

18 June 2019

THE HOLY CROSS COMMUNITY

My dear Holy Crossians:

Greetings of joy and harmony!

As a Catholic institution, one of the primary concerns of the school is to protect its stakeholders in any form of abuse or exploitation. Corollary to this purpose, is the establishment by the VPAA through the Academic Council and the Institutional Research Office of the HCDC-Research Ethics Committee (HCDC-REC). The presence of the HCDC-REC makes the institution compliant to CMO 52 s. 2016, DOST Special Order 091 s. 2016 and Republic Act 10532 which advocates the universal principle of protecting human participants in research within the institution. This also ensures the school's adherence to the university status requirement and make us consistent with other schools and universities implementing ethical standards in their research department.

In this connection, I would like to formally announce the approval of our HCDC-Research Ethics Committee (HCDC-REC), which will act as a vanguard of the institution for the protection of human participants in research. **Hence, all researches (SHS, undergraduate, graduate, institutional and external) will undergo ethics review.** Furthermore, to guide its actions, the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) of the HCDC-REC will serve as a blueprint in its implementation.

For your information and guidance.

MA. IRIS A. MELLIZA EDD

President