

## Editorial

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We planned to have the 2021 International Multidisciplinary Conference on Productivity and Sustainability in person at the sight of a sandy beach and waving palm trees in Bali. But the COVID-19 pandemic crushed our dream of an ideal conference and taught us the hard way to be flexible with unforeseeable circumstances. This global pandemic will become a constant reminder of qualities every scholar should possess including adaptability and the ability to collaborate. As science continues to evolve, it necessitates multidisciplinary approaches to solve problems. Additionally, many challenges are often shared that require collaborative efforts of researchers from different institutions and fields to resolve the problems.

Following the fourth industrial revolution (Industry 4.0), HE has undergone significant changes that affected its philosophies, policies, and practices. The Covid-19 Pandemic has also heightened awareness that the global academic community needs to find new ways of coping with the physical, psychological, and economic difficulties. To realize HE goals for promoting equitable knowledge transfer, innovation, and specialized skills, internationalization and cooperation between HE stakeholders and the industry are paramount. Without a concerted effort and synergy, HE will find it challenging to fulfill the goals without exacerbating substantial equity, productivity, and sustainability issues.

The articles featured in this special issue represent some of the observations and practices of emerging researchers and scholars during the pandemic as they navigate into the new normal. The authors from different disciplines such as health, humanities, and social sciences are faculty

and students who aspire to maintain traditions of inquiry and at the same time challenge the restrictions that the pandemic has resulted for them to conduct research. They propose different types of scholarly writing such as a final project report on fiction writing, literary and text analyses as well as case studies that shed light on what research issues have been of interest. The articles mirror reflections of accepted conceptual ideas and theories in diverse disciplines while acknowledging what ideas continue to be debatable.

Anindya and Mau reported their project creating a novelette titled *Dian-Tara* that depicts a tragic story of two girls who are abused by their father. Using the three-act structures of Aristotle's poetics, Todorov's narrative theory, and Freud's psychoanalytic theory, they developed the plot and characters to present phenomena in society such as domestic abuse done by parents to their children. The gothic fiction style adds the horror element of the tragedy by creating high emotions of fear and suspense. The authors consider the spirit's appearance as the key to unraveling the hidden truth.

Another work is a literary analysis of Felicia and Mau who examined *Things You Save in a Fire* written by Katherine Center. The analysis centers on describing the experience of Cassie Hanwell, the main character, being sexually assaulted and discriminated against in her workplace. They perceived the patriarchal practices from Walby's (1990) patriarchy theory which concept includes six patriarchal structures that maintain men's domination and women's exploitation. The authors found that the assault and discrimination had psychologically affected Cassie in different ways from nightmares to aggressivity and paranoia.

In their report, Hasibuan and Mursita-Putri analyzed the strategies used to translate gaming terms in *Dungeons and Dragons* and whether the translation results were acceptable from the perspective of users. The analyses of three types of data, the transcriptions of a

gameplay session's conversation and interview as well as the acceptability questionnaire, revealed that domestication, foreignization, transcreation, and literal translations were strategies considered effective to translate gaming terms. While the transcreation strategy was unusual and suggested the gamers' creativity and freedom to express their understanding of terms in the source language, literal translation was the most common strategy as gamers converted grammatical structures and translated words individually. The results of translation using the literal translation strategy also showed a higher acceptability score.

Larasati and Rasikawati's article reported their review of literature on comics translation strategies. Despite the popularity of comics as entertainment media, comics translation, especially in Indonesian contexts, has been an area under-researched in translation studies. The review intended to gather data on what previous research had found on problems and strategies to translate them. The findings suggested determining equivalent translations in the target language as the most frequent problem documented in the reviewed studies. This difficulty was due to the different language systems, structures, and cultures between the source and target language. The strategies most frequently used to resolve the problem were borrowing and omission strategies as they were perceived to be more convenient to provide appropriate translation without significantly affecting comprehension.

In their survey to study the mental health literacy perspectives of an ethnic group in Indonesia, Saya and Novianty found the majority of the group was not aware of symptoms of major depression and schizophrenia. However, they had assigned local terms to describe different symptoms of people with depression, schizophrenia, and trauma. There was a belief that social factors contributed to depression whereas culturally associated practices such as violations

of norms and spirit possession resulted in schizophrenia. The authors concluded that the group considered relatives, friends, and community leaders to be the source for seeking help.

During the pandemic, health providers worked exceptionally harder to care for their patients. Sutanti et al. studied the relationship between the stress level and sleep quality of nurses in Jakarta. In addition to finding a significant relationship between stress level and sleep quality, they found moderate stress levels to be the most frequent type of stress experienced by nurses during the pandemic. The study findings also confirmed previous research that stress level that exceeds one's ability to endure can lead to several health issues such as headaches, irritability, and difficulty sleeping.

Widagdo et al. reported an evaluation of the health education program for the caregivers of persons with Cerebral Palsy (CP). The program aimed at preparing the caregivers to manage nutrition and seizure in children with CP who usually suffers from musculoskeletal disabilities. The program was found to be effective to improve the caregivers' knowledge of nutrition and their ability to provide first aid. Especially during the pandemic, the training can help reduce mortality children with cerebral Palsy are more prone to severe respiratory problems.

In their study of non-performing loans on loan loss provisions, Iskandar et al. examined the impact of moderating foreign exchange rates and mediating non-performing loans on capital adequacy ratios and interest rates in the banking industry. They collected data on loan loss provision, capital adequacy ratio, and interest rate from quarterly reports of three banks in Indonesia. The data analysis using multiple linear regression and path analyses showed that the capital adequacy ratio had a significantly positive effect on the capital adequacy ratio but not interest rates. While the capital adequacy ratio significantly affected loan loss provision, both non-performing loans and interest rates did not. The study recommendations included the

banking industry to increase the loan loss provision by increasing the capital adequacy ratio when the non-performing loans increase.

Gunarso and Stephanie reviewed the existing literature on digital currency using blockchain. The review purpose was to identify what research had found and methods used for studying the applications of blockchain such as cryptocurrency and provide directions for future research in cryptocurrency. The review concluded the advantages and disadvantages of cryptocurrency. The advantages include its relative security and privacy compared to other types of currency as it is not controlled by the government and allows a more secure transaction. Whereas among the disadvantages are a lack of law and supervision and market transparency. The authors suggested that future research identify ways to promote the development and use of cryptocurrencies as well as the various problems associated with their use.

Finally, Gunarso et al. discussed the debates about the possibility of Artificial Intelligence (AI) personhood from the Christian perspective. They referred to the biblical concepts of human existence and characteristics to argue against the criteria of personhood claimed to exist in AI. The authors concluded that no AI could match human beings that are created in the image of God.

As a part of the lesson learned during the pandemic, HE institutions are expected to increase their awareness and responsibility to stimulate multidisciplinary research and global learning in their future endeavors. HE institutions as the catalyst of innovation and change should jointly overcome the political, economic, and sociocultural hegemony as the pandemic has taught us many concerns are global (Rasikawati et al., 2021). The scholarly tradition might remain the same in that established theories and robust methods will continue to strive. But as problems to solve become more complex, some instructional and research practices and

problem-solving approaches should take a dramatic turn. The complexity of challenges facing the world following the pandemic requires HE institutions to revolutionize various processes, including instruction, research, management, community engagement, and industry partnership. Promoting multidisciplinary and international collaboration is essential to lay the foundation for innovations, solve the world's multifaceted problems, and maintain global sustainable development.

## References

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