



Maria Aurora (Maya) C. Bernardo, PhD

Maya has worked in higher education for over 26 years, as lecturer, researcher and higher education manager in the Philippines, Malaysia, Australia and New Zealand. She has a PhD in Education major in Leadership and Management, Masters in Business Administration, Bachelors in Commerce, and a Postgraduate Teaching Certificate. She is a qualified adult religious educator

and an online facilitator and designer. She is currently taking a Masters in Higher Education from the University of Otago. She has devoted most of her career in the study of leadership and developing leaders for schools and not-for-profit-organisations. Maya is a recipient of the Australian Leadership Award Fellowship in 2008 and was conferred Honorary Fellow for the Australian Catholic University from 2010-2018, where she's done research and published under the Institute for Advancing Community Engagement. She has published in areas of education, leadership and community engagement ([Google Scholar Link](#)). Prior to her appointment in Launch Out she was the Distance and Research Coordinator and Lecturer for The Catholic Institute (now Catholic Theological College).