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Dr. Elizabeth Quevedo,
Head
Department of Pure and Applied Chemistry
Visayas State University
Visca, Baybay City, Leyte

Re: Application for Associate Professor V Position

Dear Dr. Quevedo

I am writing to apply for the position of Associate Professor V advertised on the Visayas State University's website. I am based in Saskatchewan, Canada and currently working in the industry after more than 10 years of academic and research work both in the Philippines and Canada. I was recently home for a short vacation and it reminded me of how beautiful our home is and its vast potential to be great. Once I had the chance to learn about this vacancy, I could not let the opportunity pass to send an application. I can still fondly remember the couple of semesters I attended chemistry classes at DoPAC back in 2000-2001 on my way to obtaining my BSAE degree. I was last at the big lecture room on the second floor (sorry I forgot the room number) last January 2012 when I made a presentation, through Dr. Calibo's invitation, about my work on microbial fuel cells.

My academic and research work encompasses a relatively broad field having finished a PhD in Chemical Engineering, MSc. in Environmental Engineering, both at the University of Saskatchewan, and BSc. in Agricultural Engineering at VSU.

Early in my career, while working as a researcher at the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI), I had the opportunity to be involved in research projects with collaborative work between scientists and researchers of varied disciplines. Along with trainings, such as the use of statistical software, this gave me the exposure on the significance of peer reviewed work and how they are formulated and accomplished. This was furthered as I pursued my post graduate studies at the University of Saskatchewan in Canada. I was able to advance my writing skills and produce technical reports, peer reviewed papers and conference proceedings. A list of my publications and conference presentations is included in my resume attached to this application.

My research work, including my time in the industry, required me to learn the use of various analytical instruments. This ranged from the use of preparation equipment such as centrifuges, autoclaves, freeze dryer, sonifiers and shakers to analytical equipment such as UV-Vis spectrophotometer, potentiostat, organic content analyzers and to even more complex instruments such as chromatographs (GC, HPLC, IC), among others. It entailed not only the operation and troubleshooting of these instruments but also their setup, including installation of columns and carrier gases, preparation of solvents and creation of methods. Specifications and settings of selected instruments used during my work can be found in my research papers.

Being in the academe, apart from research work is teaching duties. For multiple terms or semesters, I was assigned as a Teaching Assistant on different undergraduate courses from general engineering to program specific design courses. Included in my duties were in-class instruction, marking and exam invigilation. A list of these courses is included in my resume as well.

To enhance my teaching skills and confidence, I completed an elective teaching related course offered by the university's Gwenna Moss Centre for Teaching Effectiveness. The course deals with the philosophy and practice of university teaching where it introduces instructional approaches and ways to build an effective classroom environment. It was a course that I greatly enjoyed and made me appreciate the value of teaching and education to a higher level. Especially, as it is through education that has brought me to where I am now. My professors and teachers helped me throughout my academic learning and my achievements are correlated to their dedication and effort. I was able to graduate cum laude in my BSAE program and passed the licensure exam for professional agricultural engineers garnering 7th place.

With my academic and research background and experience, together with my years in the industry, I am fully confident that I would be able to provide meaningful and substantial contributions in furthering your pursuit of academic excellence and impactful research.

For more detailed information on my professional and academic work, I have attached my resume in this application for your review, including scanned copies of my diplomas and some relevant training certificates. I apologize that I could not provide authenticated copies of my transcript of records immediately as I would need more time to request for them.

Thank you for your time and consideration and I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,

Lyman Moreno