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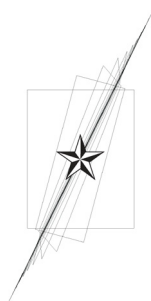
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FROM THE EDITOR

Venturing into entrepreneurial activities is a complex decision to formulate because it considers a range of factors that would influence the process of decision making. Although being an entrepreneur is a complicated and risky process, fostering micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) and other entrepreneurship programs are increasingly regarded as an avenue for generating employment opportunities, particularly for those at the margins of the economy such as rural women. Hence, the various literatures have shown a positive relationship between levels of entrepreneurial activity and economic growth. Likewise, no economy with high levels of entrepreneurship experienced low levels of economic growth. To encourage entrepreneurship, individual attitudes to risk, formal and informal institutions, human capital endowments, development of the financial sector, diverse capital sources, an enabling culture, entrepreneurial networks, and supportive infrastructure are necessary.

A number of articles focused on the importance, as well as new perspectives of entrepreneurship. The article of **Aida L. Velasco** (*Entrepreneurship Education in the Philippines*) posited that the status of entrepreneurship education is evaluated through the analysis of entrepreneurship education curricula and practices in the Philippines with an aim to suggest policy measures in the promotion, development and creation, growth, and sustainability of more entrepreneurial undertaking. Likewise, the study of **Divina M. Edralin** (*Work and Life Harmony: An Exploratory Case Study of EntrePinays*) explored how Filipina entrepreneurs, called *EntrePinays*, harmonize their work demands with their family responsibilities and personal needs in order to sustain their business and at the same time live a meaningful and happy life through various strategies such as personal planning with proper time management, having a flexible work schedule and workload, and delegating routine jobs to trusted employees, usually a family member, and extent of spouse support for married entrepreneurs or the degree of support of the family members for non-business work responsibilities and activities.

In relation to the business environment, as a facilitating factor for entrepreneurship, the article of **Himanshu Bhushan** (*Credit Rating Agencies in India: Have We Done Enough?*) reviewed the developments of credit rating agencies in India taking into consideration the recent global financial crisis with emphasis on the existing and desired regulatory structure in India vis-à-vis the legislation in the United States and the European Union. This can be complemented by the study of **Adrian P. Galido and Marites A. Khanser** (*Natural Disasters and the Philippine Stock Exchange Index: A GARCH-M Analysis*) that examined the effect of earthquakes, tropical cyclones and volcanic eruptions on the Philippine Stock Exchange index wherein the results suggest that policymakers consider including market movements in assessing the impact of natural disasters while investors conceptualize disaster-based trading

strategies. Furthermore, the study of **Ruperto P. Alonzo and Klarizze M. Puzon** (*Environmental Quality, Economic Development, and Political Institutions in East Asia: A Survey of Issues*) provided a literature review on the economic growth-pollutant emissions relationship using the framework of the Environmental Kuznets Curve hypothesis on the context of selected East Asian economies whose results put forward that trade liberalization and even socio-political institutions have an impact in determining the relationship between the state of economic health and environmental degradation.

Meanwhile, the article of **Marivic V. Manalo** (*Teaching Strategies for Business Ethics Courses in the Undergraduate Accountancy Curriculum*) determined what teaching strategies to employ in business ethics courses to undergraduate accounting major students. Results reveal that ethical discussion and collaborative learning as the most preferred teaching strategy while technology-enhanced learning is the least preferred implying that even though the youth are adept with the use of the Internet, they would still

choose actual classroom experiences in learning business ethics courses. On the other hand, the study of **Tai Wei Lim** (*Publishing Japan: A Visual Observation of English-Language Publications Related to Japanese Studies*) provided insights into issues related to dominance by major publishers in the publication industry in Japan, the entry of new media into the industry and a diversity of sub-topical themes within Japanese Studies as a whole that can spur further perspectives and discussions as well as follow-up studies.

Indeed, the authors of the articles in this edition of the *DLSU Business & Economics Review* laid importance on some of the changes in the field of business and economics and how stakeholders can adapt to these changes for the purposes of sustainability given the role of the international sector and the ever changing business environment.

JOHN PAOLO R. RIVERA, PH.D.
Managing Editor