



Maria Aurora “Maya” Bernardo (LO Manager and Formator) – Born in Manila, Philippines, Maya has worked in

higher education for over 26 years, as lecturer, researcher and educational manager in the Philippines, Malaysia, Australia and New Zealand. Alongside her academic role, she has been tapped as resource and consultant for grassroots and not-for-profit organisations. Within those involvements she has discovered her passion for developing leaders—students, teachers, school leaders, community leaders, and heads of not-for-profit. She has a PhD in educational leadership, MBA,

Bachelor’s in Management, Teaching Certificate, Certificate in Online Designing & Delivery, Diploma in Religious Studies (TCI) and currently taking up Masters in Higher Education from Otago University. Maya has published academic articles in the areas of education, leadership and community engagement. She was an Honorary Fellow at the Australian Catholic University from 2010-2018, and a recipient of the Australian Leadership Fellowship Award in 2008. She moved to New Zealand in 2012, where she began working with Catholic groups in various capacities. Her most recent role before taking up her present position as LO Manager and Formator was as Distance and Research Coordinator and Lecturer at TCI.