

May 29, 2024

DR. MARLITO M. BANDE

Director

Zonal Center for Biodiversity Conservation and Habitat Restoration
Visayas State University

Dear **Dr. Bande**,

I wish to apply for an INSTRUCTOR III position at the Zonal Center for Biodiversity Conservation and Habitat Restoration. In line with my experience, I finished my undergraduate course in Bachelor of Science in Environmental Management at the Visayas State University (VSU) in 2014. After completing my degree, I had the chance to work at VSU through the Institute of Tropical Ecology and Environmental Management (ITEEM), where I focused on the advocacy of Rainforestation Technology—the use of native plant species for forest restoration in the Philippines. After two years, I enrolled for a Master of Science in Forestry specializing in Forest Biological Sciences in 2016 at the University of the Philippines in Los Baños through the pioneering batch of CHED-K12 scholarship. Due to unforeseen circumstances with my scholarship, I could not finish on time because of the failed disbursement of allowances from CHED. However, it did not hinder me to finish my degree. I tried to join some fieldwork and expeditions at the Museum of Natural History (MNH) to earn a living, where I learned much in the field. I also applied for a Graduate Apprenticeship and Mentoring Program (GMAP) at UPLB Graduate School to continue my graduate studies. In 2019, I applied for a Rufford Small Grant to financially support my graduate thesis, which was conducted in Siaton, Negros Oriental. In January 2020, I officially completed my degree. I believe that the skill set I earned in those years will significantly help advance not just the Center but the Visayas State University as a whole.

I have enclosed my resume to support my application. I am confident that I would bring the necessary scientific skills to the position, including:

- Plant Taxonomy & Systematics
- Forest Botany
- Plant Anatomy
- Molecular Phylogenetics and Bioinformatics
- Herbarium Curatorship
- Conservation Biology

I would enjoy having the opportunity to talk with you more about this position and how I could use my skills to benefit your organization during an interview.

Thank you for considering my application. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

SERICA JOY M. COMPENDIO-DADIOS, *MSF*