

## Professional Science Master's Scholar

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University of the Philippines Los Baños

**PSM Degree**

*Master of Business and Science in Global Agriculture*

**US University**

*Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey*

**Date of Completion**

*May 2017*

**GPA**

*3.66*

### Master of Business and Science in Global Agriculture

The Master of Business and Science degree with a concentration in Global Agriculture is designed to prepare students to work in and manage the global green industry. This program is designed to provide the foundation of agriculture, plant pathology, environmental sustainability, crop management and business development.

### As a PSM student, what was the highlight of your study?

As a PSM student, my understanding of the role of agriculture in ensuring food security and safety, and the roles of various stakeholders, particularly on ways to bridge the gaps between academia and the industry was broadened. The various perspectives inside the classroom with students coming from various industries, experience and culture, formal lessons from Professors and guest lecturers, actual field visits and an internship exposure created a more holistic learning process.

### In what way has the USAID scholarship changed you?

This scholarship has created an enabling environment for me to explore and learn agriculture with a business and global perspective. More so, it helped me have bigger dreams for the agriculture sector of the Philippines. It taught me techniques and practices that can potentially be adapted by the country. The scholarship also helped me realize the value of education that could have a ripple effect if used wisely. This scholarship changed me by also appreciating all the development-related aid coming to the country and helped me understand that development can come from many forms including education.

### How would you use your degree to contribute or influence economic growth in the country?

I am currently serving in the agriculture and rural development sector by rebuilding lives and communities severely affected by natural and man-made hazards. I am using this degree to mobilize funds and write project proposals directed towards vulnerable farming and fishing households across the country affected by typhoons, calamities or other conflict in order for them to resume agricultural activities and lost livelihoods and eventually this could translate to improved local economies. Moreover, I am personally trying to write proposals that aim to improve the agricultural value chain, strengthen farm to market linkage and contribute to higher productivity, improved incomes and resilient livelihoods.

### As a young scientist, what do you envision for the Philippine science, technology and innovation ecosystem in the next 10 years?

I envision more incentives for innovation in order to address pressing needs in various sectors of the country and to avoid brain drain. Hopefully, there will be more active technology transfer offices in universities, encouragement of the entrepreneurial spirit of students in the academe, improved Intellectual Property Laws in its application and implementation process, and more financial support to research and development and start-ups. I also envision more decent and competitive salaries and better working opportunities for young scientists, more start-ups developed, enriched linkage between the various stakeholders of industries and new areas of studies and hybridization of various fields/schools (e.g. Agriculture and Environmental Science and Management for degrees relating to Disaster Risk Reduction in relation to agriculture, Business and

*Since her return to the Philippines, Julieane has been working as Project Development Consultant and ad interim Operations Team leader for the United Nations' Food and Agriculture Organization Philippine Office.*

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