

5 July 2022

Lilian B. Nuñez, Ph.D.

Department Head

Institute for Strategic Research and Development Studies

Visayas State University, Baybay City

Dear Dr. Nuñez,

I am writing to express my interest in applying for the Instructor 1 position at the Institute for Strategic Research and Development Studies (ISRDS). My academic qualifications, research experiences, and my aspiration to focus on the academic field make me a good fit for the position. I am extremely interested in obtaining a faculty position at ISRDS where I can contribute to its instruction, research, and extension.

During my undergraduate in Environmental Management at Visayas State University (VSU), I got the opportunity to spend one academic year studying Licentiate in Environmental Science at the Universidade do Minho in Portugal, under Areas+ Erasmus Mundus Programme. Upon my return to VSU, I conducted my thesis study on the Effects of Anthropogenic Activities on the Fish Species Composition and the Water Quality of the River, under the supervision of Prof. Buenaventura Dargantes. My study was tailored to support the project of the Action for Economic Reforms Industrial Policy Initiative on the development and rehabilitation of areas affected by Super Typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines.

In 2018, I started pursuing my MSc in Development Sociology under a research project at the ISRDS. The project entitled “Scoping Study of Sand and Gravel Quarrying in the Leyte Islands” was headed by Prof. Maria Aurora Teresita Tabada of the Visayas State University. It was funded by the Philippine Climate Change Commission to advance the transparency and accountability of non-metallic mining in the country.

Before finishing my MSc research in 2020, I got admission with a scholarship to study at the Institute for Water Education in Netherlands. Under the supervision of Prof. Leon Hermans I have explored the use of remote sensing to develop an advanced yet low-cost monitoring tool for social and environmental impact assessment. In my study, I established indicators to spatially observe risk, such as land use change and landscape aesthetics, and further contribute on the on-going discourse of socio-hydrology.

Moreover, my academic experiences have built my confidence and interest in communicating my research result and incorporating it on instruction, planning, and development.

Given my research skills, project and partnership management, data analysis and presentation, and my interest in data-driven decision-making, I believe that I will qualify for consideration. If you need any further information or would like to invite me for an interview, please contact me. I am looking forward to joining the faculty of ISRDS.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully yours,

MERRY JEAN CAPARAS

Applicant

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "M. Caparas", is written over the printed name and extends slightly to the right.