

October 25, 2023

Dr. Edgardo E. Tulin

President
Visayas State University
Visca, Baybay City, Leyte

Thru: **Dr. Beatriz S. Belonias**
Vice-President for Academic Affairs

Dear *Dr. Tulin*:

Greetings!

We sincerely thank Visayas State University, under your administration, for supporting our faculty, **Engr. Jimmy O. Pogosa**, to pursue a Ph.D. degree in accordance with ITEEM's faculty development plan. We wish to inform you that he has been officially accepted for the degree of **Doctor of Agricultural Science** in the field of **Forest and Environmental Resources Sciences** for three years beginning on October 1, 2023, at the Graduate School of Bioagricultural Sciences, Nagoya University, Japan (please refer to the notification letter).

The Ph.D. program of Engr. Pogosa at NU is under the **Transnational Doctoral Programs for Leading Professionals in Asian Countries**. It integrates intensive short-term academic courses (schooling) at the main campus in Nagoya and with the Nagoya University-Asian Satellite Campuses Institute (NU-ASCI) Philippines, based at the University of the Philippines Los Baños. In addition, the program will enable him to continue in his current position at VSU while conducting his dissertation studies in the Philippines.

As part of his dissertation, he will conduct his study at VSU and at the study sites in Abuyog, Leyte, entitled "Population Dynamics, Phenological Characteristics, and Clonal Propagation of the Philippine *Aquilaria* to Support Local Conservation and Livelihood Initiatives in Leyte, Philippines." This research is scholarly funded by the **DOST-SEI-Nagoya University Joint Scholarship** for Ph.D. in Selected Fields of Agriculture Sciences for Filipinos. Likewise, it aligns with the "Ecological Assessment and Conservation of Philippine *Aquilaria* for Sustainable Agarwood Production in Leyte Island" (**ECo-SAP**) project, funded by VSU's **Internationalization Program**.

In addition, NU granted laboratory equipment and field instruments (please refer to the list attached) for his studies, as well as for researches by other faculty and staff at VSU related to *Aquilaria*. These laboratory equipment and field instruments are placed at the VSU-NU Forestry and Ecological Modeling Laboratory (at the Biodiversity Center) and the Terrestrial Ecosystems Division of ITEEM. They were officially handed over to VSU on November 17, 2022, together with the professors and staff from the NU-ASCI from NU, Japan and Philippines campus at UPLB.

In accordance with the faculty development plan, Engr. Pogosa is officially on study leave from VSU (please refer to the study leave contract). According to the VSU's legal counsel during orientation, in principle, he could not use the NU-granted laboratory equipment and field

instruments installed at VSU, nor the VSU facilities, while on study leave and pursuing his Ph.D. at NU.

In light of this, we would like to respectfully and favorably request that he be permitted to use the NU-granted equipment and field instruments, as well as other VSU facilities (i.e., laboratory rooms and vehicles for transportation) and equipment, while conducting research at VSU and in Abuyog, Leyte. Additionally, Engr. Pogosa will be responsible for the expenses such as equipment consumables, vehicle fuel, and driver's per diem, under his scholarship at DOST and NU joint scholarship. Moreover, we are confident that we will closely monitor his research-related activities during his research at VSU.

Thank you very much for your favorable action.

Very truly yours,

ITEEM Personnel Committee:

KLEER JEANN G. LONGATANG
Member

MARLITO M. BANDE
Member

TEOFANES A. PATINDOL
Chairman, *and*
Director, ITEEM

Endorsed by:

DENNIS P. PEQUE
Dean, CFES

Recommending Approval:

BEATRIZ S. BELONIAS
VP for Academic Affairs

Approved:

EDGARDO E. TULIN
President

cc: VP, Academic Affairs
Dean, CFES
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