

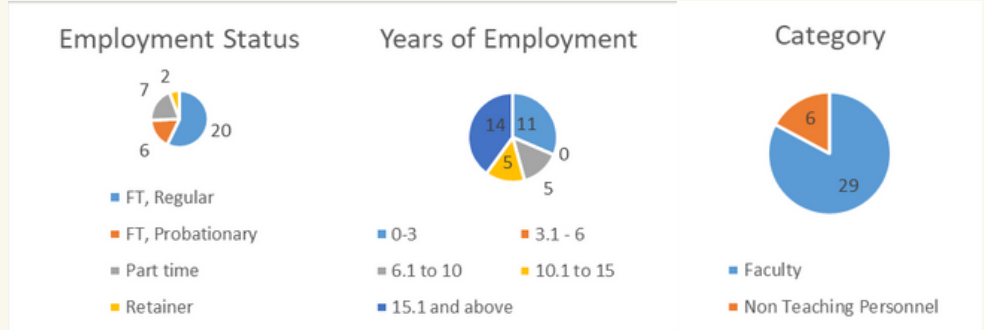
ST. PAUL UNIVERSITY MANILA

RPQA NEWS

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Demographic Profile (n=35 participants)



RESEARCH COMPETENCE AMONG THE ACADEMIC COMMUNITY OF ST. PAUL UNIVERSITY MANILA (SY 2025-2026)

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In response to the university vision-mission statement that speaks about transformative formation and all-to-all services, St. Paul University Manila, through the Research, Planning, and Quality Assurance Office and the Office of the Vice President for Academic Affairs and Research, conducted a Training Needs Assessment Survey on Research Capacity.

The survey's main objective was to examine the current status of the research capacities of the institution's faculty and academic non-teaching staff. Conducted all throughout the months of August and September, 2025, the TNA survey were able to gather 35 responses from the various units of the university.

The results of this will determine the development path the respondents should take in order for them to fully realize their potentials. Furthermore, this will help the institution craft programs and trainings for the Paulinian staff, providing them an opportunity to improve their capabilities and subsequently write and publish their own scholarly works.

There was a total of thirty-six (36) employees who participated in the survey, using the 2022 PR Competence Instrument (Marrs, et.al. 2022). Of the total population, 30 were faculty members while 6 were non-teaching personnel. Most of them (20) were employed as full-time regular and a significant number (14) of the participants have been with the university for 15 years and above. The table below shows their Research Profile (since SY 2022-2023):

| Area of Concern | YES | NO |
|--|-----|----|
| Completed research outside an academic requirement as principal author | 6 | 29 |
| Completed research outside an academic requirement as co-author | 13 | 22 |
| Published in a national journal as principal author | 1 | 34 |
| Published in a national journal as co-author | 6 | 29 |
| Published in an international journal as principal author | 6 | 29 |
| Published in an international journal as co-principal author | 12 | 23 |
| Presented completed research in a national conference/forum | 10 | 25 |
| Presented completed research in an international conference/forum | 5 | 30 |

Of the 36 participants, only 13 have completed research outside the academic requirements as co-author/s, with a smaller number (6) fulfilled the requirement of a research work as principal author. More than half of the participants published as co-authors. The findings highlight that co-authorship is both "beneficial by less experienced and more experienced authors as it is a supportive and collaborative practice for professional development" (Yeo, Lewis, 2019). Moreover, the table below indicates their research competence:

| Dimension of Research Competence | Beginning | Competent | Proficient | Advanced |
|---|-----------|-----------|------------|----------|
| Skills in reviewing the state of research | 1 | 4 | 21 | 9 |
| Methodological skills | 1 | 14 | 12 | 8 |
| Skills in reflecting on research findings | 1 | 2 | 26 | 6 |
| Communication skills | 1 | 7 | 19 | 8 |
| Content knowledge | 1 | 10 | 16 | 8 |

Taken collectively, the perceived research competence of the academic community of SPU Manila is "proficient" in all the dimensions except for methodological skills, wherein the mean average reflects "competent". Taken individually, most participants rated themselves low (2 below) in the following specific skills under methodological skills: deciding which methods to choose appropriate for the topic, analyzing quantitative and qualitative data, and utilizing various methods and software for data analysis. On the positive side, there are several participants with advanced research competence who can serve as mentors and resource people in capacity building sessions.

The Research Unit will craft a 3-year development program based on the individual and common research needs of the entire academic community for implementation this SY 2025-2026. Members of the community are encouraged to join this development program to further enhance their research skills.