

From: [REDACTED]
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [g-kurten](#)
Subject: Re: Greetings from Honduras.
Date: Thursday, November 05, 2009 4:10:08 PM
Attachments: [REDACTED] [Ph.D. Offer Letter.pdf](#)

Good afternoon Dr. Rooney;

Please find attached the Ph.D. Offer Letter. As you said, I will bring the hard copy when I arrive to College Station. I guess I will not be able to be around Choluteca when you come to Honduras, however, I wish you a safe trip.

Thanks a lot.
Ate.

Ostilio.

On Thu, Nov 5, 2009 at 1:56 PM, Bill Rooney <wlr@tamu.edu> wrote:

Ostilio:

See responses for each question directly below each question.

FYI, I know it is not close to you, but I'll be in Choluteca in the first week of December.

Regards,

Bill

Dr. William L. Rooney

Professor, Sorghum Breeding and Genetics

Chair, Plant Release Committee

Texas A&M University

College Station, Texas 77843-2474

979 845 2151



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Ostilio R. Portillo
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November 3, 2009

[REDACTED] Graduate Research Assistantship in Soil & Crop Sciences at Texas A&M University. As we discussed, the focus of your Ph.D. research remains to be confirmed, but it will involve sorghum breeding and genetics. I will serve as your committee chair. In addition to your research, you will be expected to assist in the normal tasks associated with the breeding program which include nursery planning, seed preparation, planting, pollination, harvest, threshing and computer inventory and analysis. The amount of assistance expected from each student varies, depending on the demands of his research at the time and the needs of the program. Our program will assist you in the collection of data for your thesis when it is necessary and appropriate. This will provide you with a well-rounded education and the expertise you will need when you are hired to manage a plant breeding program.

The position will begin on or after January 1, 2010, contingent upon successful completion of a state mandated criminal background check which is applicable to all new employees. Go to <http://soilcrop.tamu.edu/employees.html> and click on Applicant Record Check – revised (form can be found also at <http://agservices.tamu.edu/forms/AG-473.pdf>.) Complete the form, sign, and fax to Glenda Kurten at 979-458-0533 as soon as possible.

The compensation package will include an annual salary of [REDACTED] along with employee health insurance and payment of tuition and fees associated with 9 hours of course work in each of the long semesters and 6 hours during the summer session. Half of your health insurance coverage will be in the form of additional salary that will be deducted each month. The other portion will be paid directly by the State. Note also that the state of Texas mandates a 90 day waiting period before you are covered by health insurance.

Continuation of the Assistantship will require that you maintain a 3.0 GPA and make satisfactory progress towards your thesis/dissertation research. Graduate students in Soil and Crop Sciences are expected to attend the weekly Departmental Seminars and any discipline orientated seminar/discussion groups as deemed appropriate by your Committee Chair to maintain good standing in the Department. Funds supporting this position are provided for up to three years; any extensions will be based on available funding.

Although you will be on a research assistantship, it is departmental policy that all graduate students gain some teaching experience during their graduate training. Thus, all M.S. students are expected to assist in

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one lab (two sections) and Ph.D. students are expected to assist in two labs (two sections each) during their tenure.

It is an exciting time to be a part of the Soil and Crop Sciences Department at Texas A&M. We are a large, diverse Department representing a broad array of faculty members and students with which you can interact and collaborate. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can assist you in any way or if you would like additional information on our program. You may also contact Wayne Smith, Associate Head for Academic Programs, at 979-845-3450 or cwsmith@tamu.edu.

Please indicate your acceptance of this offer and complete the attached form so that we can initiate the state-mandated background check. Return a copy to me and a copy to Glenda Kurten (g-kurten@tamu.edu or fax at 979-458-0533).

Best regards,



William L. Rooney
Professor
Sorghum Breeding and Genetics

I accept the terms and conditions of this offer.

