**Teachers’ Research Characteristics, Competencies, Motivation, and Challenges: Basis for Research Manual**

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Few teachers can produce research output that manifests low research competence and motivation. So, an in-depth study was needed. The study aimed to investigate the teachers' research characteristics, competencies, motivation, and challenges in conducting research, which served as a basis for developing a research manual. Explanatory sequential design was employed to elicit quantitative and qualitative data. Nine hundred teacher respondents using convenience sampling and twenty-five master teachers using purposive sampling voluntarily participated. A survey questionnaire and interview guide were used to collect data validated by experts. Hence, quantitative data were analyzed statistically through Jamovi and thematic analysis for qualitative data. Findings reveal that teachers were interested in teaching and learning research themes but produced less research based on the number of completed, presented, and published research papers. Also, they were moderately competent in conceptual, methodological, data analysis and interpretation, and dissemination and utilization aspects but more competent in technical aspects. However, they were extrinsically motivated to do research to get promoted someday to get higher salaries. On the other hand, they were intrinsically motivated to do research to improve their knowledge and skills and solve school problems. Meanwhile, teachers’ challenges arose, like low-level competence, limited time, financial problems, and low parental and learner support.

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**Ethics declaration**: The author declared that the study was conducted with adherence to ethical considerations approved by the schools division research committee of San Pedro City.

**Declaration of interest**: The author declares no competing interest.

**Data availability**: Data generated or analyzed during this study are available upon request from the author.

**Biographical note:**

Alvin O. Insorio has been a professor in the Department of Liberal Arts, Education, and Science at San Pedro College of Business Administration for 12 years and a public school teacher for 17 years. His research interests include mathematics education, technology integration, contextualization, differentiated instruction, and mixed methods research.