

Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, CULTURE AND SPORTS
Meralco Drive, Pasig, Metro Manila

September 16, 1993

DECS Order No. 77, s. 1993

**POLICIES GOVERNING THE PROGRAMS AND PRIORITIES OF
CHARTERED STATE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES**

To: Undersecretaries and Assistant Secretaries
Heads of Chartered State Colleges and Universities

1. Pursuant to the provisions of Presidential Decree No. 1437, Batas Pambansa No. 232, and Executive Order No. 292 (otherwise known as the Revised Administrative Code of 1987), and after consultation with the Executive Board of the Philippine Association of State Universities and Colleges (PASUC), the following general policy and program guidelines are hereby issued for the information and compliance of all chartered state colleges and universities (SUCs).

2. **Statement of general policy.** It shall be the policy of this Office that state colleges and universities shall have the fullest flexibility in the offerings of priority areas of instruction and research. However, in order that further rationalization of the use of government funds are achieved, certain policies/guidelines shall be observed.

3. Furthermore, a major reason for the operation of a chartered state college or university is to provide free tertiary education in the form of relevant and priority degree programs to intellectually promising but financially handicapped students, not only for tuition expenses but also for board, lodging, transportation, textbooks, and living expenses.

A. ON CAPITAL OUTLAYS AND CIVIL WORKS

4. **Provision for student dormitories.** All chartered state colleges and universities should therefore endeavor to provide dormitories including bathroom and kitchen facilities for both male and female students, even if only for a few, in order that those promising but underprivileged youth may be provided the opportunity to further their tertiary studies at no cost to them. It is suggested that the full scholarship plus board and lodging program be limited to those who are not only intellectually promising but who are also enrolled in priority programs, as spelled out below. This program is not meant to apply to all students in any given SUC.

5. **Restriction on the creation of additional campuses administratively.** Chartered state colleges and universities shall identify and give priority to the physical development of the main campus. If not explicitly mentioned in their respective charters, chartered state colleges and universities should avoid a proliferation in their campuses, resulting as it does in a relative waste of resources. Instead, emphasis should be given to the improvement of buildings and equipment in main campuses. The concept of university systems are being called to question, in the light of additional chartered state colleges and universities subsequently created.

6. The restrictions on capital outlays on civil works such as buildings in additional campuses of a SUC does not apply to extension classes or programs, that is, where faculty is sent to some other

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site to conduct training or instruction to a group, at no capital cost to the SUC.

B. ON RATIONALIZATION OF PROGRAM OFFERINGS

7. Rationalization of the program offerings of chartered state colleges and universities at least on a regional basis. Specialization shall be encouraged in each SUC, to avoid unnecessary costs and to take advantage of existing faculty strengths. At the same time, regional coordination among chartered state colleges and universities in the same region should also be undertaken to minimize unnecessary and avoidable duplication of programs. Emphasis will be given on capital- and land-intensive courses, such as:

- (a) Agriculture, including fisheries and forestry;
- (b) The natural sciences, including technology and engineering, and
- (c) Teacher education, given the historical tradition and faculty strength of many of the older chartered state colleges and universities.

8. Within the above-given priority areas, chartered state colleges and universities are encouraged to provide technical-vocational courses, either as separate programs or as part of degree courses. On the other hand, competition or even expansion in course offerings outside of the priority areas given above should be avoided, especially with nearby private educational institutions.

9. For the time being, (a) the university systems, such as the University of the Philippines and Mindanao State University, and (b) the chartered state colleges and universities located in the National Capital Region will not be covered by this program of rationalization and specialization, although they are encouraged to utilize such guidelines for the sake of more efficient use of state resources. Nevertheless, it should be remembered that the university systems, including the concept of branches, were established at a time when chartered state colleges and universities were few and far between. Furthermore, almost all the chartered state colleges and universities located in NCR offer engineering programs, one of the more capital intensive courses of study, and the need for providing funding for all is subject to questions of economy and efficiency.

C. ON FACULTY RESEARCH

10. Research programs for state universities. State universities shall determine their areas of greatest strength, in terms of both faculty and facilities, and shall concentrate on such areas, rather than use scarce resources inefficiently among a number of programs.

11. Similarly, each state university shall publish a learned or scholarly journal, even if only annually, in order that the quality of faculty research may be properly known and evaluated. The publication of such a research journal shall be a condition for determining if a state university is qualified to continue being called a university.

D. ON FACULTY QUALIFICATIONS

12. Improve quality of faculty by ensuring adequate academic preparation standards. In order that faculty may continue to aspire for ultimately earning a doctoral degree, full professorships should not be awarded to faculty without such doctorates, as a general rule. Existing faculty ranking regulations of the individual chartered state colleges and universities should be reviewed and amended, where necessary, to require an earned doctoral degree as one of the prerequisites for a full professorship. Clearly, exceptions may be made, such as the individual case where the faculty member has earned recognition for academic or similar achievement, or where the area of study does not normally

require a doctorate, as in engineering.

E. ON FINANCIAL AND BUDGETARY POLICIES

13. Charge foreign students full or substantial cost recovery when studying in chartered state colleges and universities. As a general principle, foreign students in a SUC should be charged full cost as much as possible. It is not right that Filipino taxpayers should be supporting foreign students studying in the country. Each SUC should review its existing policies for foreigners studying in SCUs, and under what terms can they study, with payment of tuition and other fees in full, or at least substantial recovery.

14. Improve the allocation of budgetary resources among chartered state colleges and universities, considering compliance with stated educational policies. In order to hasten the application and observation of these guidelines, the Secretary of Education, Culture and Sports will endeavor to assist the Department of Budget and Management in formulating budgetary programs. In addition to the above-stated policies, the following budgetary reallocation will be developed, such that among others:

- (a) Elementary and secondary programs shall be phased out of chartered state colleges and universities except for laboratory programs,
- (b) Differential assessment shall be made for evaluating undergraduate, and associated research programs,
- (c) Doctoral prerequisites for full professors shall be observed, as a general rule.

F. MISCELLANEOUS

15. Effectivity. These polices shall take effect immediately.



ARMAND V. FABELLA
Secretary

Reference: None

Allotment: 1-3- - (M.O. 1-87)

To be indicated in the Perpetual Index
under the following subjects:

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