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## Editorial

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# EDITORIAL

Hayoung Lim

**I** am honored and delighted to take on the role of General Editor for the *Journal of the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning for Christians in Higher Education (SoTL-CHEd)*, also known as *The Journal*. I am also grateful to the professional commitment of the administrative team at Oral Roberts University in supporting *The Journal* and the faculty who have produced the previous editions and assisted in a smooth transition.

In this editorial, I would like to re-emphasize the mission of *SoTL-CHEd* and to ensure that this journal provides a global and interdisciplinary forum for Christian educators to share with their colleagues well-documented teaching practices that enhance and promote learning. The purpose of *The Journal* is to support and inspire Christian educators in higher education by providing an open forum for the exchange of scholarly endeavors related to teaching and learning, including discovery (research), integration (synthesis), application (practice), and teaching (instruction). Called by God, Christian educators allow their faith to influence—either directly or indirectly—all that they do in and out of the classroom.

We Christian educators should transform our students by inspiring love for God and others and by stimulating intellectual curiosity and creativity. However, we often find that Christian higher education has been made vulnerable to attacks from politics, non-Christian worldviews, and nonconstructive criticism. We are sometimes attacked spiritually because teaching our students based on God's Word has made us vulnerable to pressure from humanistic teaching philosophies and practices that distort or ignore the Gospel. Our scholarly pursuits make us vulnerable to criticism and skepticism from our non-Christian colleagues who are too ready to dismiss the research and scholarship done by Christian educators. We need to build resilience and moral courage as Christian educators. Educating our students to build and sustain the Kingdom of God with God-centered teaching endeavors is one way

to push through this season of vulnerability. Therefore, the hope of *SoTL-CHEd* is that in sharing our scholarly work, Christian educators will find fulfillment not only in ministering to our students but also in encouraging our fellow educators to excel in God-centered teaching.

There are new developments taking place in *The Journal*. First, *The Journal's* website portal has been changed to Digital Showcase ([http://digitalshowcase.oru.edu/sotl\\_ched/](http://digitalshowcase.oru.edu/sotl_ched/)). In addition, the editorial board has been working to register *The Journal* in the DOI (Digital Object Identifier) System for *SoTL-CHEd's* credibility, copyright protection, the increased volume of *The Journal's* citations, and quality control of *The Journal*. Second, the editorial board has approved a commitment to the annual publication of *SoTL-CHEd*, and thus established important dates (deadlines) for submission and reviewing processes to ensure timely publications. Last, manuscripts considered for review need to be one of the following types and includes the required/suggested components: (a) Book Review (1000-1500 words), (b) Research Study: Quantitative, Qualitative, and Mixed Method, (c) Theoretical Article, (d) Letter to the Editor (less than 1500 words), and (e) Digital Technology Review. (See [http://digitalshowcase.oru.edu/sotl\\_ched/submissionsteps.html](http://digitalshowcase.oru.edu/sotl_ched/submissionsteps.html) for deadlines and guidelines.)

I close by reminding readers and authors of our interest in their work—empirical, theoretical, or review—and by encouraging them to submit work to the *Journal of the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning for Christians in Higher Education*. As a double-blind, peer-reviewed journal, *SoTL-CHEd* ensures quality by having our knowledgeable editorial board and reviewers read all submissions; once accepted, the articles and reviews are published in our online journal published each year on May 1. Submissions to *The Journal* should be completed electronically via Digital Showcase: [http://digitalshowcase.oru.edu/sotl\\_ched/](http://digitalshowcase.oru.edu/sotl_ched/).

*H*ayoung *L*im  
General Editor