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Editors Note

In this issue of *Convergence*, nine inquiries stand alongside one another, each distinct in focus yet collectively shaping a discourse on vulnerability, agency, and responsibility in our shared lifeworld.

This edition highlights the contributions of alumni whose research projects were undertaken during their undergraduate studies. Layosa, Quilab, and Tolentino attest to the capacity of Silliman University students to transform classroom writing into knowledge worth sharing with the wider community. Quilab's ethnography of Tarsier conservation in Bohol returns us to the voices of communities—knowledgeable yet constrained, hopeful yet hindered—reminding us that conservation is as much cultural as ecological. Layosa's cyberethnography of Filipino gamers in MMORPGs opens a window into digital lifeworlds, where humor, empathy, and bilingual play mediate crosscultural encounters. Tolentino's study of flouted conversational maxims in F.R.I.E.N.D.S. Season 8 situates laughter within the pragmatics of speech, showing how sitcoms bend the rules of conversation to elicit joy.

From undergraduate research, we turn to pedagogy. Pilapil and Generoso's exploration of strategic questioning in multilingual classrooms shifts the lens to teaching practice, revealing how language, cognition, and silence entwine in the pursuit of learning.

The conversation deepens with graduate level work. Mahusay and Bacang, now pursuing advanced studies in History and Philosophy, extend the discourse into questions of power and conscience. Mahusay's study of the Southern Negros Geothermal Project reminds us that what appears as "acceptance" may in fact be compromise, born of structural fragility. Bacang, in turn, listens to Heidegger's call to conscience through the resonances of *hiya* and *ulaw*, showing how shame, far from paralysis, can be rethrown as potentiality.

From philosophy we move into applied science and governance. Quinamot's Tamlang River Basin study demonstrates how computation and GIS can measure sediment replenishment, grounding policy in the language of numbers. Cayas, Utzurum, and Alcalá's systematic review of Community based Forest Management

charts two decades of stewardship, policy, and fragmentation, calling for deeper integration of indigenous knowledge and local participation.

The urgency of ecological stewardship is sharpened by Maypa, Fukuda, Fajardo, Gajo, Divinagracia, and Neri's rapid assessment of the 2025 spent wash spill in Bais Bay—a timely intervention where science, governance, and livelihood intersect in the wake of disaster.

Together, these nine works remind us that scholarship is not a series of isolated monologues but a chorus—sometimes harmonious, sometimes dissonant—always pressing toward dialogue. They invite us to see acceptance, conscience, computation, conservation, pedagogy, governance, digital interaction, and humor not as separate strands but as part of a larger, ongoing conversation.

We welcome you into this conversation: to read, to reflect, and to carry its questions forward into your own engagements.

Alana Leilani C. Narciso, PhD.
Editor in Chief