

Editorial

Endowed with relatively intact forests and spectacular reef formations teeming with astounding biodiversity, the island of Palawan has been dubbed as the Philippines 'Last Ecological Frontier' and declared by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) as 'Man and Biosphere Reserve'. While the significance of its resources gained global support and recognition, the danger that Palawan faces against the forces of both human and nature remains a major challenge among the academe, local and national government units, non-government organizations and to all concerned individuals whose life depends on what bounty the land and sea could offer.

With its vision to become the leading centre for sustainable development in the west Philippines and beyond, the Western Philippines University through collaborative works and funding support from various institutions here and abroad, has worked on varied sustainable biodiversity utilizations. With our desire to reach a wider audience and encourage more people to join us in this vital quest, the university publishes original research articles in aquatic sciences in this issue, the first externally referred.

The Palawan Scientist is a peer-reviewed multi-disciplinary journal that welcomes original research articles in various fields of social and natural sciences. It is hoped that through this journal, a culture of information sharing is strengthened within Palawan and expanded through time; and may this guide us all in making a difference in the world we are in today.

Thank you for all your contributions!

Roger G. Dolorosa, PhD
Editor-in-Chief