

TRAVEL REPORT
(OP MC. No.04, s. 2014)

TITLE: Field visitation of On-the-Job Training (OJT) Students at DOST-PAGASA Central Office and Mactan-Cebu Observation Complex – Visayas PRSD

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

I, **Mr. Charlindo S. Torrion**, a faculty member and the designated Department Internship Program Coordinator (DIPC) of the Department of Meteorology – Visayas State University (DMet-VSU), was sent on an official mission to DOST-PAGASA Central Office and Mactan-Cebu Observation Complex – Visayas PRSD on behalf of the DMet-VSU to undertake the following objectives, to wit:

- Conduct field visitation of OJT students deployed at identified Host Training Establishments
- Gain insights from OJT students regarding internship training arrangement with HTEs
- Gain insights from HTEs regarding internship training arrangement and plan of work for the OJT students

The trip lasted 3 days inclusive of travel time from and back to VSU.

During my field visitation, I was able to observe the OJT students do actual work in their respective workplaces and gain insights on how to improve their plan of work. I was also able to see and assess the efficacy and appropriateness of the assigned task by their respective supervisors.



Figure 1. BS Meteorology student interns from the four SUCs (BU, CLSU, MMSU, and VSU) offering the degree program in their orientation at DOST-PAGASA Central Office

II. DATE, PLACE AND PURPOSE OF THE TRAVEL

Date: July 27-28, 2023

Place: Mactan, Cebu Observation Complex, DOST-PAGASA &
Central Office, DOST-PAGASA

Purpose: August 27, 2023 – Field visit at the Mactan, Cebu Observation
Complex, DOST-PAGASA

August 28, 2023 – Field visit at the Central Office, DOST-PAGASA

III. KEY OUTCOMES

Field visitations allow the DIPC to assess the progress and performance of the trainees in a real-world setting. They can observe how well trainees are applying their training and identify areas where further support or guidance may be needed. The DIPC can ensure that trainees are adhering to organizational standards and best practices during field visitations. This helps maintain consistent quality in the work being performed and reduces the likelihood of errors. Likewise, the DIPC can also check whether the Host Training Establishments (HTEs) are adhering to the stipulations of the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) signed prior to the deployment of the interns. This ensures that the interns are getting the appropriate treatment and working environment by their respective supervisors. Engaging directly with the interns through field visitations demonstrates supervisors' commitment to their growth and success. This engagement fosters a positive learning environment and encourages trainee enthusiasm.

Through field visitations, the DIPC can gather firsthand evidence of trainees' performance and cross validate the weekly reports the interns are sending in by engaging in a dialogue with their respective supervisors in their workplaces. This information is valuable for performance evaluations, feedback sessions, and identifying areas for improvement. Likewise, the interns can also give their feedbacks and evaluations to the DIPC regarding their deployment sites and the tasks that are being delegated by their supervisors in the HTE. With this, the DIPC can identify specific areas where additional training or development is required. This insight informs the improvement of the design of future training programs.

Lastly, field visitations enable the DIPC to assess the effectiveness of the training program. They can identify whether the training is translating well into practical skills and make adjustments if necessary. Conducting OJT field visitations for DIPC offers a range of positive outcomes, including improved mentorship skills, better trainee assessment, enhanced communication. Ultimately, these activities will translate into the promotion of a culture of learning and growth within the organization through a three-way feedback system involving the sending institution, the host training establishment, and the student interns.

IV. ABSTRACT OF THE PAPPER PRESENTED (for Paper Presenter)

-Not Applicable

V. ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

July 27, 2023, at the DOST-PAGASA Mactan, Cebu Observation Complex

During my field visitation as DIPC, I was able to observe and assess the student interns while doing their tasks in the workplace.



Figure 2. Student intern performing weather balloon launch and observation on July 27, 2023, at the DOST-PAGASA Mactan, Cebu Observation Complex

The BS Meteorology student interns from VSU had the opportunity of launching a weather balloon and conducting weather observation through instrument readings inside the Stevenson Screen. They were able to learn the step-by-step process in conducting weather balloon launch from preparing the materials such as inflating the weather balloon and calibrating the radiosonde instrument that will be hooked to the balloon. The radiosonde will then send the observation per pressure levels to the computer inside the station. Likewise, a routine observation of getting 3-hourly weather observation from the field instruments are conducted. One of the cornerstones of effective weather forecasting is data collection. During their practical training, they had the privilege of operating various weather instruments to gather crucial data points. The data will then be collected and are encoded to the PAGASA database.

Another exposure that the student interns had was participating in an on-site weather observation which enabled them to put theory into practice in real time. They gathered information directly from the environment, observing cloud formations, wind directions, and atmospheric changes. This tactile engagement with nature's cues was an enlightening experience that reinforced the importance of keen observation skills. Modern weather forecasting involves a multitude of technological tools. The student interns gained proficiency in utilizing radar systems, satellite imagery, and computer software tailored for meteorological

analysis. Collaborating with seasoned meteorologists, the student interns translated these tools into actionable insights that helped refine predictions.



Figure 3. Student intern collating and encoding the observation data from field instruments and the weather balloon to the PAGASA database ready for analysis



Figure 4. Weather forecasters of PAGASA-Mactan being interviewed by GMA News regarding the TC Egay updates with student interns watching behind the camera



Figure 5. BS Meteorology student interns deployed at DOST-PAGASA Mactan, Cebu Observation Complex

July 28, 2023, at the DOST-PAGASA Central Office

The student interns deployed at DOST-PAGASA Central Office were assigned in the different sections in a rotational basis. The first 4 weeks were spent in the Research, Development, and Training Division and the remaining two weeks were spent in the Weather Forecasting Section.

The student interns participated in ongoing research projects granting them the privilege to contribute to the meteorological community. From collaborating on climate change studies to assisting in understanding extreme weather events, they witnessed the societal impact of meteorological research. This experience illuminated the ethical responsibility that accompanies scientific discovery. This OJT exposure within meteorological research unveiled the dynamic blend of science, technology, and exploration that defines this field. Beyond acquiring practical skills, the student interns gained a profound appreciation for the constant curiosity that propels meteorologists to unveil the mysteries of the atmosphere. As they transition from this immersive experience, they are expected to be resolute in the commitment to advancing meteorology, armed with both theoretical understanding and practical insights.



Figure 6. OJT students from CLSU, MMSU, and VSU during a research meeting with their OJT supervisors at HTMIRDS, PAGASA Central Office, Quezon City

In the remaining two weeks of their OJT activity, the student interns were assigned in the Weather Forecasting Section and conducted their immersive experience into the weather forecasting aspect of being a meteorologist. In their stint as student interns in the weather forecasting, they learned that beyond the science, weather forecasting is an intricate blend of data interpretation, crisis management, collaboration, and public engagement.



Figure 7. Student interns on hands on practice as weather forecasters

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VI. FUNDING AGENCY FOR TRAVEL SUPPORT – Local and Foreign

The undersigned expresses his gratitude for allowing him to conduct the OJT field visitation through the **STF – Educational Development** funding. The support made it possible for the undersigned gain invaluable insights and experiences that will enable him to improve the On-the-Job Training activity of the students as DIPC.

This undertaking helped the DIPC to develop skills in coaching, mentoring, and performance management. These skills are transferable to their roles as leaders and contribute to their own professional growth. The undersigned looks forward to sharing the outcomes of the experience by demonstrating the positive impact of the field visitation to an improved OJT activity for our BS Meteorology students.

VII. SUMMARY OF TRAVEL EXPENSES

DATE 2023	PLACES TO BE VISITED	Means of Transportation	EXPENSES
July 27, 2023	VSU to Port of Ormoc City	PUV	Php149.00
July 27, 2023	Port of Ormoc City to Port of Cebu City	Fastcraft boat	Php1130.00
July 27, 2023	Port of Cebu City to DOST-PAGASA Science Complex - Mactan Cebu	PUV/ Taxi	Php369.00
July 27, 2023	Mactan Int'l Airport to NAIA T2	Airplane	Php3686.10
July 27, 2023	NAIA T2 to DOST-PAGASA Central Office	PUV/ Taxi	Php290.00
July 31, 2023	Hotel to NAIA T2	PUV/ Taxi	Php286.00
July 31, 2023	NAIA T2 to Tacloban Airport	Airplane	Php4061.00
July 31, 2023	Tacloban Airport to VSU	PUV	Php350.00
Other expenses (Please see approved itinerary of travel)			***

VIII. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT TO SPONSOR

-Not Applicable

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