

Editor's Note

This second issue of *The Pinnacle* reflects the commitment to contribute to the current scholarly discourse. The articles are on AI, Sustainable Development, and the Future of Higher Education. Two continually relevant analyses of the human subject and the problem of evil are likewise featured to satisfy a philosophically curious reader.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) belongs to the consciousness of the time. Its nature and capabilities continue to pervade and challenge the existing paradigm and status quo. The first article proposes guided AI governance in human manipulation to mitigate risks while the second one highlights AI's pedagogical strength as auxiliary tool that scaffolds thinking and expands access to ideas.

The article identified under sustainable development (SD), for its part, examines the practices and challenges of inclusive education in rural schools. While it was found out that teachers were consistently engaged in inclusion practices, major challenges, such as limited resources and insufficient trainings, must be addressed through collaboration, contextualization and other adaptive strategies.

The future of Higher Education is discussed in the fourth and fifth articles. On the government's proposal of three-year degree programs, one study analyzed that without adequate institutional support these shortened programs will undermine academic quality and create systemic implementation gaps. On the steady decline in the quality of Philippine education, the other study pointed to implementation gaps in policy, structure of pedagogy, and access to infrastructure as contributing conditions.

Finally, one article in philosophy recovers the human subject and provides a "new look" by reviewing the relevant theories of Marx, Lukacs and Weber while the other article treats the problem of evil in an unconventional "no-thought" manner, which the author labeled as the anti-theodicy position.

Given the featured articles, indeed this issue largely engages with the current scholarly discourse and addresses the ever-relevant interest on the human person and human nature. It is, hence, both timely and timeless.

May this second issue of *The Pinnacle* continue to inform and inspire researchers, scholars and all those who are in pursuit of truth; those who are "lovers of wisdom."

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