



**VISAYAS**  
STATE UNIVERSITY

INSTITUTE OF  
**TROPICAL ECOLOGY AND  
ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE**

February 28, 2025

**Dr. Prose Ivy G. Yepes**

President

Visayas State University (VSU)

Visca, Baybay City, Leyte

*Thru:* **Dr. Teofanes A. Patindol**

Director

Institute of Tropical Ecology and Environmental Science (ITEES)

Dear *President Yepes*,

I am writing to formally inform you that I am retiring from work effective February 3, 2026. It would then be my 40<sup>th</sup> year (and 7<sup>th</sup> month) of actual service<sup>1</sup> with Visayas State University (VSU). My first 5 years of service were with an extension project<sup>2</sup> funded by the Centrum für internationale Migration und Entwicklung (CIM) based at the Department of Agricultural Engineering and Mathematics (now the College of Engineering), as Computer Specialist/Managing Secretary. Following the conclusion of the CIM-funded project, I transitioned to a new program<sup>3</sup> supported by the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ/GIZ), GmbH. I continued my dedication as Computer/Desktop Publishing Specialist until the completion of this program, which subsequently led to the institutionalization of this Institute (ITE/ITEEM/ITEES).

My time working at VSU has been a truly wonderful experience, and I will forever treasure the memories. I often felt challenged while carrying out my assigned responsibilities, especially in the early years of my job at VSU (ViSCA, then), working with foreign-funded projects. However, I viewed it as necessary for my career growth and development. I am extremely thankful and blessed to have worked with supervisors<sup>4</sup> who generously guided and trusted me, allowing me flexibility in how I could best meet their expectations. The recognitions and personal commendations for my work, the opportunities, and the awards I have received have made all the pressure and stress worthwhile.

My job has been more than just a means to assist in providing for my family's financial needs. It has also given me a profound sense of fulfillment, meaning, and purpose in life. While these years have undoubtedly been some of the best of my life, I am eagerly anticipating the next chapter: embracing the roles of a full-time wife, mother, and grandmother. Life is fleeting,

<sup>1</sup> ...and my 25<sup>th</sup> year of credited service

<sup>2</sup> Technical Advisory Group for Self-help Projects

<sup>3</sup> ViSCA-GTZ Applied Tropical Ecology Program

<sup>4</sup> Dipl.-Ing. Michael Dembinski, the late Dr. Josef Margraf, Dr. Paciencia P. Milan, Dr. Friedhelm Göldenboth (and the rest of the ViSCA-GTZ consultants), the late Prof. Daniel M. Tudtud, Jr., Dr. Maria Juliet C. Ceniza, Dr. Humberto R. Montes, Jr., Dr. Marlito M. Bande, Dr. Eliza D. Espinosa, and Dr. Teofanes A. Patindol



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and I've decided to retire next year to fully cherish and enjoy the moments with my loved ones. With God's blessing, I will be 61 years and 6 months old then.

I will deeply miss my job, especially my incredible ITE/ITEEM/ITEES family. The way everyone supports one another is truly exceptional, creating a remarkable team. I am profoundly happy being part of this family! I pray for everyone for God's continuous guidance in their journey, enabling them to consistently excel in their responsibilities towards the environment and humanity.

ViSCA-LSU-VSU, THANK YOU SO MUCH for the privilege! I wish you all nothing but the best in the future. GOD BLESS!

Yours sincerely and forever grateful,

**ELVIRA B. GORRE**

Administrative Assistant

**Noted:**

**TEOFANES A. PATINDOL**

Director

**RENEZITA S. COME**

Dean, FFES

c.c. HSVColis (ODHRM)  
FFES  
ITEES

**Vision:** A global green university providing progressive leadership in agriculture, science & technology, education and allied fields for societal transformation.  
**Mission:** To produce graduates equipped with advanced knowledge and lifelong learning skills with ethical standards through high quality instruction, innovative research, and impactful community engagements.