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University of the Assumption
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FOREWORD

In Higher Education Institutions (HEIs), Graduate School programs include research subjects in their curricula. These equip the students of the technical know-how for them to produce quality research outputs. These manuscripts are then submitted to peer-reviewed journals for possible publication, an important avenue for research dissemination which involves consideration of target audiences and settings in which research findings are to be received.

In the pursuit of academic excellence through research publication, *The Summit*, the official Graduate School research journal of the University of the Assumption, presents its 7th (2014) issue. It includes five (5) research outputs. Specifically, it is composed of two (2) doctoral dissertations and three (3) master's theses.

Life Experiences of Single Career Women: Their Views, Challenges and Coping by **Michelle N. Fajardo** is a Master of Arts, Major in Guidance and Counseling thesis. It is a qualitative study which aimed to uncover the participants' views on their career status, perspectives on being single and strategies of coping in handling life's challenges as single.

Lived Experiences of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Students in a Mainstream Education System by **Jay P. Diaz** is a Master of Arts, Major in Guidance and Counseling thesis. It is a phenomenological study aimed at unveiling the lived experiences and difficulties of deaf and hard of hearing (D/Hh) students in a mainstream education system. Specifically, the study is directed to discover the difficulties of the hearing impaired and their coping mechanisms and to examine the participant self-concept.

Emerging Faculty-Administrator Partnership Paradigm for Strengthening Research Culture in State Universities and Colleges by **Catherine A. Galang** is a Doctor of Philosophy in Educational Management dissertation. It is a qualitative research that applied the grounded theory approach intended to develop a partnership paradigm between the administrators and the faculty members in strengthening research culture in state universities and colleges (SUCs).

What's In: Unveiling Pop Culture's Use in Facilitating English Grammar Learning Among Grade 7 Students by **Delilah Balajadia-Pangan** is a Master of Arts in Education, Major in English thesis. It is a study that used explanatory mixed methods of research involving quasi-experimental and qualitative narrative strategies. It aimed to validate the impact

of popular culture in language learning among Grade 7 students in the Philippine setting, particularly in rural areas.

Coming Out From The Closet: Experiences of Homosexual Youth by **Marinellee M. Tiglao** is a Master of Arts in Guidance and Counseling thesis. This is a phenomenological research that used the case study method to deal with the coming out process of homosexual youth.

The SUMMIT is the Graduate School Journal of the University of the Assumption published annually. It contains full texts of completed and successfully defended theses and dissertations in the UA Graduate School.

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