



The University of the Philippines

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DECISIONS OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS

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DECISIONS OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS

1378th BOR Meeting, 23 February 2023

I. AWARDING OF CITATION TO FORMER PRESIDENT DANILO L. CONCEPCION

1. Former President Danilo L. Concepcion was invited to the meeting to receive the commendation from the members of the Board of Regents for his exemplary leadership as UP President from 10 February 2017 to 09 February 2023. Secretary Lara read into the record the commendation, as follows:

*“The University of the Philippines
Awards this
CITATION
to
President Danilo L. Concepcion
February 10, 2017 – February 09, 2023*

For his exemplary leadership as U.P. President from 2017-2023, transforming U.P. into the University of the Future:

- *creating an enabling environment for UP’s constituents with a safe, attractive, and sustainable infrastructure conducive to teaching, learning, and working;*
- *modifying U.P.’s educational delivery systems in line with the changes in the global and national educational environments, and crafting the University’s academic roadmap to harness technologies that enhance the learning journey of all U.P. students;*
- *leading the shift to the future of U.P. education, a future that is blended or hybrid, providing greater flexibility for the University, strengthening its institutional resilience, and ensuring learning continuity;*
- *revising and updating courses and curricula; instituting new academic programs, minors, and program tracks; and encouraging the development of academic and research programs in the frontier areas of Data Science, Artificial Intelligence, and the Omics Sciences.*

For his quick and decisive actions that not only ensured the University’s ability to contribute to national efforts addressing health and economic crises but also sustained the continuity of instruction and learning:

- *personally rallying the members of the U.P. community to respond to the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, tapping into the spirit of collaboration, and directly reaching out to partners in the government and private sector for the resources necessary to ably and immediately answer the urgent call to serve the Filipino people at the height of the pandemic;*

I. AWARDING OF CITATION TO FORMER PRESIDENT DANILO L. CONCEPCION (cont'd)

- *immediately spearheading actions that led to the designation of the UP-Philippine General Hospital as the country's first and largest COVID-19 referral center, the creation of a COVID-19 Task Force, and the dissemination of critical information about COVID-19;*
- *acquiring hardware and software to support remote work, teaching, and learning that allowed students and faculty to connect and engage via online distance learning platforms;*
- *providing learning assistance grants to students and launching fund campaigns for gadgets and Internet connectivity, and instituting mental health support programs to address psychosocial needs.*

For sustaining the University's academic excellence, and its importance as a top higher education institution and a center of knowledge, research, and innovation nationally and internationally:

- *formalizing U.P.'s quality assurance system for institutional excellence, first as the Academic Assessment and Development System (AADS) and later as the UP Quality Assurance System (QAS);*
- *continuously forging new academic partnerships with universities worldwide, supporting and expanding international mobility for U.P. students, faculty, artists, scientists, and researchers;*
- *reviewing internationalization programs to be more competitive and attractive.*

For his commitment to the spirit of RA 10931, or the Universal Access to Tertiary Education, was demonstrated when he immediately suspended the collection of tuition and all fees, even as the law was to take effect the following year;

For broadening accessibility to U.P. education, ensuring a resilient admissions system that balances academic excellence and democratic access or equity, and providing students with adequate financial support to complete their U.P. education;

For implementing bold reforms that improved the quality of work life of all UP employees, such as the acquisition of additional plantilla items, conversion of contractual appointments, the establishment of new merit promotions systems for faculty, REPs, and administrative staff, and enhancement of economic and non-economic benefits for all U.P. employees;

For his firm and compassionate guidance of U.P. and for all his accomplishments as a public servant, educator, and staunch supporter of the arts.

Given this 23rd day of February in the year Two Thousand and Twenty-Three, in Quezon City, Philippines.

CHAIR J. PROSPERO E. DE VERA III

PRESIDENT ANGELO A. JIMENEZ

REGENT FRANCIS G. ESCUDERO

REGENT MARK O. GO

REGENT REYNALDO C. LASERNA

REGENT RAUL C. PAGDANGANAN

I. AWARDING OF CITATION TO FORMER PRESIDENT DANILO L. CONCEPCION (cont'd)

REGENT GREGORIO B. PASTORFIDE

REGENT GLADYS SJ. TIONGCO

REGENT CARL MARC L. RAMOTA

REGENT SIEGFRED R. SEVERINO

REGENT VICTORIA C. BELEGAL

ATTESTED:

ROBERTO M.J. LARA
Secretary of the University
and of the Board of Regent”

2. As Co-Chair of the Board of Regents, President Jimenez moved for the approval of the commendation as presented. Regent Tiongco seconded the motion.
3. After former President Concepcion received the commendation and brief photo opportunity, there was a short recess for lunch.
4. At this point, Chair De Vera moved for the withdrawal from the agenda of his additional items under Other Matters as he needed to go back to the conference. He requested that it be calendared in the agenda of the next Board meeting.

II. MATTERS APPROVED BY THE BOARD

A. General Governance

1. Appointment of University Officials

- 1.1 At this point, the Board went into executive session.
- 1.2 The Board approved the appointment of the following University officials:

Prof. SHIRLEY V. GUEVARRA as Dean, College of Home Economics, UP Diliman, effective 23 February 2023 until 22 February 2026

Assoc. Prof. KRISTOFFER B. BERSE as Dean, National College of Public Administration and Governance, UP Diliman, effective 23 February 2023 until 22 February 2026

II. MATTERS APPROVED BY THE BOARD (cont'd)

A. General Governance (cont'd)

1. Appointment of University Officials (cont'd)

...

Prof. MELISA R. SERRANO as Dean, School of Labor and Industrial Relations, UP Diliman, effective 23 February 2023 until 22 February 2026

Prof. LUIS MARIA T. BO-OT as Dean, College of Architecture, UP Diliman, effective 23 February 2023 until 22 February 2026

Asst. Prof. CHARISSE T. REYES as Dean, Faculty of Education, UP Open University, effective 23 February 2023 until 22 February 2026

- 1.3 The Board deferred the appointment of the next Dean of the College of Science and Management, UP Mindanao, to the next Board meeting.

Board Action: DEFERRED

- 2. Reorganization of the Office of Academic Support and Instructional Services (OASIS) and Multimedia Center (MC) into the “Center for Open and Digital Teaching and Learning (CODTL)”, UP Open University**

Board Action: APPROVED

- 3. Expansion of the mandate of the UPLB Interactive Learning Center (ILC) and its reorganization as the “Center for the Advancement of Teaching and Learning (CATL)”, UP Los Baños**

Board Action: APPROVED

- 4. Establishment of the University of the Philippines Open University Quality Assurance Office (UPOU-QAO) under the Office of the Chancellor, UP Open University**

Board Action: APPROVED

II. MATTERS APPROVED BY THE BOARD (cont'd)

A. General Governance (cont'd)

...

- 5. Establishment of the Mindanao Center for Disease Watch and Analytics (DiWA), UP Mindanao**

Board Action: APPROVED

- 6. Establishment of the Science Research and Training Center, UP Cebu**

Board Action: APPROVED

- 7. Renaming of the UP Los Baños Alumni Center to “Nelia T. Gonzalez Hall”, UP Los Baños**

- 7.1 President Jimenez moved for the approval of the renaming of the UP Los Baños Alumni Center to “Nelia T. Gonzalez Hall”, UP Los Baños. Regent Pagdanganan seconded the motion. There being no objections to the motion duly made and seconded, the same was approved.

Board Action: APPROVED

B. Academic Matters

- 1. Adoption by UP Los Baños of the Bachelor of Science in Accountancy Program of UP Visayas**

- 1.1 At this point, Regent Go also requested to be excused from the meeting as he needed to travel back to Baguio City to attend another meeting.
 - 1.2 Regent Tiongco moved for the approval of the adoption by UP Los Baños of the Bachelor of Science in Accountancy Program of UP Visayas. Regents Severino and Ramota seconded the motion. There being no objections, the same was approved.

Board Action: APPROVED

II. MATTERS APPROVED BY THE BOARD (cont'd)

. . .

B. Academic Matters (cont'd)

. . .

2. Institution of the Master of Science in Pharmaceutical Sciences Program, UP Manila

- 2.1 Regent Ramota informed the members of the Board that the Institution of the Master of Science in Pharmaceutical Sciences Program was taken up during the BOR Briefing held on 22 February 2023 and moved for the approval of the proposal. Regent Tiongco seconded the motion. There being no objections, the same was approved.

Board Action: APPROVED

C. Fiscal Matters

1. Reprogramming of UP System Administration's (UPSA) Unexpended Balances of Prior Years' Obligations in the total amount of PhP154,280,657.00

- 1.1 Vice President for Planning and Finance Iryn S. Yap-Balmores gave a brief introduction on the financial requirements of the proposed projects under the Office of the Vice President for Development and the Office of the Vice President for Academic Affairs to be funded by the UP System Administration. She said that the requested amount of PhP154,280,657.00 has been certified as available by the System Budget and System Accounting Offices.
- 1.2 As part of the proposed projects, UP Diliman Chancellor Fidel R. Nemenzo, together with representatives from UPD Theater Complex, Dr. Barbara Tan-Tiongco and Ms. Henriette Baes, presented the proposed rehabilitation of the UP Diliman University Theater in the amount of PhP20,247,151.00, which will cover the installation of stage floors of the Villamor Hall, upgrading of electrical systems, the installation of the fire escape of the Aldaba Hall, and the rehabilitation of the pebble wash and tiles of the Carillon Plaza.

II. MATTERS APPROVED BY THE BOARD (cont'd)

B. Fiscal Matters (cont'd)

1. Reprogramming of UP System Administration's (UPSA) ... (cont'd)

- ...
- 1.3 Regent Pagdanganan deemed that the proposed funds may not be enough to cover all the proposed construction works. Thus, he moved that budget for the rehabilitation of the UP Theatre be increased to Php25,000,000.00, the utilization of which shall be subject to existing procurement, accounting and auditing laws, rules, and regulations. Regent Ramota seconded the motion. There being no objections, the upgraded funding of Php25 Million for the UPD Theater rehabilitation was approved.
 - 1.4 For the next item in the request, UP Los Baños (UPLB) Chancellor Jose V. Camacho, Jr. also presented the request of UP Los Baños for additional funding from UP System for the construction of the second floor of the Bee Building amounting to PhP12,362,106.00. Regent Tiongco moved for the approval of the requested budget for the construction of the second floor of the Bee Building. Regent Ramota seconded the motion. There being no objections, the same was approved.
 - 1.5 For the request of UP Visayas, Vice Chancellor for Research and Extension Harold M. Monteclaro and UP Visayas Regional Research Center Director Victor Marco Emmanuel N. Ferriols presented the details for the completion of the Phase 4 of the building and purchase of complementary laboratory furniture for the Center, in the total amount of Php 71,171,400.00.
 - 1.6 Regent Tiongco moved for the approval of the funding request for the UPV RRC. Regent Ramota seconded the motion. There being no objections, the request of UPV RRC for funding of the completion of the Phase 4 and purchase of complementary laboratory furniture was approved.
 - 1.7 Assistant Vice President Imee Su Martinez explained to the members of the Board the funding requests for the two projects of the UP System Office of International Linkages, namely, the Mobility for Vigor and Excellence of the University of the Philippines (MOVE UP) Student Exchange and Financial Assistance Program in the amount of PhP 20,000,000.00, and the scholarship grant and MOOE of the Research/Creative Work presentations in international conferences (travel grant) in the amount of PhP 5,500,000.00.

II. MATTERS APPROVED BY THE BOARD (cont'd)

. . .

B. Fiscal Matters (cont'd)

1. Reprogramming of UP System Administration's (UPSA) ... (cont'd)

. . .

- 1.8 In view of the foregoing internationalization initiatives, Vice President Bautista added that her office is currently working on the credit transfer system to allow recognition and crediting of students' participation in various internationalization activities, such as, internship, taking short courses and other degree-related training abroad for a semester or two, with partner universities. She also mentioned the challenges that they are encountering in terms of its implementation. Regent Ramota requested for an update on the next Board meeting on the status of implementation of the Board-approved credit transfer system as well as how the gaps in its implementation were addressed.
- 1.9 After further discussions, Regent Tiongco moved for the approval of the two requests. Regent Ramota seconded the motion. There being no objections, the same were approved.
- 1.10 For the last item in the UPSA reprogramming request, Vice President Bautista presented the request of her office for the institution of the Academic Program Improvement (API) of Basic Education in the amount of PhP25,000,000.00. This is in response to the recommendation of the technical working group on the harmonization of basic education policies, that the basic education units (BEUs) need financial support to advance teaching and learning in basic education. especially since they are the basic feeders to UP's tertiary education units. These BEU's are the UP Integrated School in UP Diliman, UP High School in UP Cebu, UP Rural High School in UP Los Baños, and UP High School in Iloilo under UP Visayas.
- 1.11 Regent Ramota noted that the same funding is allocated to UPLB Rural High School and UP High School in Iloilo despite the difference in the number of their students. He raised the possibility of adjusting the API funding allocations to the BEUs to be proportionate to the number of students. Vice President Bautista replied that the proposed figures were finalized together with the principals of the BEUs. Relatively, the requested funds are not enough to cover the needs of the BEUs, but they view the API merely as a trigger for the BEUs to innovate. She added, however, that they will assess the API after implementation and adjust the subsequent funding requests as necessary.

II. MATTERS APPROVED BY THE BOARD (cont'd)

B. Fiscal Matters (cont'd)

1. Reprogramming of UP System Administration's (UPSA) ... (cont'd)

...

1.12 After further discussions, Regent Belegál moved for the approval of the funding for the institution of API of Basic Education. Regent Ramota seconded the motion, with a note that that this would be the first among the series of support mechanisms that must be extended to the BEUs. There being no objections, the same was approved.

Board Action: With the approved increase in the budget of UP Diliman Theater Complex Rehabilitation, the Board approved a total of PhP159,033,506.00 for the Reprogramming of UP System Administration's Unexpended Balances of Prior Years' Obligation.

2. Programming of UP Manila-Philippine General Hospital's Unprogrammed Income in FY 2021 in the amount of PhP2,846,484.38

2.1 PGH Director Gerardo D. Legaspi presented and discussed the details of PGH's request for programming of unprogrammed income in FY 2021 in the amount of PhP 2,846,484.38, which will cover the provision of stipend for post graduate interns, as well as medical assistance to service patients who need outright cardiac procedures.

2.2 Regent Tiongco moved for the approval of the request for programming of PGH's unprogrammed income in FY 2021 in the amount of PhP2,846,484.38. Regent Ramota seconded the motion, and there being no objections, the same was approved.

Board Action: APPROVED

II. MATTERS APPROVED BY THE BOARD (cont'd)

. . .

B. Fiscal Matters (cont'd)

. . .

3. Proposed Minimum Approving Authority for the PGH Director and Deputy Directors for procurement projects

3.1 PGH Director Legaspi requested for the increase in the minimum approving authority for procurement projects of the UP PGH Director from Php200,000.00 to Php 1,000,000.00. Consequently, the authority of the UP PGH Deputy Director for Fiscal Services with respect to procurements will also effectively increase from an amount of more than Php10,000.00 to less than Php1,000,000.00. He added that the proposed approving authority would relieve him of the job of approving and signing voluminous procurement documents which takes about 60% of his time as PGH Director, which time would be better utilized attending to the various, more substantive concerns of the hospital.

2.2 Regent Tiongco moved for the approval of the proposed minimum approving authority for the PGH Director and Deputy Directors for procurement projects. Regent Ramota seconded the motion. There being no objections, the same was approved.

Board Action: APPROVED

C. Administrative Matters

1. Appointment of Dr. FE M. DELA CUEVA of the Institute of Plant Breeding, College of Agriculture and Food Science, UP Los Baños, as Scientist II under the DOST Scientific Career System, effective 04 August 2022, pursuant to Executive Orders 708 and 901

1.1 Vice President Bautista provided a brief background about the conferment of Scientist ranks to qualified UP faculty and researchers under the DOST Scientific Career System (SCS). She also explained that when UP faculty members or researchers are conferred Scientist ranks (Scientist I, II, or III) by DOST, the salary differentials are paid by the University. She then raised a concern regarding the current dilemma of the University on whether to open a call for applications since the University may not be able to pay them the salary differentials due to its limited funding.

III. MATTERS APPROVED BY THE BOARD (cont'd)

...

C. Administrative Matters (cont'd)

1. Appointment of Dr. FE M. DELA CUEVA ... (cont'd)

...

- 1.2 After further discussions, Regent Ramota moved for the approval of the appointment of Dr. Fe M. Dela Cueva as Scientist II under the DOST Scientific Career System, effective 04 August 2022. There being no objections, the same was approved.

Board Action: APPROVED

2. BOR Resolution on the Appeal to have the Non-Compensated Service of Part-Time Employees be Recognized by the Government Service Insurance System (GSIS) for Purposes of Receiving GSIS Benefits

- 2.1 UP Manila Chancellor Carmencita D. Padilla explained that there are part-time faculty members/clinical faculty at the UP College of Medicine and part-time medical specialists at the UP-PGH who have been teaching or serving without compensation. The request of UP Manila emerged from the requirement of GSIS for a BOR Resolution recognizing the years of non-compensated service that the faculty members have rendered as official government service, to enable them to receive corresponding GSIS benefits upon retirement.
- 2.2 Vice President for Legal Affairs Abraham Rey M. Acosta explained that his office already rendered an opinion citing the case of Chua vs Civil Service Commission. The ruling stated that if a work rendered by a particular employee is necessary for the service of the University, then it can be considered as part of GSIS compensation. He added that there is also a BOR resolution during 1106th BOR Meeting held on 06 March 1997 referring to faculty and REPS who were on study leave or in special detail on official time without pay while pursuing graduate studies. The time that they were on leave or abroad, while without compensation, was considered as an integral part of their total service record in the University, for GSIS retirement benefits computation. He opined that the current situation of the UP Manila part-time faculty can also be considered as being similarly situated with his example.

II. MATTERS APPROVED BY THE BOARD (cont'd)

C. Administrative Matters (cont'd)

2. BOR Resolution on the Appeal to have the Non-Compensated Service of Part-Time Employees ... (cont'd)

2.3 On a related matter, Regent Belegal brought up the case of a retiring administrative staff, who is also requesting for a similar Board resolution allowing him to personally pay for the monthly contribution gaps to GSIS during the time when he was on contract of service (COS) to be able to qualify for GSIS retirement benefits. He was originally employed as UP contractual but was transferred to COS basis and then reverted to being a UP contractual.

2.4 Vice President for Administration Nestor G. Yunque reported that his office already discussed with GSIS-Quezon City the case of the administrative staff raised by Regent Belegal and the advice was for the concerned personnel to request a BOR resolution certifying that such service rendered to the University as COS is considered part of government service. President Jimenez proposed to resolve the matter on a case-by-case basis.

2.5 After further discussions, Regent Ramota moved for the approval of the BOR resolution on the appeal to have the non-compensated service of part-time employees be recognized by the GSIS for purposes of receiving GSIS benefits. Regent Tiongco seconded the motion, subject to changes in form and style. There being no objections, the same was approved. President Jimenez then directed VP Acosta and Secretary Lara to draft and finalize the BOR resolution.

Board Action: APPROVED. OVPLA and OSU will finalize the BOR resolution for submission to GSIS.

III. MATTERS FOR CONFIRMATION BY THE BOARD

1. Confirmation of the Ad Interim Appointments of the following UP Officials:

- a. Jose Fernando T. Alcantara – Executive Vice President
- b. Maria Cynthia Rose B. Bautista – Vice President for Academic Affairs
- c. Iryn So Yap-Balmores – Vice President for Planning and Finance
- d. Nestor G. Yunque – Vice President for Administration
- e. Ferdinand Jesus A. Pecson – Vice President for Development
- f. Jose Wendell P. Capili – Vice President for Public Affairs
- g. Abraham Rey M. Acosta – Vice President for Legal Affairs
- h. Roberto M.J. Lara – Secretary of the University and of the Board of Regents
- i. Noreen P. Escultura – Assistant Vice President for Planning and Finance

1.1 President Jimenez introduced to the Board the members of his Executive Committee who will be serving the University under his stint as University President, and whose appointments require confirmation by the BOR.

1.2 Although not subject to BOR confirmation, President Jimenez also informed the Board of the other members of the President's Executive Committee, as follows:

- a. Dr. Leo DP. Cubillan – Adviser for Academic Affairs
- b. Dr. Elena E. Pernia – Adviser for Academic Affairs
- c. Dr. Emmanuel C. Lallana – Adviser for Digital Transformation
- d. Ma. Shari Niña G.Oliquino – Adviser for Student Affairs
- e. Atty. Ricky D. Dela Torre – Special Assistant to the President/Chief of Staff

1.3 Regent Go moved for the omnibus confirmation of the appointments of the foregoing University officials. Regent Pagdanganan seconded the motion. There being no objections, the same were confirmed.

Board Action: CONFIRMED

III. MATTERS FOR CONFIRMATION BY THE BOARD (cont'd)

...

Regent Ramota moved for the confirmation of Item Nos. 2 and 3 under Matters for Confirmation by the Board. Regent Severino seconded the motion. There being no objections, the following items were confirmed:

- 2. Memorandum of Agreement between the University of the Philippines and the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) thru the Quezon City Second District Engineering Office (QCDEO), for the Completion/Expansion of the UP Gymnasium (New Gym), Varsity Training Center, UP Diliman.**

Board Action: CONFIRMED

- 3. Confirmation of the approval by the BOR by referendum:**

17 February 2023

Request of President Angelo A. Jimenez for Authority to Travel to Nagoya, Japan from 20-22 February 2023, to participate in the Memorandum of Agreement signing for the hosting of the Nagoya University Asian Satellite Campus-Philippines at the UP Los Baños and discussion meetings with the university officials of Nagoya University

Board Action: CONFIRMED

IV. MATTERS FOR INFORMATION OF THE BOARD

The Board NOTED all matters for information of the Board that were emailed to all Regents on 17 February 2023 (*Memorandum No. OSU2023-07-02*)

A. Academic Calendars:

1. UP Diliman Modified Academic Calendar for the Second Semester and Midyear AY 2022-2023
2. UP Los Baños Revised Academic Calendar for the Second Semester 2022-2023 and Midyear 2023
3. UP Manila change of date of 119th regular University Council meeting of UP Manila for AY 2022-2023 from 23 February 2023 to 15 February 2023

IV. MATTERS FOR INFORMATION OF THE BOARD (cont'd)

A. Academic Calendars: (cont'd)

...

4. UP Mindanao adjusted Academic Calendar (semestral) for the remainder of AY 2022-2023
5. UP Cebu Revised Academic Calendar AY 2022-2023, second semester, midyear; and UP Cebu Academic Calendar AY 2023-2024, Semestral

B. Contracts/Agreements

The following agreements are compliant with standard and applicable University processes involving the Constituent Universities (CUs) concerned and the University System. They fall under the delegated approving authority of the President, subject to information of the Board on matters not exceeding P150 Million Pesos (1312th BOR Meeting, 29 October 2015).

CU		Contract	NATURE
UP System	1	Collaboration Agreement on Doctoral Studies between the University of the Philippines and University of Malaga (UMA)	To foster mutual understanding, in order to promote teaching, learning and internationalization, particularly in the field of doctoral studies. Duration: Shall enter into force as of the date of signatures for an initial period of four years
UP System	2	Memorandum of Understanding among the University of the Philippines, the National Center for Mental Health (NCMH), and the University of San Agustin (USA)	Research project entitled "Cognitive Neurosciences, Biomedical Informatics and Genomics (CNBIG)" Duration: Valid for a period of three (3) years from the date of signature of the last party to sign Implementing unit: Philippine Genome Center

V. OTHER MATTERS

1. Review of the UP Policy on Hold-Over Positions for Deans and Chancellors

- 1.1 By way of background, President Jimenez informed the Board that the policy on hold-over positions was enacted by the BOR due to previous practice of the units in the University where Deans and Directors remain in office on hold-over capacity long after the expiration of their terms of office. He cited the case of a Dean who remained on holdover position for a period that extended over one full term of 3 years.
- 1.2 Regent Pagdanganan pointed out that there are intrinsic issues in appointing an Officer-in-Charge (OIC) especially for the Chancellor position due to the inherent limitations on the powers of an OIC. These may cause a hiatus in the management of the CU, including the implementation of academic programs. He said that the Board may come up with other ways to address the de facto extension of appointments of officials prospectively. But, in order to ensure peace and harmony within the UP community, it will be a lot better if the incumbent Directors, Deans, or Chancellors be allowed to serve on holdover capacity after the issue of de facto extensions have been addressed.
- 1.3 Regent Go reminded the members of the Board that it is important that the search process must be initiated immediately at least three months prior to the end of term of the incumbent Director, Dean, or Chancellor to avoid the need for having to appoint an OIC. This is also congruent with the stipulation in the UP Charter that the search and selection of the next Dean must not be longer than sixty (60) calendar days. He surmised that the Office of the President will be responsible in ensuring that the units in the University comply with the requirement of the 3-month lead time prior to the expiration of the term.
- 1.4 Chair De Vera suggested checking the track record of the University in completing search processes because if the track record shows that a search process may be completed in four months, then it must be initiated earlier than three months. Secretary Lara informed the Board that based on experience of being the President's representative in numerous search committees in the past six-years, the searches are always finished within one month because that is what is provided by the rules. Once the search committee is constituted, the Search Committee is given one month within which to conduct the activities of the search and submit a report to the President so that it can be taken up at the next Board meeting. With this explanation, Chair De Vera supported the position of Regent Go. Regent Pagdanganan suggested that the Secretary of the University take note of the end of office of Deans and Chancellors to ensure that the search process will be promptly initiated.

V. OTHER MATTERS (cont'd)

1. **Review of the UP Policy on Hold-Over Positions... (cont'd)**

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- 1.5 Regent Pagdanganan called the attention of the Board to the preamble of Executive Order No. PDLA 19-02: Holding-over of University Officials Whose Fixed Terms Have Expired, issued on 28 June 2019. It states that the purpose of the EO is to avoid de facto extensions of appointments without the requisite approval by the BOR. According to him, the EO is not a policy per se but a remedy to an implementation problem of a certain policy. The policy is to ensure that there is a succession of University officials appointed in a timely manner. He reiterated the possible problems in the limitation of the powers of an OIC, especially for a constituent unit.
- 1.6 Regent Ramota said that the question before the Board is which option would cause less disruption in terms of the University's operations, whether administrative or academic, given the limitations of an OIC as pointed out by Regent Pagdanganan.
- 1.7 After further discussions, Regent Pagdanganan moved that a review of the existing policy on the prohibition of hold-over be given urgent concern. Regents Ramota, Tiongco, and Severino seconded the motion. There being no objections, the Board approved to review the existing UP Policy on hold-over positions for Directors, Deans, and Chancellors.
- 1.8 Regent Pagdanganan further requested for an authority matrix of the President, Chancellors, and Deans to ensure that the Board only act upon matters that have not been delegated to other University Officials.

Board Action: A review of the existing UP policy on hold-over positions for Directors, Deans, and Chancellors shall be conducted by the President, the results of which shall be reported to the BOR.

2. **On the matters of Chair De Vera:**

- a. Discussion on the CHED-funded PCARI project at the UP Veterinary Teaching Hospital, UP Diliman Station;
- b. UP Policy on allowing internships of medical students from other SUCs or colleges at the Philippine General Hospital (PGH) in line with the Doctor Para sa Bayan Act; and

V. OTHER MATTERS (cont'd)

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2. On the matters of Chair De Vera:

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- c. Policy on the establishment of School of Health Sciences and medical programs in other provinces.
- d. Chair De Vera had to leave the meeting to attend to the National Conference of Maritime Universities. He requested that the following agenda matters be withdrawn and be included in the agenda of the next BOR meeting.

**Board Action: DEFERRED to the next
BOR meeting.**

3. On the matters of Faculty Regent Ramota:

- a. Institutionalization of a University Committee on the promotion and protection of Academic Freedom and Human Rights in all constituent universities and at the System level
- b. Status of the appeals on the 2022 Faculty Merit promotions;
- c. Status of the Academic Performance Incentive Award for lecturers;
- d. Corrective measures on the One U.P. Professorial Chair and Faculty Grant Award (Cycle 2022-2024);
- e. Proposed amendments on the Enhanced Hospitalization Program (e-Hope);
- f. Action on the proposed Emergency Economic Relief Grant and Health Support Grant;
- g. Action on the proposed amendments on the BOR-approved benefits for employees;
- h. Inquiry on the status of the Professorial Fellows in the University; and,
- i. Inquiry on the housing policy and program for faculty and staff across all constituent universities.

- 3.1 Regent Ramota relayed to the members of the Board that the Office of the Faculty Regent organized a systemwide consultative meeting on 02 February 2023 in UP Manila, which was attended by around 300 faculty members from the various UP Constituent Units (CU), and that during that assembly, the following proposals were adopted:

V. OTHER MATTERS (cont'd)

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3. On the matters of Faculty Regent Ramota: (cont'd)

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- a. Proposal on the creation of University Committee on the Promotion and Protection of Academic Freedom and Human Rights both at the CU and System levels;
 - b. Proposal to establish a Faculty Welfare Council both at the at the CU and System levels; and,
 - c. Proposed amendments to the existing guidelines on the selection process for Faculty Regent.
- 3.2 Due to time constraints, Regent Ramota concurred with the suggestion of President Jimenez to schedule a separate BOR briefing to discuss the agenda items of the Faculty Regent. With the recent red-tagging incident in UP Los Baños of the various unions and progressive groups including the All UP Workers Union (AUPWU) by a speaker who was invited to a forum for UPLB workers, Regent Ramota stressed that there is an urgent need to discuss the creation of a committee on the promotion and protection of academic freedom and human rights of the students, faculty, and staff of the University.
- 3.3 President Jimenez reiterated that a briefing of the Board will be scheduled prior to the next BOR meeting to discuss the matters raised by Regent Ramota. He requested Regent Ramota to submit the respective proposals to the Office of the President for comments of concerned offices.
- 3.4 Regent Ramota inquired about the timeframe for the resolution of the appeals on the 2022 Faculty Merit Promotions since he has been receiving inquiries from the faculty regarding the results of the appeals. In response, Vice President Bautista explained that the appeals have already been deliberated on by the Academic Affairs Committee (AAC) but the final decision will still go through the review of a special committee by cluster of disciplines. She said that the appeals shall have been resolved by the end of March 2023.
- 3.5 Regent Ramota requested an update on the status of the Academic Performance Incentive Award for Lecturers for FY 2022 because the memorandum that was released after the last Board meeting was only for the Academic Award for Professors Emeriti. Vice President Yunque replied that they have already requested the data (i.e., number of lecturers, number of hours rendered, and budget required) from the different CUs but only three

V. OTHER MATTERS (cont'd)

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3. On the matters of Faculty Regent Ramota: (cont'd)

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CUs have submitted so far. He informed the Board that the OVPAA-OVPA Joint Memorandum for the payment of Academic Award to Professors Emeriti has just been signed by him and VP Bautista and will be ready for release to the respective CUs and units. Regent Ramota requested for a copy of the signed memorandum for dissemination to the concerned lecturers.

- 3.6 With regard to the other matters involving economic benefits, Regent Belegal stated that the Sectoral Regents have agreed to meet with the Vice President for Administration to extensively discuss the matters related to additional incentives for faculty and staff, such as the eHOPE and Economic Relief Grant/Health Support Grant, so that it would not be repeatedly brought up in the Board meetings. President Jimenez suggested that the Board be organized into committees similar to the BOR Finance Committee. This way, in-depth discussions of the agenda items will be conducted within BOR Committee meetings. The BOR Committee shall submit its recommendation to the Board.

Board Action: NOTED

4 Report on the General Assembly of Student Councils by the Student Regent

- 4.1 Regent Severino reported about the resolutions passed by the Student Councils during the 54th Convention of the General Assembly of Student Councils (GASC) which will be communicated to the respective Offices of the Vice Presidents and the Office of the President. One notable resolution was the amendment of the Codified Rules for the Student Regent Selection to include the newly established UP Open University Student Council as part of the voting member of GASC for the selection of the next Student Regent.

Board Action: NOTED

V. OTHER MATTERS (cont'd)

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5. Update on the Appeals on Latin Honors of UP Visayas Students

5.1 Regent Severino relayed to the Board the concern of the students on the issue of the Latin honors in UP Visayas. He said that the appeals of UP Visayas students for the grant of Latin honors for those who have grades of “4.0” and/or “5.0” in National Service Training Program (NSTP) and Physical Education (PE) courses has been decided already by the BOR at its 1376th Meeting held on 25 November 2022, and as far as the students are concerned, the Decision of the BOR is final and unappealable. However, there is a pending appeal filed by the UP Visayas administration appealing for a reconsideration of the BOR Decision. He expressed concern that both parties may repeatedly appeal to the Board to reconsider its decision.

5.2 President Jimenez said that a motion for reconsideration may be allowed to a party especially if new issues, evidence, or arguments are presented. He added that the appeal of the UP Visayas administration will be included in the agenda of the next Board meeting to give him ample time to review the said appeal.

Board Action: NOTED. The appeal of UP Visayas administration regarding the Latin honors of their students will be included in the agenda of the next BOR meeting.



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