

# ALICE ESCALANTE DE CRUZ

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## SUMMARY

- Possess a PhD with a vast background in plant cell and tissue culture, alongside expertise in molecular cytogenetics.
  - Boast 18 years of teaching within tertiary education, consistently achieving student evaluation scores exceeding 90%.
  - Proficient in decision-making across various domains, including educational curriculum development and validation, academic program assessment and accreditation, quality assurance, faculty recruitment, promotion and development, student affairs, financial management, and physical facilities enhancement.
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## WORK EXPERIENCE

**Associate Professor, Nilai University, Malaysia**  
**Principal Lecturer, Nilai University College**  
**Senior Lecturer, Nilai International College**

**April 2013 - Present**  
**January 2010 - March 2013**  
**August 2006 - December 2009**

- Cultivated a conducive student experience.
- Instructed on plant cell and tissue culture techniques, research methodologies, and biological sciences.
- Recent research has bridged agricultural, environmental biotechnology, and nanotechnology sectors. Current research endeavors primarily focus on the sustainable utilization of bioresources to ensure food security.

**Acting Director, Center for Research and  
Postgraduate Studies, Nilai University, Malaysia**

**October 2018- February 2020**

- Spearheaded the implementation of postgraduate programs across various faculties, enhanced critical processes to elevate the student experience, coordinated research seminars for faculty members, and supervised the internal audit for the Malaysia Research Assessment (MyRA).

**Director, Department of Regulatory and  
Quality Assurance, Nilai University, Malaysia**

**October 2018- June 2020**

- Spearheaded internal audit operations to ensure compliance with ISO certifications and SETARA19 standards
- Developed and implemented academic standard operating procedures to enhance teaching and learning processes
- Organized training workshops focusing on Quality Management Systems (QMS) and Outcome-Based Education (OBE) for academic personnel
- Facilitated orientation programs for newly appointed university staff

**Dean, Faculty of Applied Sciences, Nilai  
University, Malaysia**

**July 2015- August 2018**

- Oversaw two academic departments in the Faculty of Applied Sciences with 40 faculty members, 8 science labs, and 3 skills labs.
- Introduced academic counseling in 2016 to tackle registration challenges.
- Improved undergraduate learning with blended learning in science courses in 2017.
- Obtained provisional accreditation for Master's and PhD programs in Applied Sciences.
- Contributed to developing academic SOPs and internal audits for ISO accreditation in 2018.
- Secured Erasmus+ funding in 2017 for 6 Nilai University Master's students for research in partner universities in Southeast Asia until 2019.
- Established the University's Health Promotion Centre in 2015, providing health checks and addressing emergencies.

**Head, Department of Maths and Science,  
Nilai University, Malaysia**

**March 2008- December 2014**

- The Diploma in Biotechnology program received full accreditation from MQA in 2008.
- In 2010, the Bachelor of Science (Hons) Biotechnology program was established and achieved accreditation in 2014.
- The Plant Tissue Culture and Biotechnology Labs were established in 2010.
- The Diploma in Agricultural Management program was introduced in 2012 and accredited in 2015.

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## **EDUCATION**

### **PhD in Agricultural Sciences**

**1996 - 1999**

Iwate University, Morioka, Japan

- Recipient of the Japan Government Research Scholarship

### **Master of Science (Botany)**

**1990 - 1993**

National University of Singapore

- Recipient of the National University of Singapore Research Scholarship

### **Bachelor of Science in Agriculture (Agricultural Botany)**

**1984 - 1988**

Visayas State College of Agriculture, Leyte, Philippines

- Recipient of the ViSCA Undergraduate Scholarship
- GPA = 1.42 Graduated *Magna cum laude*

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## **KEY SKILLS**

- Word processing, spreadsheet & slide presentation
- Organizational and time management skills
- Problem solving
- Attention to details
- Teamwork