

9 January 2025

MR. MARK RYAN R. TRIPOLE

Department Head
Department of Pure and Applied Chemistry
Visayas State University
Visca, Baybay City, Leyte

Dear Mr. Tripole:

I am writing to express my interest in the Instructor III position recently posted by your department. I hold a master's degree in Chemistry and am on track to complete my PhD in Chemistry by Research at the University of the Philippines Diliman early next year. With over 10 years of experience teaching Chemistry, a solid academic foundation, and a deep passion for digital chemistry, I am eager to contribute to the department's aspiration to become a center of excellence in chemical science and to establish a niche in computational chemistry.

With a decade of experience as a Chemistry instructor and a strong background in science education, I have honed my skills in developing engaging learning materials, designing effective assessment tools, and managing classrooms professionally. I am a licensed teacher and plan to apply for registration without examination for the chemist license. While I do not hold a bachelor's degree in Chemistry, my graduate studies have provided me with a robust foundation in experimental and computational chemistry.

My master's thesis and a significant portion of my PhD research focus on organic chemistry, specifically the rational and computer-aided design and Fmoc-based peptide synthesis of potent antimicrobial lipopeptides. Over the course of my graduate studies, I have gained more than 6 years of hands-on experience using advanced analytical techniques such as HPLC, ESI-QToF-MS, UV-Vis, NMR, and CD to purify and characterize lipopeptides. Additionally, I have developed nearly 3 yrs of expertise in Python programming, building machine learning models, and performing molecular docking and molecular dynamics simulations to investigate the unique antimicrobial activities of these lipopeptides.

These efforts have led to 10 oral and poster presentations at local and international conferences, two preprints soon to be published, and one peer-reviewed paper. Beyond my research experience, I have actively pursued professional development through training, workshops, and short courses in areas relevant to Chemistry academics, including molecular science, biosafety, intellectual property, grant writing, publishing,

and entrepreneurship. These experiences have equipped me with a well-rounded skill set that I am eager to bring to your department.

I am particularly drawn to this position because the department aspires to become a center of excellence in chemical science, establish a graduate program in Chemistry in the region, and build a niche in computational chemistry. I am eager to contribute my expertise to these initiatives, in addition to teaching Chemistry courses and mentoring students in their research projects.

Enclosed are my resume and other supporting documents for your review. Thank you for considering my application. I look forward to discussing how I can contribute to the department's vision and educational mission.

Sincerely,


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