

July 11, 2025

Dr. Aljay D. Valida
Head, Department of Horticulture
Visayas State University
Visca, Baybay City, Leyte, 6521

Dear Dr. Valida,

As an alumnus of the Department of Horticulture, I wish to express my enthusiastic interest in the Instructor I position. My upcoming Master's degree in Horticulture, with a specialization in Plantation Crops and a minor in Botany, combined with my experience in research, instruction, and farm operations, has prepared me to meet the university's needs and contribute to its commitment to agricultural excellence.

I am set to officially receive my Master's degree in Horticulture this July. My thesis specifically addressed the critical concern of cacao planting material supply. During my two years as a Science Research Assistant, I managed a Tissue Culture Laboratory, providing yam plantlets for Benguet State University's aeroponics project and successfully transitioning four yam varieties to *in-vitro*. This work leveraged my undergraduate research on cost-effective gelling agents for bananas. These experiences underscore my proficiency in advanced plant propagation, innovation, and scientific rigor.

My passion for educating new generation of agriculture professionals was strengthened during my nearly four years of teaching as a part-time instructor and Graduate Teaching Assistant here at Visayas State University, where I simultaneously pursued my Master's degree. Last year, I seized a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity: a year-long agricultural training in Israel that provided comprehensive exposure to advanced, sustainable farming techniques. I am eager to integrate these techniques into instruction and research at this university.

Complementing this is nearly two years as an Agricultural Technician at a private farm in Javier, where I led a rehabilitation program for banana-coconut multi-cropping, achieving a record-high 40% increase in coconut production. I also initiated the establishment of new cacao and coffee intercrops, wherein the goal is to diversify revenue, optimize land use, and manage complex plantation systems. This practical experience provides a grounded understanding of farm operations and real-world agricultural application.

I believe my expertise in plantation crops, proficiency in tissue culture, hands-on farm management, and dedication to sustainable practices, would be a significant asset to your department, enriching both your academic programs and research output.

Thank you for considering my application. Please see my Curriculum Vitae and PDS attached for your thorough review and I look forward to discussing how my comprehensive experience can contribute meaningfully to the University's mission.

Sincerely,


REIAN O. LANIBA