



**115<sup>TH</sup> BOARD OF REGENTS MEETING**

**BOR RESOLUTION NO. 96-C**

Series of 2024

**APPROVING THE STUDY LEAVE WITH PAY OF ENGR. JOHN ALLAN A. GULLES, EFFECTIVE AUGUST 1, 2024 TO MAY 31, 2026 AT THE ASIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, THAILAND TO PURSUE MASTER'S PROGRAM IN GEOTECHNICAL AND EARTH RESOURCES ENGINEERING UNDER DOST-SEI FOREIGN GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP AND FURTHER AUTHORIZING THE UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT TO SIGN THE SCHOLARSHIP CONTRACT**

**Whereas**, the VSU Scholarship Committee for the Academic Staff endorses for approval by the Governing Board, among others, the scholarship of Engr. John Allan A. Gulles, faculty member of DCE;

**Whereas**, Engr. Gulles will be pursuing the Master's Program in Geotechnical and Earth Resources Engineering at Asian Institute of Technology, Thailand under DOST-SEI Foreign Graduate Scholarship, a full scholarship program funded by the Department of Science and Technology, effective August 2024 to May 2026;

**Whereas**, the scholarship contract that outlines the terms and conditions of the scholarship grant under which the involved parties have agreed are crafted to help protect the faculty-recipient and the University;


**Whereas**, the Scholarship Committee endorsement, relevant supporting documents and the scholarship contract were presented to the University Administrative Council on May 23, 2024, and obtained favourable action;


**Now, therefore**, on motion, duly seconded, and unanimously approved, be it;

**Resolved**, as it is hereby resolved, that the Board of Regents of Visayas State University approves the study leave with pay of Engr. John Allan A. Gulles, effective August 2024 to May 2026 at the Asian Institute of Technology, Thailand to pursue Master's Program in Geotechnical and Earth Resources Engineering under DOST-SEI Foreign Graduate Scholarship and further authorizing the university president to sign the scholarship contract.

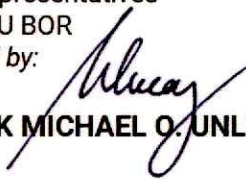
**IN WITNESS** of our approval thereof, we hereby affix our signatures this 7<sup>th</sup> day of June 2024 at VSU, Baybay City, Philippines.

**VSU BOARD OF REGENTS**

  
**HON. ETHEL AGNES P. VALENZUELA**  
CHED/Commissioner and Chairperson  
VSU-Board of Regents


  
**HON. PROSE IVY G. YEPES**  
VSU President, Vice Chairperson  
VSU-Board of Regents

**HON. ALLAN PETER S. CAYETANO**  
Chairperson, Senate Committee on Higher,  
Technical and Vocational Education  
Member, VSU BOR  
Represented by:


**HON. MARK O. GO**  
Chair, Committee on Higher & Technical Education  
House of Representatives  
Member, VSU BOR  
Represented by: 


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**HON. MARK MICHAEL O. UNLU-CAY**

  
**HON. MEVLENE C. ROSALES**  
Regional Director, National Economic and  
Development Authority Regional Office VIII  
Member, VSU BOR

*absent*  
**HON. ANDREW RODOLFO T. ORAIS**  
Regional Executive Director, Department of  
Agriculture-RO8  
Member, VSU BOR

  
**HON. ERNESTO F. BULAYOG**  
Faculty Regent - VSU System Faculty Union of  
Baybay Leyte  
Member, VSU BOR

  
**HON. OSCAR B. POSAS**  
President, VSU Federated Alumni Association  
Member, VSU BOR

  
**HON. SHAINA MAE F. LACABA**  
Student Regent - VSU Student Council Federation  
Member, VSU BOR

*Private Sector Representatives:*

  
**HON. ALAIN CHARLES J. VELOSO**  
Member, VSU BOR  
Villaba, Leyte

  
**HON. RUPERTO O. APARRI, III**  
Member, VSU BOR  
Tacloban City, Leyte



**ACADEMIC STAFF  
RECOMMENDED FOR TRAVEL ABROAD FOR**  
Per VSFC-AS Res. No. 242  
dated April 17, 2024

Dept.	Name	Position	Date of Travel	Date of VSFC-AS Meeting
DCE	Engr. John Allan A. Gulles	Instructor I	August 01, 2024	April 17, 2024

Submitted by:

**ROTACIO S. GRAVOSO**

Vice President for Academic affairs &  
Chairperson of VSFC-AS

Recommending approval:

**PROSE IVY G. YEPES, EdD.**  
University President

OK 5/21/24

**NOTE:**

The VSU Scholarship/Fellowship Committee for Academic Staff (VSFC-AS) through its meeting dated April 17, 2024, recommended to the request of DCE Personnel Committee for **Engr. John Allan A. Gulles** to go on study leave with pay to pursue a master's program in **Geotechnical and Earth Resources Engineering** at the Asian Institute of Technology in Thailand, subject to BOR approval through UADCO.







Republic of the Philippines  
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION

Reference No.: SUC 2024-05-754

17 May 2024

**PROSE IVY G. YEPES, EdD**

University President  
Visayas State University  
Baybay City, Leyte

Dear **Dr. Yepes:**

This is with reference to the foreign travel of **Engr. John Allan A. Gulles** to pursue MA in Geotechnical and Earth Resources Engineering at Asian Institute of Technology from 02 August 2024 to 31 May 2026 in Thailand, which was submitted to this office for assessment pursuant to the Memorandum from the Commission dated 24 July 2018 titled "Guidelines for Securing Authority to Travel Abroad for State Universities and Colleges."

Upon evaluation, we deem that the MA studies of Engr. John Allan A. Gulles at Asian Institute of Technology is legitimate since said personnel was awarded with the DOST-SEI Foreign Graduate Scholarship, a full scholarship program funded by the Department of Science and Technology in the Philippines.

Pursuant to Executive Order No. 77, s. 2019, it is recommended that the appropriate travel authority be issued subject to compliance with pertinent rules and regulations of CHED, CSC and the SUC's Board of Trustees/Regents. Likewise, please advise the scholar to present himself to the Philippine Embassy immediately upon arrival in the host country. Lastly, may we request VSU to accomplish the form for Filipino Students and Staff Deployed Abroad at <https://bit.ly/outboundmonitoringform> for monitoring purposes.

Kindly note that the assessment stated herein refers only to the legitimacy of the activity. We would like to clarify that the Board of Trustees/Regents of your school reserves the right to approve attendance in such activity upon submission of recommendation and certification from the OVPAA/SUC Director for international affairs that the activity is connected to the institution's Strategic Internationalization Plan and endorsement from the SUC President to the BOR.

*Verification of release and approval may be checked at <https://bit.ly/SUCstogo>.*

Under the authority of IAS Director:

**INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS SERVICE**

Commission on Higher Education  
55 HEDC BLDG. C.P. Garcia Ave.  
Diliman, Quezon City  
+63 2 8441-0750

## Evaluation Form for the Necessity of Foreign Travel for State Universities and Colleges

**Title of Travel:** To go on study leave with pay to pursue Master of Science in Geotechnical and Earth Resources Engineering at the Asian Institute of Technology in Thailand

**Attendee/s & Age:** John Allan A. Gulles 24

**Date of Last Travel:** None

INDICATORS	CONSIDERATIONS	REMARKS
<i>Memorandum Circular No. 35, s. 2017 (Office of the President of the Philippines)</i>		
1. The purpose of the trip is strictly within the mandate of the requesting official of employee.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Complied <input type="checkbox"/> Not Complied
2. The trip is expected to bring substantial benefit to the country.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
3. The trip's projected expenses are not excessive and in accordance with EO 298 "Amending Further Executive Order No. 248 Dated May 29, 1995 as Amended by Executive Order No. 248-A Dated August 14, 1995, Which Prescribes Rules and Regulations and New Rates of Allowances for Official Local and Foreign Travels of Government Personnel", Section 8 of EO 298 on UNDP Index and Chapter 5 "Travel Expenses" of the "Training Handbook on Government Expenditures" (2011).	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Complied <input type="checkbox"/> Not Complied  <b>Total amount of expenses:</b>
4. Source of funding (in accordance with the ff. issuances: -EO No. 248 dated May 29, 1995, as amended by EO 248-A dated August 14, 1995, and EO 298 dated March 23, 2004, prescribing rules and regulations and new rates of allowances for official local and foreign travels of government personnel" -Memorandum Circular No. 35 s. 2017, Clarifying and Reinforcing Existing Rules and Regulations on Foreign Travel Authorities, Travel Entitlements, and Travel Tax Exemptions, which require the approval of the office of the president)	<b>Source</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Internal <input type="checkbox"/> Project Grant  <b>Provisions</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Airfare <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Meals <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accommodation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Incidental Expenses <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pre-departure Expenses <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Registration/ Participation Fee	<i>Remarks: All expenses to be shouldered by the DOST-SEI.</i>

*Evaluation Criteria or Benchmarks (Memorandum from the CHED OIC, March 5, 2018)*

<p>5. Rationale as institutional strategy</p>	<p><b>Internationalization Dimensions Fulfilled by the Activity:</b></p> <p><b>Internationalization Engagement:</b>  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Articulated Institutional Commitment  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> International Relations and Reputation  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> International Visibility  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cultural Intelligence and Internationalization Awareness/Diversity  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> International Quality Assurance  <input type="checkbox"/> Organizational Strategies and Policy Development</p>	<p><b>Cite specific relation to institutional strategy:</b> The university's vision to be globally competitive requires faculty members to possess advanced training and education which can be obtained by pursuing advanced degrees at local or international academic institutions.</p>
	<p><b>Learning and Discovery:</b>  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> International Experience (Staff)  <input type="checkbox"/> International Experience (Students)  <input type="checkbox"/> Digital and Global Citizenship  <input type="checkbox"/> Internationalized and Industry-based Curriculum  <input type="checkbox"/> Non-conventional Instructional Delivery  <input type="checkbox"/> Organizational Strategies and Policy Development</p>	<p>Pursuing advanced degrees abroad will be a great opportunity for our faculty members to obtain experiences and knowledge in their respective fields of specialization. Furthermore, it will lead to the improvement of the curriculum and delivery of our degree programs.</p>
	<p><b>Innovation, Collaboration and Resource Generation:</b>  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stakeholder Engagement  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Special Program/ Project  <input type="checkbox"/> External Resource Generation</p>	<p>Meet possible collaborators and forged linkages</p>
<p>6. Value of the travel or mission</p>	<p><b>International Commitment:</b>  <input type="checkbox"/> is a member-institution  <input type="checkbox"/> is signatory  <input type="checkbox"/> is part of the negotiation or agreements</p> <p><b>Nature of Sponsoring or Inviting Body:</b>  <input type="checkbox"/> International Organization  <input type="checkbox"/> Academic Institution  <input type="checkbox"/> Professional Institution  <input type="checkbox"/> Research Institute  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Government Entity            Conference/ Training duly accredited by Accrediting Organization/Agency            Recognized by Home Government  <input type="checkbox"/> Yes                      <input type="checkbox"/> No            Activities/topics to be discussed in the conference/meeting is in consonance with the thrust of SUC  <input type="checkbox"/> Yes                      <input type="checkbox"/> No</p>	<p><b>Details of the agreement/commitment:</b></p> <p><b>Date signed:</b>  <b>Parties:</b> DOST-SEI  <b>Programs covered:</b> All study expenses  <b>Obligations:</b> To study full time in AIT Thailand and render service in the country after graduation.</p>





02 April 2024

**DR. PROSE IVY G. YEPES**  
President  
Visayas State University

Thru: **DR. BEATRIZ S. BELONIAS**  
Vice President for Academic Affairs and  
Chairperson, APB and VSFC-AS

Dear **Dr. Yepes**:

The Department Personnel Committee would like to inform your good office that **Engr. John Allan A. Gulles**, a faculty member of our department, has been accepted into the master's program in Geotechnical and Earth Resources Engineering at the Asian Institute of Technology in Thailand. This program is in accordance with the department's BOR-approved Faculty Development Plan, and it is scheduled to begin during the 1st Semester of the Academic Year 2024-2025, as indicated in the attached approved Faculty Dev. Plan.

In light of this, the Department Personnel Committee would like to request your office to grant Engr. Gulles a study leave with pay for the entire duration of his master's degree program. Additionally, the DPC would like to request a certification from your office to signify the university's approval of Engr. Gulles' pursuit of his studies. This certification will facilitate his application for a scholarship in DOST Foreign.

The department would greatly appreciate your consideration of this matter, and we look forward to your response.

Thank you very much.

Respectfully yours,

Department of Civil Engineering Personnel Committee:

  
**EPIFANIA G. LORETO**  
Head of the Department of Civil Engineering, and  
Chairman, Department Personnel Committee

  
**ANDY PHIL D. CORTES**  
Member

  
**MARCELO T. ABRERA, JR.**  
Member

  
**HANZEL N. MEJIA**  
Member

Noted:

  
**JANNET C. BENCURE**  
Dean, College of Engineering and Technology

RECOMMENDING APPROVAL

  
**RODOLFO S. GRAVOSO**  
Vice President for Academic Affairs

Approved:  
  
**PROSE IVY G. YEPES, EdD**  
President





**RE-ENTRY ACTION PLAN (REAP) FOR DEGREE PROGRAM**

<b>Name</b>	JOHN ALLAN A. GULLES
<b>Degree Program and Specialization to Pursue</b>	MS in GEOTECHNICAL and EARTH RESOURCES ENGINEERING
<b>Name and Address of SHEI</b>	Visayas State University City of Baybay, Leyte
<b>Type of Grant Applied For</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Master's <input type="checkbox"/> Doctorate <input type="checkbox"/> Thesis or Dissertation Grant
<b>Name and Address of Prospective Delivery Higher Education Institution (DHEI)</b>	ASIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY - THAILAND

<b>Time frame</b>	August 2024 – August 2026
<b>Designation/Status</b>	INSTRUCTOR I
<b>Context</b>	Based on the approved faculty development plan of the department of civil engineering, the undersigned faculty is scheduled to pursue his master's degree on August 2024. With the recent admission to pursue Master's in Geotechnical and Earth Resource Engineering in AIT-Thailand, the undersigned faculty will be out for study leave starting August 2024-August 2026.
<b>Objectives</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Contribute to the workforce of the department and improve delivery of quality instructions for the BSCE program;</li><li>• Mainstream geotechnical engineering as a major field of civil engineering in both instructions and research &amp; development to forge linkages within the university and on a larger scale, and;</li><li>• Provide insights and tangible solutions on disaster mitigation and resiliency as an approach to combat climate change and environmental conservation</li></ul>
<b>Outcomes</b>	<p>Following the objectives outlined, the university could expect outcomes such as;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Addition to strong workforce for the DCE-VSU;</li><li>• Improved quality-instructions delivery;</li><li>• VSU-DCE could sustain and offer Geotechnical Engineering as a specialization for the students enrolled in the program;</li><li>• Publication related to Geotechnical and Earth Resource Engineering, and;</li><li>• Forged linkage/partnership for the university and other entities for research and other collaborative works.</li></ul>



Signature of Applicant

APRIL 11-2024

Date

I hereby certify that the above information is true and correct, and that the VISAYAS STATE UNIVERSITY has committed to the above re-entry plan for JOHN ALLAN A. GULLES



**EPIFANIA G. LORETO**  
Department Head



**JANNET C. BENCURE**  
College Dean

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4/11/24