STUDENT RESEARCHERS TAUGHT IMRD PUBLICATION, INCREASED OUTPUTS EYED

By: Research and Development Center

FORGING ONLINE REACH. Webinar banners for student researchers from the College of Business and Accountancy, College of International and Hospitality Management, College of Education and College of Engineering, Architecture and Aviation.
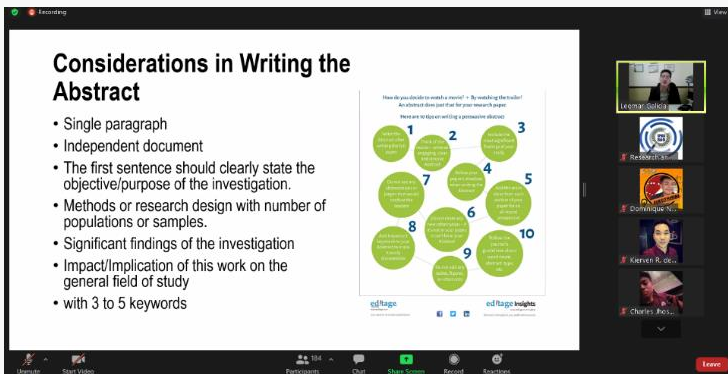
With the goal of involving various stakeholders of the institution in doing research works, the Research and Development Center (R&DC) organized a student research seminar themed "Capacity Building for Student Researchers: Converting Research Papers into Publishable Format" on March 29 and April 20 via Google Meet. The objectives of the capacity-building undertaking were to orient undergraduate researchers about publishable format of research papers, foster research collaboration through online platform and increase the research portfolio of student researchers. Students who were enrolled under Research Courses from the College of Education, College of Business and Accountancy and College of International Hospitality Management and College of Engineering, Aviation and Architecture served as the virtual audience of Dr. Leomar S. Galicia, university research director, who previously served as the facilitator to a series of faculty research webinars. The affair was held in response to the intensification drive of R&DC to increase the number of university research papers which can be published in institutional, national and international journals.

Dr. Galicia's talk centered on the publishable format of a traditional research paper called IMRD (Introduction, Methods, Results and Discussion), stating that the Introduction part focuses on "what was the question?", the Me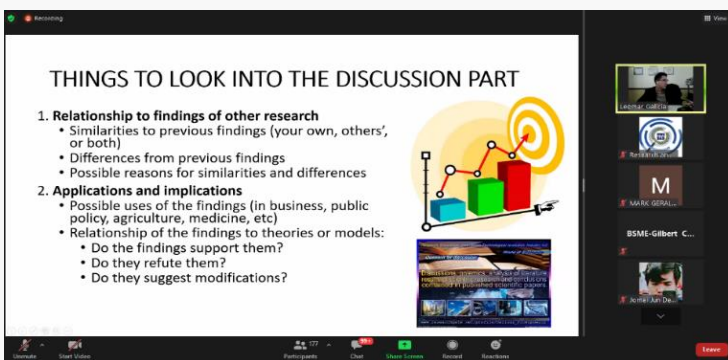thods part answering "How did you try to answer it?", the Results section responding to "What did you find?" and the Discussion portion focusing on "What does it mean".

He then focused the online discussion on crafting research title and research abstract, stating that the former should be catchy, interesting and relevant to an international audience and that the latter is a like a movie trailer wherein people will only consider reading the rest of the manuscript if they find the abstract interesting.
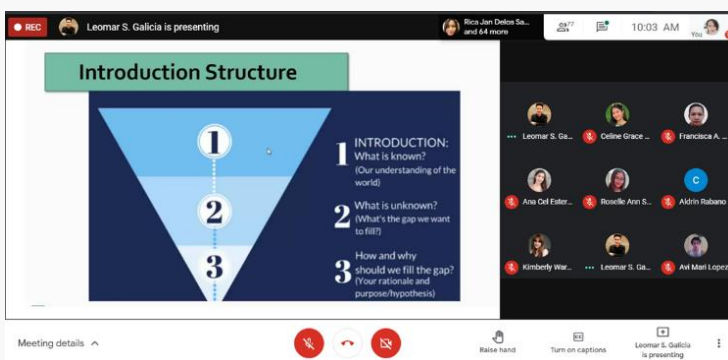
Pointers for writing introduction included its length and structure wherein he noted that it should be crafted in relatively nontechnical yet clear enough for an informed reader to understand the manuscript's contribution. He also gave sample of research introductions, focusing on research problems that were identified based on existing literature and studies as well as the crafting of research gap or void. In order to address the possible difficulty in organizing review of related literature, he also shared a number of journal databases that can be used by student researchers, enumerating Philippine e-journals, EBSCOhost research platform, Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ), Infotrac, Education Resources Information Center (ERIC), Mendeley, Academia.edu, Public Library of Sciences (PLOS), Open Access Journals Search Engine (OAJSE), OMICS International and PubPsych.

Considerations in Writing the Abstract

- Single paragraph
- Independent document
- The first sentence should clearly state the objective/purpose of the investigation.
- Methods or research design with number of populations or samples.
- Significant findings of the investigation
- Impact/Implication of this work on the general field of study
- with 3 to 5 keywords

THINGS TO LOOK INTO THE DISCUSSION PART

1. **Relationship to findings of other research**
   - Similarities to previous findings (your own, others', or both)
   - Differences from previous findings
   - Possible reasons for similarities and differences
2. **Applications and implications**
   - Possible uses of the findings (in business, public policy, agriculture, medicine, etc)
   - Relationship of the findings to theories or models:
     - Do the findings support them?
     - Do they refute them?
     - Do they suggest modifications?

Introduction Structure

1. INTRODUCTION: What is known? (Our understanding of the world)
2. What is unknown? (What's the gap we want to fill?)
3. How and why should we fill the gap? (Your rationale and purpose/hypothesis)

IN PHOTOS. Screenshots of contents being discussed by Dr. Leomar S. Galicia to online participants.

The next part of the web-based undertaking focused on the "Methods" part of the manuscript. The speaker shared that it should be written in the past tense and that it may included tables and figures. He added that in some journals, subheads can be included to help readers in its organization. Discussed next was the results and discussion part of the manuscript, which should answer the objectives of the study, highlight its salient findings which are supported by global, regional and local perspectives/facts. Levels of analysis were also discussed, focusing on literal, inferential and theoretical dimensions of digesting the results. Added in the discussion were the importance of finding relationship to findings of other research and the applications and implications of the research results. He the covered the conclusion and recommendation part of the publishable manuscript, noting that the conclusion should briefly answer the objectives of the study and that there should be no repetitions of the discussions but should present the judgments of the results obtained. Meanwhile, the recommendation part should provide suggestions based on the findings as well as limitations of the study.

The last part of the webinar covered the References section which is usually the last part of the research report that lists all the sources a researcher used. Infographics on the 7th edition of the American Psychological Association (APA) citation format was also provided to the online participants.

Dr. Galicia ended the lecture with the quotation from Wernher von Braun saying "Research is what I'm doing when I don't know what I'm doing," emphasizing the necessity to continuously dig deeper into the realms of the unknown for knowledge discovery and sharing.

Professor Francisca Argana represented Dr. Ernesto A. Serrnao Jr, Dean of the College of Business and Accountancy for the opening remarks while Mrs. Gerlie N. Beramo, OIC of the College of International Hospitality Management delivered the closing remarks before the photo opportunity took place.