

Purok 5, Poblacion Norte
Batuan, Bohol 6318

21 June 2021

Dr. ELIZABETH S. QUEVEDO
Head
Department of Pure and Applied Chemistry
College of Arts and Sciences
Visayas State University
Visca, Baybay City, Leyte 6521

Dear Dr. Quevedo,

I am writing to express my interest in being considered for a full-time teaching faculty position in your department, as posted on the Visayas State University website. I believe that my levels of enthusiasm, experience, and interpersonal skills provide an excellent match for the requirements of the said position. Attached are my detailed curriculum vitae, transcript of records, teaching statement, and list of references for your perusal.

Thank you very much.

Respectfully yours,



JAMES A. PATINDOL

TEACHING STATEMENT

Teaching was my first job. I taught laboratory classes in College Chemistry for two years in my alma mater, the Visayas State University. The stint was repeated (more than a decade later) when I worked as a teaching assistant at the University of Arkansas to support my doctorate studies. One thing that I realized from those stints is that in every class, whether local or in a foreign country, a teacher is bound to encounter a plethora of student personalities: quick-wits, halfwits, loud ones, quiet ones, lost souls, class clowns, and whatnot. And the fact that Chemistry is an abstract subject complicates things. Its complexity makes teaching a big challenge. It is a big challenge for a Chemistry teacher to find ways to succeed with different types of students. It is a big challenge to bring a difficult subject like Chemistry down to a level that a class of diverse students can grasp. How should Chemistry be taught? Old tried-and-true approaches may work or may not, depending on how diverse the students are. It does not make sense to box oneself into one teaching style. It is necessary to think of all different strategies that will keep students motivated and engaged. The most important thing is to teach Chemistry with passion and enthusiasm so as to keep students interested. Knowledge on the subject matter should be sufficient. It will enable a teacher to organize subject contents effectively for their students to understand. Teacher-student relationship also plays an important role. A smooth relationship should be established to break barriers and to determine what works and what does not. My role as a teacher is not to terrorize students but to motivate them. To quote William Arthur Ward, "The mediocre teacher tells. The good teacher explains. The superior teacher demonstrates. The great teacher inspires."

REFERENCES

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