



EAST-WEST CENTER – FORD FOUNDATION INTERNATIONAL FELLOWSHIPS PROGRAM SCHOLARSHIP AGREEMENT

Ms Marciana Baja GALAMBAO a citizen or legal permanent resident of the Philippines, through funding from the International Fellowships Fund (IFF) and the Ford Foundation International Fellowships Program (IFP), has been awarded an IFF/IFP scholarship to participate in the educational activities of the East-West Center (EWC) while pursuing English language preparation and a subsequent program of study leading to a master's degree at the University of Hawai'i. In addition to the proposed study, this scholarship is intended to enable degree fellows to contribute to the development and exchange of ideas within the East-West Center community and advance human resource capacity in the Philippines. Through study at the University of Hawai'i and participation in the EWC Education Program, the experience is designed to offer an opportunity to enhance knowledge and understanding of the Asia Pacific region and the United States.

Subject to the terms and conditions of the IFP grant, and the EWC special and general terms listed below and on the following page, this scholarship provides support for 12 months from July 7, 2008 to July 6, 2009, potentially renewable up to a total of 29 months subject to the conditions stated below.

If the conditions stated above are met, the East-West Center will provide support in the following categories*:

- Tuition and fees at the University of Hawai'i at Manoa through funding from IFP (\$US8,980 per year)
- Accommodations in EWC Residence Hall. (Fellow will pay housing cost from funds received directly from IFP).
- Payment of SEVIS fee through funding from IFP (\$US100)

**All other support as noted on the IFF support contract, including provisions regarding travel and pre-departure cost and the following items listed below will be provided directly to the degree fellow through IFP.*

- Health and Repatriation/Medical Evacuation insurance (\$US624 per year)
- Books and supplies (\$US1,000 per year)
- Dormitory housing (\$US5,160 per year based on single occupancy)
- Monthly stipend (\$US820 per month, \$US9,840 per year)
- Other anticipated cost \$US1,750.00

Activity Sites

The degree fellow is required to initially pursue English language studies and, as appropriate, coursework in preparation for or to be applied toward their master's degree program, on a full-time basis for the first year at the University of Hawai'i at Manoa (UHM). Subsequently, the degree fellow will pursue master's degree study and all degree-related English Language Institute requirements on a full-time basis at UHM.

Special terms and General terms are printed on the following page. Under General terms, special attention should be paid to item #1 which specifies the full-time nature of this scholarship and item #3.

Please return this agreement

3/26/08
Date

Terance W. Bigalke, Director
Education Program, East-West Center

immediately to:

Award Services
East-West Center
1601 East-West Road
Honolulu, Hawaii 96848-1601

MD 4/29/08

I have read both pages of this agreement and accompanying information, understand the stipulations and agree that **I am responsible for all expenses not specifically provided by the East-West Center scholarship and all personal expenses.** I accept these terms and by the return of this signed agreement, agree to abide by all its conditions.

03/08

5/18/08
Date

Signature of Degree Fellow

During the summer months the degree fellow will reside on the East-West Center campus and participate in Education Program activities and/or enroll in University of Hawai'i at Manoa summer session courses, unless the fellow obtains prior approval for alternative activities. The degree fellow will be expected to meet periodically with an East-West Center advisor and University of Hawai'i at Manoa advisor to review progress to date. Scholarships will be reviewed each semester and renewed annually provided there is sufficient evidence that the degree fellow is making satisfactory progress toward completion of the degree goal and meeting participation requirements for the Education Program.

General East-West Center Terms

An individual accepting an East-West Center degree scholarship agrees to actively participate in the East-West Center's international community and be a part of a program which requires from each individual good judgment, understanding, courtesy and respect for others. Each individual is expected to help evaluate his or her involvement in the East-West Center program.

Each participant certifies by acceptance of this Participation Agreement that participant is not debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction by any United States Government Department or Agency. Where the participant is unable to certify to any of the statements in this certification, such participant shall attach an explanation to this agreement.

As a degree fellow you should be aware of the policies indicated below. These should be reviewed carefully prior to signing this agreement.

1. East-West Center scholarships support full-time participation in English language studies and "bridging" courses relevant to a master's degree program, subsequent full-time enrollment in a master's program at the University of Hawai'i at Manoa, and participation in educational programs at the East-West Center. Off-campus employment is not allowed unless authorized by the East-West Center as programmatically relevant. Employment at the East-West Center is not allowed.
2. The degree fellow must make satisfactory progress in English language preparation and/or toward the degree, and maintain appropriate academic standards in keeping with policies of the University of Hawaii and the East-West Center. All changes in the English preparation and degree program including extensions, and change of field of study, must be approved by the East-West Center.
3. Education Program: As an East-West Center degree scholarship recipient, you are required to participate in selected activities of the Center wide Education Program during the summer months and/or while in residence at the East-West Center. This program may include lectures, group discussion, seminars, and projects designed to provide the participants with basic knowledge about contemporary Asia, the Pacific islands and the United States, as well as to provide an opportunity to enhance cross-cultural awareness.
4. Degree fellows who are not citizens or permanent residents of the United States must comply with U.S. Department of Homeland Security regulations for the J-1 visa, which include maintaining sustained satisfactory progress towards completion of a specific educational goal and the expectation that they leave the United States and return to their home country upon completion of their East-West Center program.
5. Degree fellows are required to live on campus in East-West Center housing. Only single degree fellows and degree fellows with spouses are allowed to stay in on-campus housing. If, with Center approval, the spouse and/or dependent(s) below 18 should join the fellow, expenses for the spouse and dependent(s) including, but not limited to roundtrip transportation, housing in the Honolulu community, health insurance coverage, medical evacuation and repatriation coverage, food, clothing, and other incidental expenses are the responsibility of the degree fellow and family.
6. All participants are expected to adhere to the East-West Center's policy on academic freedom which bars any classified (secret) activity or research, condemns any actions or statements on the part of anyone which may tend to interfere with the academic freedom of any participant at the East-West Center.
7. All participants are responsible for familiarizing themselves and complying with EWC policies and procedures as stated in the Participant Policies & Procedures Manual. Special attention should be given to policies on Award Categories and Conditions, Housing, Coordination of East-West Center and University of Hawaii Academic Work, and Progress Toward University of Hawaii Degree Objectives.
8. The East-West Center Scholarship is subject to taxes of the U.S. Government and State of Hawaii. However, funds received to pay for tuition and fees are not currently considered as taxable items.
9. At the East-West Center's option, all awards, grants, and fellowships including extensions offered or administered by the East-West Center are subject to cancellation. Reasons for such cancellation include but are not limited to a lack of funds, change in institutional or program focus or direction, or insufficient support personnel or resources. Additionally, international, federal, state, private or other granting authorities may have specific conditions that will apply with respect to extensions, cancellation or revocation of awards, grants and fellowships that they provide but the East-West Center administers.

I accept these terms and by the return of this signed agreement, agree to abide by all its conditions.

5/18/08

Date


Signature of Degree Fellow



EAST-WEST CENTER

EDUCATION PROGRAM

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE J-1 EXCHANGE VISITOR PROGRAM

Read this Before Accepting the East-West Center Degree Fellowship

The J-1 Exchange Visitor Visa

East-West Center degree fellows are required to come to the United States on a J-1 exchange visitor visa. Each degree fellow in J-1 status is considered a participant in the Center's Exchange Visitor Program. As your program sponsor, the East-West Center brings you to the U.S. to fulfill a specific educational objective. The Center expects you to pursue that objective in a timely and sustained manner.

The East-West Center issues you the initial **Form DS-2019** [Certificate of Eligibility for Exchange Visitor (J-1) Status] to apply for a J-1 visa.

- *If you are outside the U.S.*, the DS-2019 form will be sent to you after receipt of acceptance into a study program and evidence of financial support. Instructions about applying for a J-1 visa at an American Embassy or Consulate will be sent with the DS-2019.
- *If you are already in the U.S. in J-1 status*, you may change your sponsorship either by leaving the country and re-entering or by transferring visa sponsorship to the East-West Center. Please contact the EWC Visa Officer about changing your sponsorship.
- *If you are already in the U.S. in another nonimmigrant visa status*, you are required to change to J-1 status as a condition of your fellowship award. Please contact the EWC Visa Officer immediately about these procedures if you are in this situation.

Purpose of the Exchange Visitor Program

The broad purpose of the Exchange Visitor Program is to promote international educational and cultural exchange in order to develop mutual understanding between the people of the United States and other countries. Exchange programs permit visitors to come to this country for a wide range of educational activities. The East-West Center's exchange visitor program provides opportunities for study, research and participation in educational and professional activities for foreign students, research scholars, short-term scholars, and specialists under the sponsorship of the Center.

The Home-Country Physical Presence Requirement

The intent of the Exchange Visitor Program is to have participants return to their home countries upon program completion to share and apply the knowledge and experience gained during the program. Exchange visitors who are supported by funds from the U.S. Government or from their home country government are subject to a two-year home country physical presence requirement. Exchange visitors are also subject to the home country residence requirement if their field of study is on the Exchange Visitors Skills List (a list of fields of specialized knowledge and skills and those countries which require the services of persons engaged in one or more of such fields). This requirement is stated on your Form DS-2019 that you must read and sign before being issued a J-1 visa. It is intended to prevent the exchange visitor from staying longer than necessary for the degree objective and to ensure that he or she will spend at least two years in the home country before coming back to the U.S. for a long-term stay.

J-1 students sponsored by the East-West Center are subject to this requirement if their fellowship is funded in whole or in part, directly or indirectly by the U.S. Government or the exchange visitor's government or if their field of study is on the Exchange Visitor Skills List. This means that you will not be eligible for an immigrant (permanent resident) visa or nonimmigrant H (temporary worker), K (fiancé), or L (intra-company transfer) visas without first residing in your home country for an aggregate of two years after completing your exchange visitor program. Residence in a third country will not fulfill this requirement. However under current practice, one is eligible to apply for re-entry to the U.S. under most other nonimmigrant visa classes (other than H, K, or L) without any waiting period.

Initial mbg Date 5-18-08

Spouse and Dependents

For information on J-2 visas for spouse and dependent children, please request a separate information sheet on "Visa Information for Family of Exchange Visitors" from the EWC Visa Office. You must received permission from your EWC Scholarship Coordinator to have your spouse and/or dependents join you. In certain cases, approval must also be received by the program funding partner.

Health Care and Insurance

Exchange Visitors are required, as a condition of their J-1 status in the United States, to carry health insurance and repatriation and medical evacuation insurance for themselves and any accompanying family members.

If the East-West Center is providing health insurance and repatriation and medical evacuation insurance coverage for you under the terms of your award, the health insurance and repatriation and medical evacuation insurance plan will meet federal exchange visitor requirements. The EWC will accept other insurance coverage if it meets or exceeds each of the specific exchange visitor program regulatory requirements. Please read the information in "The Exchange Visitor Health Insurance Requirement" carefully.

Students covered under the Institute of International Education (IIE) health and accident plan should present their IIE Insurance Identification Card to the EWC Visa Officer along with their visa documents upon arrival in the U.S.

The University of Hawaii operates a health center (clinic) for students, faculty, staff, and their dependents. More information on UHM health services and insurance plan options will be provided upon your arrival.

In the United States certain kinds of elective medical care, such as eyeglasses or dentistry, are ordinarily not covered by insurance, and they are very expensive. To the extent possible, exchange visitors should take care of those needs before leaving home.

The Visa Officer is responsible for all participant exchange visitor visa matters. If you have any questions, please feel free to write to: Visa Office, East-West Center, 1601 East-West Road, Honolulu, HI 96848, USA. Telephone: (808) 944-7706. Fax: (808) 944-7730, E-Mail: wongv@eastwestcenter.org

I have read and understand the above information regarding the terms and conditions of the J-1 Exchange Visitor Program and the East-West Center's policies and procedures regarding the Exchange Visitor Program and agree to comply with all terms and conditions.

MARCIANA B. GALAMBAD

Print Name


Signature

May 18, 2008

Date



23. LIST ANY BOOKS, ARTICLES OR THESES PUBLISHED BY YOU, ESPECIALLY IN YOUR PROPOSED FIELD OF STUDY: (Give title, place and date of publication)

Gonzal, L. R., Duatin F. M. Y. and M. B. Galambao. 2005. New approaches for sustainable abaca (*Musa textilis* Nee) production. In: Proc. 2nd South-South-North Natural Fiber Dialogue. Natural Fiber for Industrial Purpose: Current Issues. March 6-8, 2005. Leyte State University, ViSCA, Baybay, Leyte Philippines, pp. 30-36.

24. LIST PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES, FRATERNITIES OR OTHER ORGANIZATIONS IN WHICH YOU NOW HOLD MEMBERSHIP OR IN WHICH YOU HAVE BEEN ACTIVE IN THE PAST: (Indicate if you have held an elective office.)

Member- Philippine Association of Agriculturists
Member – Focolare Movement
Member – ViSCA Alumni Association

25. TEACHING EXPERIENCE: (Including any teaching positions you have held or currently hold.)

None

26. RESEARCH: (Including any research you have completed or in which you are currently involved.)

Student Researcher – undergraduate research thesis entitled "Response of Acid Soil grown-*Acacia aulacocarpa* to Phosphate Application and *Rhizobium* and VAM Fungal Inoculation" conducted at the Department of Agronomy and Soil Science of Visayas State University
Science Research Assistant on the project entitled "DNA Fingerprinting of Promising Abaca Accessions and Hybrids" and "Development of DNA Markers for Identification and Utilization of Outstanding Tall Populations and Hybrids to Accelerate Coconut Replanting" at the Dept. of Genetic Resources and Plant Breeding of Visayas State University, Baybay City, Leyte Philippines
Science Research Assistant on the project entitled "Public-Private Partnership: Application of Abaca Fiber in the Automotive Industry- Production Component-Tissue Culture at National Abaca Research Center
Currently involved as **Science Research Assistant** on the project "Biotechnology Approaches in Producing Virus-Resistant Abaca: A Technical Review conducted at National Abaca Research Center of Visayas State University, Baybay City, Leyte Philippines

27. FUTURE PLANS: (Describe the career you plan to pursue after completion of study or research (e.g., teaching, government, business, industry or any plans you might have for continued study or research in your home country. Also indicate if you will be returning to former employment, or if you have been promised a position in your home country after completing your training).

Upon completion of the degree, I plan to resume my research and community outreach duties in my home institution, the National Abaca Research Center (NARC) of the Visayas State University. For wider dissemination, I also hope to publish my research thesis in refereed scientific journals and give lectures in conferences and seminars to my professional colleagues in the discipline and to university researchers, faculty and students. I envision sharing my professional expertise through training programs with fellow researchers and students.

Second, I will do biotech research on the genetic improvement of abaca. To achieve this, proposals on the development of genetically modified (GM) Abaca (*Musa textilis* Nee) will be prepared for funding and implementation. I prepare collaborative research program with my colleagues that would facilitate the implementation of the program. I am also planning to get involved in the conservation and maintenance of abaca germplasm. Since NARC has the most extensive abaca germplasm collection in the country today, attention will be given to ensure effective conservation and utilization of abaca genetic resources.

Third, I will actively participate in the instruction and curricular development programs in my university so that the field of biotechnology can be integrated into its academic programs. Because my institution has the tissue culture facilities, I am planning to guide and supervise undergraduate students in the conduct of their research thesis.

Fourth, I will continue in my involvement with the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples in carrying out different community and rural development programs concerning the tribes specifically on the development, preservation and maintenance of traditional fibers in their ancestral land domain.

Above all, I will attend seminar, trainings and conferences related to biotechnology and pursue Doctorate Degree studies to further improve my expertise.



NAME OF APPLICANT: **Marciana Galambao**

COUNTRY: **Philippines**

28.

STUDY OBJECTIVES

Write a clear and detailed description of your study objectives. Be specific about your major field and your specialized interests within this field. Describe the kind of program you expect to undertake, and explain how your study plan fits in with your previous training, professional experience, and your future objectives and career path. Your statement is an essential part of your application. Unclear, incomplete or impractical proposals can result in your being referred to a university not suited to your scholastic needs, or your not being accepted by any university. **Do not mention specific universities at which you would like to study.** Do not exceed space available. But if you need additional space, please prepare a separate sheet and insert it after printing the application.

I would like to pursue a Master's Degree in Tropical Plant and Soil Sciences specializing in Plant Sciences. I am interested in a program that would provide me a thorough understanding of the principles and techniques in the adaptation and application of biotechnology to tropical plant as well as the legal and ethical aspects of biotechnological applications.

Biotechnology and genetic engineering utilizing plant transformation are becoming indispensable tools in crop improvement and provide a powerful and novel means to supplement and to complement the traditional methods of plant improvement. I intend to focus in this area because of its relevance and applicability in research, teaching, and outreach programs. More importantly, it is my passion to do research on plant improvement and biotechnology and to impart this knowledge through teaching and research in the academe, and sharing this with the larger community through outreach programs.

My first job as Science Research Assistant at the Department of Genetic Resources and Plant Breeding of Visayas State University (VSU), Philippines' exposed me to tissue culture and the molecular aspects of biotechnology. I worked on the project on the "DNA Fingerprinting of Promising Abaca Accessions and Hybrids" and the "Development of DNA Markers for Identification and Utilization of Outstanding Tall Populations and Hybrids to Accelerate Coconut Replanting". From these projects, I learned the concept of tissue culture and molecular analysis. We worked on the characterization of abaca and coconut genotypes using Simple Sequence Repeats (SSR) and Amplified Fragment Length Polymorphism (AFLP) and culture *in vitro* abaca, cassava and sweet potato. I was fascinated in doing the techniques in the laboratory knowing that we were the first DNA laboratory in campus or even in the region.

My skills on tissue culture were honed further when I worked on another project on the "Public-Private Partnership: Application of Abaca Fiber in the Automotive Industry" at the National Abaca Research Center. In this project, we focused on the mass propagation of disease-free and high quality abaca planting materials using the semi-solid and temporary immersion systems. The said planting materials were distributed to abaca farmers for the establishment of abaca plantations.

Currently, I am involved in the project on the "Biotechnology Approaches in Producing Virus-Resistant Abaca: A Technical Review". The project is in support to the government's effort in eradicating the viral diseases that threatens the abaca industry of the country. Here, we focus on reviewing different molecular approaches in developing transgenic plants that can be applied or modified as the case may be to abaca. We also interviewed practitioners and communicated to scientists and experts here and abroad especially those working on banana transformation to help us develop the most suitable research protocol for the development of transgenic abaca.

However, my knowledge on the above aspects are limited, relying only on the trainings and readings from the articles related to biotech and the informal discussions from my research supervisor. I yearned to learn the basic concept of biotech where teaching and discussions are present coupled with hands-on experimentation on the different molecular techniques and skills on plant genetic improvement. I realized that my knowledge is not enough and there is so much to learn in order for me to be fully equipped, knowledgeable, and competent in my job. I need to have the knowledge on the techniques and skills of plant genetic manipulation and other molecular methods in crop improvement as well as the fingerprinting for germplasm evaluation.

The limited human resource in doing biotechnology research in my current workplace and the dedication I have in helping the abaca industry have driven me to choose this program. I was also advised to have a master's degree to have a chance in getting permanent position in the Visayas State University where the National Abaca Research Center is based.

After my Master's Degree, I will come back to the Philippines and be involved in research and instruction programs of the Visayas State University. I plan to do research related to biotech and at the same time teach biotechnology courses that are being offered in the university as well as create new ones. VSU is the first university in the Philippines offering a BS in Biotechnology degree program.



NAME OF APPLICANT: Marciana Galambao

COUNTRY: Philippines

29.

PERSONAL STATEMENT

Please provide a narrative statement concerning your professional, academic and future plans. It should not be a mere listing of facts. It should include information about your education, practical experience, impact on your community, special interests, career plans, and your purpose in applying for graduate study. Describe any significant factors that have influenced your educational or professional development. As an IFP Fellow, comment on the reasons for your selection including community involvement and work on social justice issues. **Do not mention specific universities at which you would like to study.** Do not exceed space available. But if you need additional space, please prepare a separate sheet and insert it after printing the application.

I am Marciana B. Galambao. I graduated with the degree of Bachelor of Science in Agriculture major in Soil Science at the Visayas State University in the Philippines. At an early age, I was exposed to agriculture as my parents are into farming. It was in this orientation that I am fascinated to plants and its environments.

As a student, I am academically competitive. I want to be the best, not only for the grades but also for the practical application of the knowledge gained on our day to day living. My first exposure to research was when I conducted my undergraduate thesis on "Response of Acid Soil Grown-*Acacia aulacocarpa* to Phosphate Application and *Rhizobium* and VAM Fungal Inoculation". It focused on the effect of microorganisms in aiding nutrient uptake of the plant in an acid soil. This thesis had taught and trained me the concept of research. With this experience, I became very eager to work in research related projects and learn new things.

My eagerness to learn new things had led me to work in the field of biotechnology. My first job after graduation was on tissue culture and molecular analysis on abaca plants. I was hired because of my performance on my undergraduate thesis and my willingness to learn and to be trained in this field. I was trained on Molecular Analysis using coconut plant at the Institute of Plant Breeding in University of the Philippines, Los Baños, Philippines. Since it was the first molecular analysis done on abaca in campus, we identified the molecular marker technique suitable and applicable to abaca. It was a very challenging work which involved spending more time in the laboratory perfecting the procedure and trouble shooting when things went wrong in order to come up with good results. From there, I learned to be more patient, humble and understanding towards my work and to other people. Another research project was on the mass production of abaca that was distributed to abaca farmers for the establishment of abaca plantations under different ecosystems for automotive industry application. It was a very fulfilling task especially when I saw tissue-cultured abaca plants growing and adapting in the farmers' field. I learned also the importance of my background on soils especially in the adaptation of the plant to the environment.

One thing that fascinated me to this kind of work was the trust and encouragement I received from my research supervisor. She was the one who introduced about the realm of molecular works at the DNA level. Her expertise in her field and her passion both in research and teaching has inspired me to do the same. The impact of the research we had conducted greatly influenced me, not only because it influenced the abaca industry but more importantly, it benefited the abaca farmers.

I have been engaged research for almost six years now and it has been, and continue to be, a fulfilling career for me. My positive attitude and dedication towards work, ability to grasp instruction/suggestions easily and analyze the problem related to the project, willingness to work beyond office hours without additional compensation, resourcefulness and my willingness to learn have enhanced my job performance as confirmed by my supervisor's evaluation.

My research interest and experience is more on abaca because this plant, (Abaca, *Musa textilis* Nee) is indigenous to the Philippines and it is the major source of foreign export earnings and employment generation of the country. However, the industry is threatened by dreaded viral diseases such as the Abaca bunchy top virus (ABTV) and the Abaca mosaic virus (AbMV) which has been infecting abaca since the 1920's and until now, there are no known control measures in eliminating the said diseases. One of the strategies being employed is the use of tissue culture technique to come up with disease-free and high quality abaca planting materials. It is also used to mass propagate abaca to speed up abaca production within a short period of time.

But despite of all these efforts, the disease has not yet been eliminated. The only possible solution is through the use of biotechnology approaches in producing virus-resistant abaca, hence, the conduct of the technical review on the different approaches being utilized in the field. I am glad that I am part of this endeavor. The conviction or desire that I want to be more equipped and knowledgeable in my job has driven me to pursue further graduate studies. The limited human resource capable of doing biotechnology research in the institution where I am connected and the application in solving the perennial viral disease problem threatening the abaca industry encourage me to acquire advanced knowledge on Biotechnology. I want to have a formal training on plant biotechnology particularly on how to generate transgenic plants and the different molecular approaches for crop improvement. The knowledge and skills that I will learn from the program will be applied to research and instruction programs of my university.

Pursuing graduate studies entails time and money. Since I cannot support on my own, looking for scholarship is the only possible means to pursue my dreams. I am very grateful that I was chosen as one of the fellows selected of the International Fellowships Program of the Ford Foundation Scholarship Program. I believe that I was chosen because of my dedication and willingness to learn more in my field and the possible impact and contribution of my future studies to research and instruction, the abaca industry, the Eskaya Tribe where I belong and the country in general. I am also committed to return home to serve my country and apply what I have learned for the benefit of the Filipino people.