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Welcome to KIMIKA – the Journal of the Philippine Federation of Chemistry Societies.

KIMIKA exists as an avenue for disseminating research outputs in the wide range of chemistry topics hoping to encourage a research culture among Filipinos.

Dr. Klaus Jaffe and his group reported in a landmark study* that “*productivity in basic sciences correlates to economic growth*”. This “productivity in science” refers to the proportion of published research articles by the citizens of the country. Specifically, the research outputs in Chemistry, Materials Science and Physics, have been identified as better predictors of economic wealth and of Human Development Index compared to other popular indices. Although the study did not indicate direct causal chain between basic science and economic development, it does point to the need to strengthen the basic sciences compared to the applied fields to promote economic growth.

For the Philippines to sustain its recent economic gains, we in the chemical sciences should be more active in doing research, publishing our works and developing an army of dedicated chemistry researchers. KIMIKA will be your partner in this endeavour.

This issue of KIMIKA presents some of the outputs of the Chemistry Writing Workshop held on April 11-13, 2013 during the 28th Philippine Chemistry Congress. We are grateful to the generous support extended by the Commission on Higher Education (CHED), for the conduct of the writing workshop and for the sponsorship given to the writing fellows. We hope to see more young researchers from around the country publishing their work in KIMIKA.

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* K Jafe, *et al.* Productivity in Physical and Chemical Science Predicts the Future Economic Growth of Developing Countries Better than Other Popular Indices. *PLoS One*, **2013**, Vol 8, Issue 6 pp. e66239