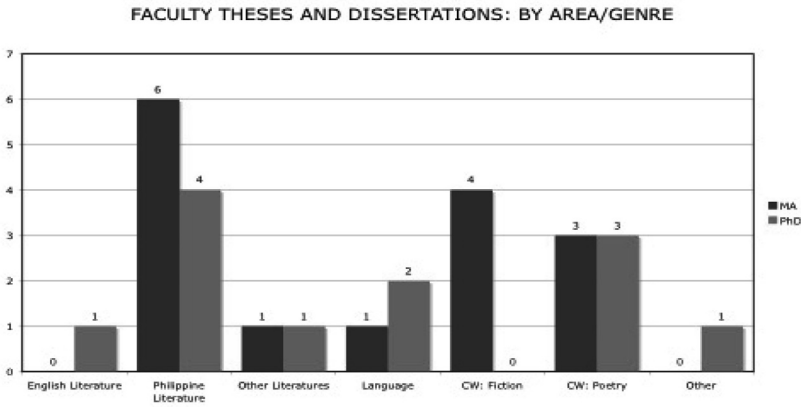


Figure 9. Unpublished MA theses and PhD dissertations by the DECL faculty, 1997–2006, by area/genre

*Unpublished MA theses and PhD dissertations by students*

From 1997 to 2006, the graduate students of the DECL produced fifty-seven research works. Of this total, forty (70 percent) were theses for the MA degree and seventeen (30 percent) were dissertations for the PhD degree (fig. 10).

**STUDENT THESES AND DISSERTATIONS**

MA	40
PhD	17
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>57</b>

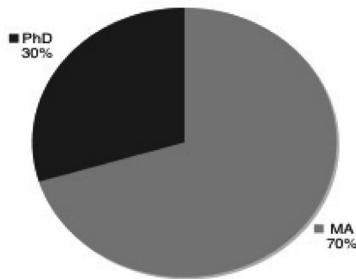


Figure 10. Unpublished MA theses and PhD dissertations by the DECL students, 1997–2006

Of the MA theses, three were completed in 2006, nine in 2005, three in 2004, four in 2003, six in 2002, one in 2001, three in 2000, four in 1999, five in 1998, and two in 1997. Of the PhD dissertations, two were completed in 2006, two in 2005, one in 2004, two in 2003, three in 2002, one in 2001, two in 2000, one in 1999, one in 1998, and two in 1997 (fig. 11).

STUDENT THESES AND DISSERTATIONS: TOTAL PER YEAR

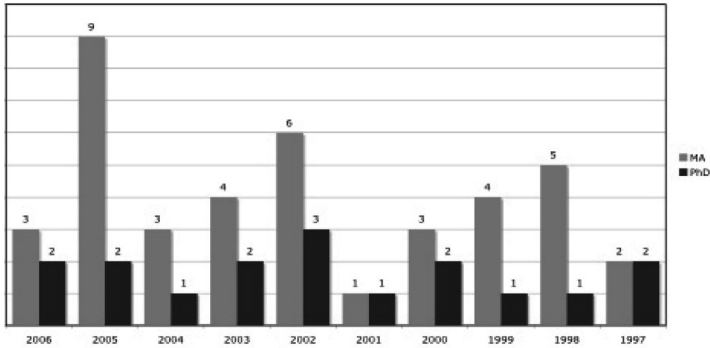


Figure 11. Unpublished MA theses and PhD dissertations by the DECL students, 1997–2006, by year

In terms of academic areas of concentration and literary genres, of the MA theses completed by students of the DECL during the period, two (5 percent of the total number produced) were on English literature, seven (17.5 percent) were on Philippine literature, two (5 percent) were on other literatures, eleven (27.5 percent) were on language while eleven (27.5 percent) were works of fiction, three (7.5 percent) non-fiction, and four (10 percent) poetry. Of the PhD dissertations, two (around 12 percent of the total number produced) were on English literature, eight (47 percent) on Philippine literature, four (around 24 percent) on language, one (around 6 percent) was a work of non-fiction, and two (around 12 percent) were works of poetry (fig. 12).

STUDENT THESES AND DISSERTATIONS: BY AREA/GENRE

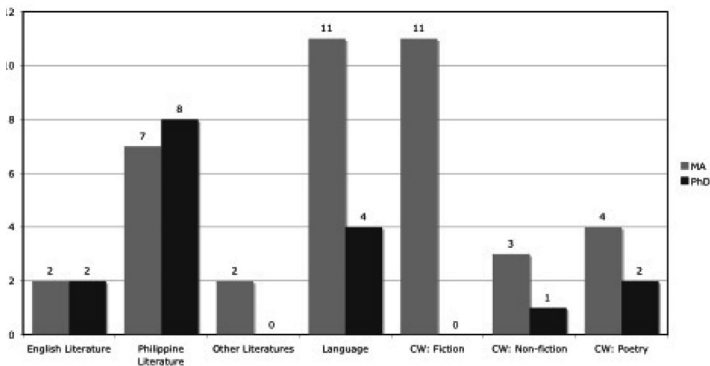


Figure 12. Unpublished MA theses and PhD dissertations by the DECL students, 1997–2006, by area/genre

### ***Evaluation of the DECL Research Output***

The data presented above bears a number of indications, among the more immediate of which are on the collective publishing output of the faculty members of the DECL, and on the areas of interest and genres most and least pursued by the faculty in their scholarly and creative writings and the graduate students in their theses and dissertations.

The collective publishing output of the DECL—149 books and 300 articles—produced from 1997 to 2006 appears quite insufficient considering the total number of faculty members that comprised the department at the time. During each of the ten years covered in this study, there were more or less seventy members in the faculty of the DECL (of whom around 70 percent were employed full-time and around 30 percent part-time). Given such figures, the rate of publishing output of the DECL stands at 0.2 books per faculty member per year and 0.4 articles per faculty member per year. This rate is hypothetical, of course. And it actually glosses over the fact that some faculty members have produced more publications than others, that even some faculty members have produced no publications at all. Nevertheless, the rate provides a sense of the productivity of the DECL as whole in terms of pursuing research and disseminating the fruits of such through published works. In this area of responsibility as an academic unit, as made evident by the actual and hypothetical figures presented in this study, the DECL still has much to accomplish.

The area of interest most pursued by the DECL faculty in their scholarly writings, or the area on which they have published the most number of books and articles, is Philippine literature. As for the creative writings, most books (full-length works) produced were of non-fiction and most articles (short works) of poetry. Incidentally, the total numbers of books and articles of creative writings are quite significant relative to the total outputs of the DECL: 51 books (34

percent) out of the 149 total, and 81 articles (27 percent) out of the 300 total. This evident lively interest of the DECL in producing works on (critical) and of (creative) Philippine literature, which seems quite natural and indeed expected given the immediacy of the Philippine experience, indicates that the DECL has taken on in some measure an active role in contributing to Philippine arts and letters. Such interest and activity also fall well in line with the nationalist orientation of the vision-mission of the College.

The area of interest least pursued by the DECL faculty in their scholarly writings, or the area in which they have produced the least number of books and articles, is English (British and American) literature. This perhaps has to do in part with the limitations in access to primary and secondary resources necessary for producing up-to-date and first-rate scholarly works for publication overseas, and with the limited opportunities for local publication of works on such an area. As for the creative writings, the least produced were books of drama and articles of non-fiction. The low output of dramatic works (one title only for the ten-year period covered by this study) may be attributed perhaps to the apparent lack (or absence practically) of interest in or demand for original Filipino plays in English among producers and audiences of Philippine theatre today. The fact that books of contemporary drama are not highly marketable products, as they are hard-sell items for publishers, may have also been a factor behind this low output figure. That articles of non-fiction ranked lowest among the creative writings produced may actually point less to the writing of such works than their publishing as determined by the design of this study. The more accessible venue for the publication of non-fiction writing would seem to be non-academic periodicals (newspapers, commercial magazines, newsletters, etc.), and the works in the genre by DECL faculty members did indeed appear in such publications. They were, however, not counted in this study given its academic focus.

The faculty members of the DECL who undertook graduate studies during the period covered by this study concentrated most on the area of Philippine literature as displayed by topics of their

theses and dissertations; the other graduate students (non-DECL faculty members), on the areas of language and Philippine literature. The least pursued areas were English literature for the faculty and other literatures (i.e., of other nations, in English translation) for the graduate students. These trends align with that of the publication output of the DECL faculty, and the explanations for the latter mentioned above would likely hold more or less, too, for the former. As for the interest in the area of language displayed by the graduate students (for eleven MA theses and four PhD dissertations), this perhaps may be ascribed to their occupation as schoolteachers of English.

The faculty members of the DECL who undertook graduate studies in creative writing concentrated most on the genre of poetry; the other graduate students, fiction. The least pursued genre in graduate studies in creative writing was fiction for DECL faculty and non-fiction for other graduate students. Such trends lend themselves to no ready or easy generalisations as the choice of concentration in creative writing rests much on personal inclinations and skills.

### ***Recommendations for Future Research***

The following points are suggested for the direction of the research and publication endeavours of the DECL, with the ultimate aim of increasing the general output of publications:

- Encourage and challenge faculty members to produce at least one published article per year and at least one published book per five or ten years (the former would be more ideal but perhaps the latter more realistic);
- Maintain and further interest in research on and production of Philippine literature;
- Encourage research and publication on other areas, language specifically given the prominent role of English in the global order at present;
- Continue the publication of the DECL journal, *Journal of English Studies and Comparative Literature*, for it serves as an important venue of exposure and

experience particularly for the junior faculty members; manage the journal more efficiently by ensuring its regular appearance (the last issue released was in 2005), maintaining a high or respectable quality of content, and exploring alternate means of distribution (online, for instance);

- Encourage faculty to take advantage of and employ the existing systems of support for research—such as the research credit load, professorial chair, study leave, sabbatical—as occasions for producing publishable works;
- Foster further an environment of scholarship by organising and promoting more vigorously the DECL Faculty Lecture Series (junior and senior), by creating and promoting more occasions for scholarly exchange and interaction among the faculty and with other visiting scholars perhaps; by exploring other means and activities directed towards this end.

### ***Conclusion***

Research—particularly that which results in publications—is an integral and indispensable element of academic life. The DECL has not been negligent in this aspect during the period 1997 to 2006; yet, it apparently has not been diligent or prolific enough either. It would be ideal for the faculty members of the DECL to consider publishing not merely as an aspiration or privilege but as a duty and consequently to fulfil such so as to make tangible contributions to and perhaps leave lasting legacies in Philippine scholarship and literature, to create written works that would serve as testimonies of their great minds, rich experiences, and impassioned spirits.