

**Paper Presented at**

**AMSS 34<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference**

**Cosponsored by  
Temple University, Philadelphia, PA  
September 30 – October 2, 2005**

**Abstract Only – Work in Progress**

**“The Nature of Research Models in the  
Post-Modern Academe: is the Tawhidi Perspective the Answer?”**

**By: Dilnawaz A. Siddiqui, Ph.D.  
(Clarion University, PA)**

The prevailing post-modern trend of relativism in the academe has surely offered considerable room for diverse epistemological strands. Despite the variegated nature of the ensuing discourses questioning the existing meta-narratives, little crystallization of thought or production of validated and verifiable knowledge has so far occurred. The result is utter confusion in the academe. Among the positive outcomes are included the fragmentation of boundaries of traditional disciplines, and recombination of specializations and sub-disciplines. More frequent exchanges of definitions, modes of discourse, and methodological tools are also welcome trends. These trends are expected to bring about new ways of categorization of reality and truth and of distinguishing facts from fiction, phenomena from noumena, and valid knowledge from artifacts. Some scholars are stressing the need for formulating multi-disciplinary research teams as opposed to traditional solo investigative efforts. They have suggested bringing together in such teams subject matter specialists, statisticians, meta-analysts, information management professionals and librarians, etc. Also, history is rightfully invoked as an evidence of veracity. All these attempts are largely procedural matters, and little or nothing is being offered in terms of what constitutes truth to be explored through these processes. However, when the know-ability of truth itself is in question, then one may assert the futility of any research efforts. After tracing these general trends in academic research, the proposed paper seeks to look into some meta-theoretical principles with which to encompass reality and to validate it from a universal logical perspective.