

14 April 2025

DR. JERRY B. SANGUILLOSA

Department Head
Department of Plant Breeding & Genetics
Visayas State University
Visca, Baybay City, Leyte

Dear *Dr. Sanguillosa*,

Greetings!

I am writing to formally apply for the Assistant Professor II position in your department. With eight years of teaching, leading research projects, and managing collaborative research and development (R&D) initiatives, I am eager to contribute meaningfully to the academic and research endeavors of DPBG.

Currently, I serve as an Assistant Professor I in the Department of Environmental Sciences, VSU Alangalang (VSUA). I hold a Master of Science in Genetics from the University of the Philippines Los Baños, which I completed in 2023. My academic and professional experience has equipped me with a robust foundation in theoretical and applied genetics, complemented by hands-on skills in bioinformatics and molecular biology techniques.

During my tenure at VSUA, I have taught courses in genetics, biotechnology and society, microbiology, and biochemistry. I developed syllabi aligned with CHED CMOs, authored laboratory manuals and learning guides, and mentored undergraduate thesis students, with several receiving recognition for their research. My teaching philosophy emphasizes mastery of key concepts, to equip students with the analytical skills to deconstruct and solve complex problems and challenges.

In addition to teaching, I serve as VSUA's Campus Research Coordinator and Director for Research, Extension, and Innovation. In these roles, I oversee R&D projects that align with institutional priorities. I also lead Project EsMaLL, a collaborative initiative with a scientist from the Universiti Sains Malaysia to profile the microbiological aspects of Leyte's peatland using 16s rRNA gene metabarcoding analysis and bacterial isolation. Additionally, I initiated a partnership with TinkerHouse Inc. for Project Forest ECHOES, an extension program focused on enhancing environmental sustainability awareness in school children in Leyte. These roles helped me to develop efficient management troubleshooting skills while ensuring quality deliverables are well within schedules.

I am keen to expand my research into molecular genetics, particularly in plant breeding applications, and joining DPBG would provide an ideal platform for this. While my experience has been rooted in environmental sciences, my skills in genetics, molecular biology, bioinformatics, and project leadership are relevant and transferrable to the DPBG. Enclosed are my curriculum vitae and supporting documents for your review. I welcome the opportunity to discuss how my background and vision can contribute to your department's success.

You may contact me via email (reynaldo.peja@vsu.edu.ph) or phone (+63 908 423 7567).

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

Respectfully yours,



REYNALDO P. PEJA JR.
Applicant