



June 1, 2023

Dr. Guiraldo C. Fernandez, Jr.
Board Secretary
Visayas State University,
Visca, Baybay City, Leyte

Dear **Dr. Fernandez**,

Good day.

This pertains to the proposed plan of the Department of Forest Science (DFS) to offer the Master of Science in Environmental Science (MSES) as part of their 5-year Faculty Development Plan. I was informed that this was already approved and being endorsed by the University Administrative Committee (UADCO) on April 3, 2023, and BOR Administrative and Academic Committee on April 11, 2023 for VSU Board approval.

Please be informed that the Institute is now on its way to strengthening its faculty development directed towards the discipline of Environmental Science. This was, also based on the recommendation of AACUP under Level II Accreditation for the Master of Science in Tropical Ecology (MSTREC) program, which is to revisit and/or revise the curriculum. Since the Institute is presently offering the BS in Environmental Science. Therefore, we do plan to offer, in the future, the Master of Science in Environmental Science (MSES), particularly with the full adoption and implementation of CMO 15.

With the duplication of the plan to offer MSES, on May 23, 2023 we had a short discussion attended by the Head of DFS and ITEEM Curriculum Committee. In the meeting, we came up with a decision to let the **ITEEM offer the MSES** and the **Department of Forest Science offer the MS in Environmental Forestry (MSEF)**. Hence, this request for the rectification of the Department of Forest Science plan to offer from **MSES to MSEF** prior to the VSU Board approval.

I am hoping for a positive response to this request. Thank you and more power.

Very truly yours,

ELIZA D. ESPINOSA
Director-ITEEM

Conformed:

ANATOLIO N. POLINAR
Head, DFS