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DECISIONS OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS

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1381ST BOR Meeting, 25 May 2023

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DECISIONS OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS

1381st BOR Meeting, 25 May 2023

I. MATTERS APPROVED BY THE BOARD

A. GENERAL GOVERNANCE

1. University of the Philippines System Data Privacy Manual

- 1.1 Vice President Acosta presented the proposed UP System Data Privacy Manual (“Manual”), which includes the 1) rationale, 2) the scope of the application, 3) the definition of terms, 4) the data privacy principles and criteria for lawful processing, 5) the organizational, physical, and technical measures pursuant to data privacy act, 6) the rights of the data subject, 7) the response procedures in case of security incidents or breach, 8) the penalties imposed upon violation of the data privacy act and disciplinary proceedings under the University Code or Civil Service rules for violations of data privacy, and then 9) the effectivity and provisions on revisions of the Manual.
- 1.2 President Jimenez requested Vice President Acosta to prepare a summary of salient points of the proposed Manual for easier appreciation and understanding by the BOR. Regent Go informed the Board that Republic Act No. 10173 or the Data Privacy Act of 2012 is simple and can be understood by students and faculty. He advised the members of the BOR to read first the provisions of RA 10173 and its Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) prior to the approval of the proposed Manual. Regent Ramota agreed with Regent Go and requested some BOR briefers summarizing the key points of the Manual, as well as the contentious issues as mentioned earlier by Regent Severino. He also inquired whether the proponents have conducted consultations with the sectors, particularly with the faculty and REPS since the CUs have certain peculiarities in terms of academic work.

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

A. GENERAL GOVERNANCE (cont'd)

1. University of the Philippines System Data Privacy Manual (cont'd)

...

- 1.3 Regent Pagdanganan expressed support for the recommendations of Regent Go and Regent Ramota to read the provisions of the Manual first and to summarize the salient features of the proposed Manual, including the different contentious issues concerning the researchers. In the meantime, he moved that it be deferred and a special briefing of the members of the Board of Regents be scheduled to fully discuss the matter. Regent Tiongco seconded the motion. There being no objections, the relevant motions duly made and seconded were approved.

Board Action: DEFERRED. A special BOR Briefing on the matter will be scheduled.

B. ACADEMIC MATTERS

1. Appointment of UP Scientists under the UP Scientific Productivity System (Batch 2022-2024)

- 1.1 Vice President Cubillan presented the proposal for the appointment of the seventy-seven (77) UP Scientists under the UP Scientific Productivity System (UP SPS) for the period 2022-2024. Of the 77 Scientists who were endorsed by their respective CUs and evaluated by the UP System Committee on Scientific Productivity System, 40 Scientists are new awardees with ranks of Scientists I and II, while the other 37 Scientists are either renewed (with lower rank), retained (same rank), or promoted (higher rank). Since 2005, a total of 697 UP Scientists have been awarded under the UP SPS program.

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

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A. ACADEMIC MATTERS (cont'd)

1. Appointment of UP Scientists under the UP Scientific Productivity System (Batch 2022-2024) (cont'd)

...

- 1.2 Vice President Cubillan also reported that the monetary award given annually for three (3) years - P250,000.00 for Scientist III, P200,000.00 for Scientist II, and P150,000.00 for Scientist I, for a total of P13,200,000.00 per year for the next three years, will be sourced from the reprogrammed funds that were approved by the BOR in 2022 and 2023.
- 1.3 Regent Go inquired on the output of the UP Scientists and its impact on sectors, particularly on agriculture. He pointed out that the research outputs should be related to the development and improvement of the country. Vice President Cubillan pointed out the international publication of the research outputs of the UP Scientists, where impact is measured through citations. Regent Ramota added that the UP SPS is a recognition of faculty members across the UP System who have contributed to the advancement of research in their respective fields and disciplines, which redounds to the benefit of the University in terms of university rankings.
- 1.4 Regent Pagdanganan suggested having a guideline for the UP Scientists that will direct their outputs toward national growth and development. Vice President Cubillan took note of the suggestions and added that they will review the guidelines and metrics of the UP SPS to possibly increase the points for those with high impact and relevance to the country's development.
- 1.5 President Jimenez informed the Board that there were already initial meetings done to strengthen this type of research deliverables of the University. Executive Vice President Alcantara added that they are in the process of creating a Vice President for Research and Innovation to focus mainly on the whole research aspect of the University, which includes impact and productivity.

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

...

B. ACADEMIC MATTERS (cont'd)

1. Appointment of UP Scientists under the UP Scientific Productivity System (Batch 2022-2024) (cont'd)

...

1.6 Regent Go proposed that the UP Scientists be organized into a team that will help in addressing the problems confronting the University and the country. President Jimenez responded in the affirmative and instructed Vice President Cubillan that a meeting with the Scientists be scheduled.

1.7 Regent Pagdanganan manifested that the current rates of monetary award for the UP SPS program might not be sufficient anymore. He proposed studying the financial aspect of the award and the possibility of increasing the current rates if deemed necessary. Regent Pastorfide raised the difficulty of increasing grants if the funding comes from the University. He said that most research grants are funded from sources outside the University.

1.8 Faculty Regent Ramota moved for the approval of the appointment of the UP Scientists under the UP Scientific Productivity System (Batch 2022-2024) of the Faculty and REPS recommended by the UP System Committee on Scientific Productivity System, and endorsed by the President. Regent Go seconded the motion. There being no objections, the same was approved. The Board also directed the Office of the Vice President for Academic Affairs to undertake a review of the financial aspects of the award and to submit his recommendation to the BOR for consideration.

Board Action: APPROVED. The Board directed the Office of the Vice President for Academic Affairs to undertake a review of the financial aspects of the award and to submit his recommendation to the BOR for consideration.

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

...

C. FISCAL MATTERS¹

1. Request of UP Cebu for Programming of Unprogrammed Income under the Revolving Fund in the amount of Php2,478,527.19

1.1 Regent Go moved for the approval of the request of UP Cebu for the programming of unprogrammed income under the Revolving Fund in the amount of Php2,478,527.19.

1.2 Regent Tiongco seconded the motion, and there being no questions and objections, the same was approved.

Board Action: APPROVED

2. Request of UP Mindanao for Programming of Unprogrammed Income under the Revolving Fund in the amount of P451,283.75

2.1 President Jimenez briefly explained the request of UP Mindanao for programming of its unprogrammed income under the Revolving Fund amounting to P451,283.75.

2.2 Regent Pagdanganan moved for the approval of the request. Regent Tiongco seconded the motion. There being no objections, the same was approved.

Board Action: APPROVED

3. Request for Authority to Purchase One (1) Unit Service Vehicle (Closed Van Truck) for the Supply and Property Management Office, UP Diliman

3.1 The Director of the UP Diliman Supply and Property Management Office (SPMO), Atty. Rachel Locsin, explained that the requested service vehicle costs approximately P3,000,000.00 and that it will be used for the delivery of common use supplies and equipment, transportation of procured goods, and hauling of unserviceable equipment from the units.

¹ In all resolutions involving the disbursement of funds, it is understood that the same must be subject to all existing government accounting and auditing laws, rules and regulations.

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

...

C. FISCAL MATTERS¹ (cont'd)

...

3. Request for Authority to Purchase One (1) Unit ... (cont'd)

...

- 3.2 President Jimenez reminded the SPMO to include the maintenance cost of vehicles in their operating budgets.
- 3.3 Regents Tiongco and Pagdanganan moved for the approval of the request subject to the rules on procurement. There being no objections, the same was approved.

Board Action: APPROVED

4. Request for Authority to Purchase Three (3) Multi-Purpose Vehicles and One (1) Passenger Van for the Office of the Chancellors, UP Visayas

- 4.1 UP Visayas Vice Chancellor for Administration John Lorenz Belanio, together with Chief Budget Officer Arlene Avanceña, presented the request of UP Visayas for authority to purchase vehicles amounting to P6,200,000.00, approximately.
- 4.2 Regent Pagdanganan inquired about the urgency and importance of the request, to which Vice Chancellor Belanio explained that the vehicles are meant to replace the existing vehicles that are currently being used by the Offices of the Vice Chancellors which are no longer efficient because of the high cost of repair and maintenance.
- 4.3 As a former UP Visayas Vice Chancellor, Vice President Yunque explained that the existing vehicles of the Offices of the Vice Chancellors are more than 20 years old and were already second-hand when they were purchased through the UP Foundation back then. He recommended the purchase of new vehicles since the repair and maintenance are becoming more costly.

¹ In all resolutions involving the disbursement of funds, it is understood that the same must be subject to all existing government accounting and auditing laws, rules and regulations.

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

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C. FISCAL MATTERS¹ (cont'd)

...

4. Request for Authority to Purchase Three (3) ... (cont'd)

...

- 4.4 Based on the explanations, Regent Pagdanganan moved for the approval of the request of UP Visayas for authority to purchase three service vehicles. Regent Tiongco and Regent Ramota seconded the motion. There being no objections, the same was approved.

Board Action: APPROVED

5. Request for Increase in the UPCAT Honoraria Rates for Test Personnel

- 5.1 Vice President Cubillan presented the proposals of the Office of Admissions, as follows: 1) Increase of UPCAT honoraria rates for test personnel; 2) Creation of four (4) additional designations of UPCAT test personnel; and 3) Request for delegation of authority to the President to approve future increases. He stated that, with the proposed 100% increase, the budget requirement for four sessions will now be about P19.6 Million per year, as compared to the previous budget of P9.8 Million for 2,422 UPCAT test personnel. Further, the additional four (4) designations, namely, Health Protocol Officer, Local Health Coordinators, IT Supervisor, and Travel and Finance Officer will require an additional annual budget of P967,760.00 for a projected total honorarium cost of P20,817,600.00 per year which will be sourced from UPCA 2022 and UPCAT Trust Fund.
- 5.2 Regent Pagdanganan inquired about the basis for the 100% increase in honoraria rates, to which Vice President Cubillan replied that it was influenced by the increases in the basic salaries over the last four years due to Salary Standardization Law V and the weekend overtime rates. (Saturday and Sunday).

¹ In all resolutions involving the disbursement of funds, it is understood that the same must be subject to all existing government accounting and auditing laws, rules and regulations.

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

...

C. FISCAL MATTERS¹ (cont'd)

...

5. Request for Increase in the UPCAT Honoraria Rates ... (cont'd)

...

- 5.3 As requested by President Jimenez, Director De Los Reyes gave an update on the 2024 UPCAT preparations. He reported that they received a total of 104,000 online applications, which may still increase due to walk-in applicants. He also mentioned that there are additional test centers this year located in Dinagat Island, Siargao, Basilan, Sulu, Antipolo and three (3) additional test centers in NCR located at the Philippine Science High School Main Campus, UP Bonifacio Global City, and Southville International School. He further reported that coordination meetings with the Metro Manila Development Authority, UP Diliman Police, and the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Community Affairs have all been made for the upcoming 2024 UPCAT examinations on 02-03 June 2023.
- 5.4 Regent Severino inquired if the information on walk-in applications even during the day of the examination has been disseminated and communicated to the general public. Director De Los Reyes responded that they made announcements through the Regional Test Centers, school officials, and radio stations in different localities.
- 5.5 President Jimenez inquired about the administration of UPCAT overseas, as well as the health issues encountered during examinations. Director De Los Reyes explained that for UPCAT 2024, there was no request for UP to conduct the UPCAT outside the country. He was informed, however, that students from Saudi Arabia will personally return to the country for the UPCAT. He added that there will be no special UPCAT exams for those who cannot take them on the scheduled dates. He added that the Office of Admissions also has standard operating procedures on handling health issues and concerns. Regent Pagdanganan pledged the support of the Cardinal Santos Medical Center in addressing health issues during the 2024 UPCAT.

¹ In all resolutions involving the disbursement of funds, it is understood that the same must be subject to all existing government accounting and auditing laws, rules and regulations.

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

...

C. FISCAL MATTERS¹ (cont'd)

...

5. Request for Increase in the UPCAT Honoraria Rates ... (cont'd)

...

5.6 On the request for the delegation of authority to approve future increases in UPCAT honoraria rates, Secretary Lara explained that prior to the administration of former President Concepcion, the increases were being approved only by the UP President. But during the Concepcion administration, the last increase in 2018 was submitted to the Board for approval. Therefore, to settle the vagueness in the approval authority, a delegation of authority to the UP President is now being requested.

5.7 After further discussions, Regent Ramota moved for the approval of the three items on the proposal. Regents Tiongco and Belegal seconded the motion and there being no objections, the three proposals were approved.

Board Action: APPROVED. The Board delegated to the President the authority to approve future increases thereof.

6. Memorandum of Agreement on Mutual Revocation of the Deed of Donation between Cebu Province and UP Cebu Busay Property

6.1 Chancellor Malagar gave a brief background of the Deed of Donation with the Province of Cebu where a 20,000 square-meter property in Barangay Busay in Cebu City was donated to UP Cebu. He explained that the donated property is supposed to be the exclusive relocation site for the informal settlers occupying UP Cebu's properties in Sitio Avocado of Lahug Cebu City. However, none of the informal settlers were relocated to the donated site due to inaccessibility and lack of facilities.

¹ In all resolutions involving the disbursement of funds, it is understood that the same must be subject to all existing government accounting and auditing laws, rules and regulations.

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

...

C. FISCAL MATTERS¹ (cont'd)

...

6. Memorandum of Agreement ... (cont'd)

...

- 6.2 Chancellor Malagar reported that on 20 May 2021, the Province of Cebu informed the UP Cebu Chancellor of its intention to recover the donated land due to its illegal and irregular disposition, which UP Cebu contested. In 2023, the parties mutually agreed, in principle, to realize the primary objective of the Deed of Donation to provide a relocation site for the Sitio Avocado informal settlers, by revoking the 2016 Deed of Donation and entering into a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) which provides that UP Cebu will return the donated parcel of land to the Province of Cebu which, in turn, will assume responsibility for the relocation of the informal settlers in UP Cebu's properties in Sitio Lahug.
- 6.3 Chancellor Malagar briefly discussed the pros and cons of the new MOA and pointed out that the benefits of the MOA for UP Cebu outweigh its disadvantages. He therefore endorsed the approval of the MOA by the BOR. President Jimenez expressed his support for the MOA and requested for the approval by the Board of the same.
- 6.4 After further discussions, Regent Ramota moved for the approval of the memorandum of agreement on the mutual revocation of the Deed of Donation between Cebu Province and UP Cebu Busay Property. Regent Severino seconded the motion, and there being no objections, the same was approved.

Board Action: APPROVED

¹ In all resolutions involving the disbursement of funds, it is understood that the same must be subject to all existing government accounting and auditing laws, rules and regulations.

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

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D. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

1. Proposed Amendments to Existing Policy on Study Leave/Fellowship for Non-Teaching Personnel

1.1 Former UP Diliman HRDO Director, Dr. Augustus Resurreccion, presented the proposed amendments in the existing policy on local study leave and local fellowship for full-time non-teaching personnel, as follows: 1) Increase in the thesis/dissertation aid for full-time local study leave with pay and for local fellowship grant; 2) Increase in the semestral allowance for the local fellowship grant for non-teaching staff and; and 3) Increase in the number of units the grantee of full-time local study leave with pay/local fellowship program can avail. In addition, he also clarified that a permanent employee must have rendered two (2) years of service with at least a very satisfactory performance in the last two rating periods immediately preceding the application. This is based on the Civil Service Commission memorandum circular in 1999, as amended in 2004. He added that while there is no specific limit, the non-teaching staff should have ample time to complete the return service requirement before their compulsory retirement age.

1.2 Dr. Resurreccion explained that the proposed changes in the amounts of financial aid and allowances take into account the changing needs of the University in terms of staff development, especially since the last approval was in 1998. On the other hand, the proposed increase in the number of units that the grantee can avail of is to align with the regular academic load of a full-time student in UP.

1.3 Dr. Resurreccion also showed the number of availments per CU of the study privilege, including the projections of grantees, from 2023 to 2025 and the corresponding budgets. Regent Pagdanganan inquired if they are willing to accommodate more non-teaching staff should the projected number not be met, to which Dr. Resurreccion responded that other than the availability of funds, the availability of the substitutes who will perform the work of the grantees who will go on study leave should also be considered.

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

...

D. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS (cont'd)

1. Proposed Amendments to Existing Policy on Study Leave/Fellowship for Non-Teaching Personnel (cont'd)

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1.4 Regent Belegal commended Vice President Yunque and Dr. Resurreccion for the proposed amendments. She likewise requested the same team to study the applicability of this policy to UP contractuels or to have a similar program for UP contractuels.

1.5 On a related matter, President Jimenez informed the Board that he requested a very prominent national academician to work on his project "Plan 75" which aims to raise the total number of the university's PhDs to 75% of its faculty. This will place UP on par with leading universities in the Region. He requested the help of Regent Belegal to encourage more administrative staff and REPS to take the PhD track.

1.6 Regent Pagdanganan moved for the approval of the proposed changes, including the additional budget of P5 Million to support the program for the non-teaching personnel. Regent Belegal seconded the motion. There being no further questions and objections, the same were approved.

Board Action: APPROVED. The Board approved the appropriation of an additional P5 Million for this program, to encourage more non-teaching personnel to undertake higher studies for their professional growth and development.

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

...

D. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS (cont'd)

...

2. Appeal of UP Manila Employee to Reimburse Medical Expenses for Outpatient Treatments Amounting to Php116,064.99 for CY 2020-2021

2.1 Regent Pagdanganan noted that the appeal involved only one employee. He then reiterated that if the matter is administrative in nature and not a policy matter, then it does not have to go to the Board. He expressed concern that the moment the BOR acts on the appeal then it may establish a precedent. President Jimenez explained that he will, in fact, request from the Board that the authority to resolve the matter be delegated to the President. He requested Vice President Yunque to briefly explain to the Board the issue for better understanding.

2.2 Vice President Yunque explained that the appeal of the UP Manila staff stems from her ineligibility for reimbursement of outpatient expenses from eHOPE for the treatment of a dreaded disease at the height of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020. Such treatment was supposed to be in-hospital and thus eligible for eHOPE reimbursement, but she was instead advised by her attending physician to undergo the treatment at home, to avoid exposure to COVID-19 patients in the hospital. Since outpatient treatments are not eligible for eHOPE reimbursement, the staff member is now appealing that she be allowed to reimburse her medical expenses from eHOPE, since she was prevented from receiving the reimbursable in-hospital treatment upon advise of her physician.

2.3 After further clarifications, Regent Ramota moved that the authority to resolve the appeal of the UP Manila employee be delegated to the UP President. Regent Pagdanganan seconded the motion and moved that the matter be remanded to the Office of the President for his action since it does not require a policy decision. President Jimenez also requested that the authority to approve all future appeals of the same nature be likewise delegated to the President. Regent Pagdanganan seconded the motion. He likewise proposed that guidelines be made to aid the President in deciding on such cases.

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

...

D. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS (cont'd)

...

2. Appeal of UP Manila Employee ... (cont'd)

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- 2.4 Regent Ramota shared that there have been recommendations from the Sectoral Regents and the Unions to include outpatient services in the coverage of the eHOPE but the administration is waiting from the TWG for the data on outpatient services. President Jimenez added that a decision could not yet be made due to the unavailability of data. Regent Pagdanganan proposed that a study be conducted on the health care program of the University in coordination with the experts of the Philippine General Hospital (PGH).

Board Action: The Board delegated to the President the authority to resolve the appeal, and remanded the matter to the President for his appropriate action. The authority to resolve all future appeals of the same nature is likewise delegated to the President.

II. MATTERS FOR CONFIRMATION BY THE BOARD OF REGENTS

Regent Pagdanganan moved for the omnibus approval of all items under Matters for Confirmation by the BOR. The motion was seconded by Regent Tiongco, Regent Ramota, and Regent Belegal. There being no objections, the following items were confirmed:

- 1. Confirmation of the Ad Interim Appointments of University Officials, as follows:**
 - a. **Prof. MA. THERESA T. PAYONGAYONG** as Assistant Vice President for Academic Affairs (Curriculum and Instruction), effective 1 May 2023 May 2023 to serve at the pleasure of the Vice President for Academic Affairs;

II. MATTERS FOR CONFIRMATION... (cont'd)

1. Confirmation of the Ad Interim Appointments of University Officials, as follows: (cont'd)

...

- b. Dr. CARL MICHAEL F. ODULIO** as Vice Chancellor for Research and Development, UP Diliman, effective 1 May 2023 to serve at the pleasure of the Chancellor;
- c. Asst. Prof. IRENE L. TAN** as Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, UP Tacloban College, Office of the President, effective 8 May 2023 to serve at the pleasure of the Dean; and,
- d. Asst. Prof. ARVIN L. DE VEYRA** as Associate Dean for Administration, UP Tacloban College, Office of the President, effective 8 May 2023 to serve at the pleasure of the Dean.

Board Action: CONFIRMED

2. Memorandum of Agreement on between the University of the Philippines Diliman and the Department of Education (DepEd) on Service Training and Other Learning Interventions to Selected DepEd Teachers

Board Action: CONFIRMED

3. Memorandum of Understanding - Extension between the University of the Philippines Manila and the National Center for Global Health, for Visits and Informal Exchanges of Faculty, Scholars, Researchers, Health Professionals and Administrators in Specific Areas of Education, Research, and Outreach.

Board Action: CONFIRMED

II. MATTERS FOR CONFIRMATION... (cont'd)

...

4. **Memorandum of Understanding (Extension) between the University of the Philippines Manila and National Research Center for Protozoan Diseases, University of Agriculture & Veterinary Medicine, on Educational, Research and Scientific Cooperation**

Board Action: CONFIRMED

III. MATTERS FOR INFORMATION OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS

The Board NOTED all matters for information of the Board that were emailed to all Regents on 23 May 2023 (*Memorandum No. OSU2023-07-06*).

A. Academic Calendars for AY 2023-2024

1. UP Diliman
2. UP Manila
3. UP Visayas
4. UP Open University
5. UP Mindanao
6. UP Baguio
7. UP Cebu

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 Diliman	1	Memorandum of Agreement on between the University of the Philippines Diliman and Sugar Regulatory Administration (SRA)	Conduct of the “2021 SRA Client Satisfaction Survey” Amount: SRA shall pay UP the amount of P3,000,000.00 Duration: 19 weeks and shall commence upon signing

III. MATTERS FOR INFORMATION ... (cont'd)

B. Contracts/Agreements

CU		Contract	NATURE
UP Diliman	1	Memorandum of Agreement ... (cont'd)	Implementing unit: Center for Policy and Executive Development, NCPAG
UP Diliman	2	Amendment to the Memorandum of Agreement on between the University of the Philippines Diliman and Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) The amendment extends the project delivery date from 18 October 2020 to 18 January 2021	Consultancy Services for the Implementation of the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas Big Data Project (BSP Big Data Project) Amount: P7,000,000.00 from BSP Implementing unit: UP National Engineering Center
UP Diliman	3	Memorandum of Agreement on between the University of the Philippines Diliman and Quezon City Government	Secondment of Dr. Jose Edgardo Gomez to Quezon City Government for the position of Department Head III Duration: 01 March 2023 until 28 February 2024

IV. OTHER MATTERS

1. Statement of the UP Diliman University Council on the Appointment of University Officials

1.1 Regent Ramota informed the Board that he invited the Chairperson of the Committee on University Governance and Administration (CUGA) of the UP Diliman University Council, Professor Danilo Arao of the UP Diliman College of Mass Communication, to explain the context of the UP Diliman University Council statement regarding the appointment of University Officials. Prof. Arao gave a brief background and provided a summary of the recommendations put forward by the UP Diliman University Council in the selection and appointment of officials, as follows:

- a. Ensure transparency throughout the entire selection and appointment process of various officials, including the Deans, Directors, Chancellors, and Presidents;
- b. Release the highlights of all search committee reports relevant to the appointment processes for officials;
- c. Return to open sessions and open balloting, instead of executive sessions and secret balloting; and,
- d. For the Board of Regents to have proper disclosure of the bases for appointing officials.

1.2 Regent Pagdanganan inquired from Secretary Lara when the BOR had begun holding executive sessions during the selections of University officials. Secretary Lara replied that he was aware only that during the administrations of Presidents Pascual and Concepcion, the elections of officials have always been made in executive session, and that he will have to check the records to find out when and why the practice was adhered to by the BOR. President Jimenez shared that even during his stint as Student Regent in 1992 and when he returned as a member of the Board of Regents in 2016, the Board has always resorted to so many executive sessions. He opined that the Board of Regents opt for executive sessions and secret balloting to allow the Regents to vote in accordance with their personal conscience and integrity, and to safeguard them from various political pressures. He further emphasized his commitment as President to foster active dialogue between the Office of the President and the University Councils of all constituent units.

IV. OTHER MATTERS (cont'd)

1. **Statement of the UP Diliman University Council on the Appointment of University Officials (cont'd)**

...

- 1.3 Regent Severino expressed his support for the UP Diliman University Council's statements, particularly on the appeal to release the highlights of the search committee reports and for the Regents to disclose the basis for their votes, as these measures promote a sense of collegiality within the University.
- 1.4 President Jimenez clarified that the Search Committee was constituted by the President to assist in the selection of University officials, but their recommendations are not intended to bind the Board. He further elaborated that the voting process carried out by the Board of Regents is conducted in the spirit of collegiality, ensuring that every decision is reached unanimously.
- 1.5 Regent Ramota pointed out that the Board will soon be selecting the next Chancellors for UP Los Baños, UP Manila, and UP Visayas. He implored the Board of Regents to promptly identify the dates and duration of the selection process. He conveyed support for the release of an executive summary of the Search Committee report, ensuring that any sections containing privacy concerns are appropriately omitted. He explained that townhall meetings, closed-door interviews, and other activities during the search process aim to foster active participation among the constituents. Releasing the highlights of the search process would further encourage participation and enable the community to witness the outcomes of the activities in which they have taken part. Informing the constituents of the basis for selecting officials facilitates trust-building and strengthens the relationship between the University leaders and the constituents.
- 1.6 In light of the upcoming election of Chancellors, Regent Pagdanganan clarified that there is no inherent issue with the current process. However, the discussion is about striving to ensure greater inclusivity within the Search Committee, thereby enhancing the credibility of its findings. He stressed that the members of the Board of Regents have a responsibility to communicate to the constituents the reason why they may or may not support a candidate endorsed by the Search Committee. He expressed hope that if the Regents decide to openly discuss their choices, then the community would perceive that these choices have been made with good intentions.

IV. OTHER MATTERS (cont'd)

1. Statement of the UP Diliman University Council on the Appointment of University Officials (cont'd)

...

- 1.7 For her part, Regent Belegal shared that one of the issues in the last search process for the UPOU, UP Cebu, and UP Diliman Chancellors was that there were extensions in the period of the search process without informing the Board about the same. She added that the information on the ground was that the search process was extended by the Board. In this light, Regent Belegal requested that the BOR be informed of any changes in the search process.
- 1.8 President Jimenez took note of all the points raised by Prof. Arao and emphasized that further discussions may be required to address the demands of the UP Diliman University Council. He also expressed his willingness to visit the University Council and provide a personal response to their letter.
- 1.9 Regent Ramota reiterated that identifying the timelines for the search process for the next Chancellors of UP Los Baños, UP Manila, and UP Visayas and informing the constituents about it is among the transparency measures that the Board may undertake. President Jimenez instructed Secretary Lara to draft the corresponding administrative order for the constitution of search committees for the next Chancellors of UP Los Baños, UP Manila, and UP Visayas.
- 1.10 Regent Ramota requested that the Regents be informed early of the schedule of the next BOR meeting in June, considering that there will be no BOR meeting in July. President Jimenez asked Secretary Lara to check on the possible schedules.

Board Action: NOTED

2. Proposed Review of Promotion Guidelines and Instruments

- 2.1 Regent Ramota disclosed that this matter is already scheduled for discussion by the Technical Working Group on promotion, guidance, and review which was constituted for this purpose. Therefore, the Board does not need to engage in an extensive deliberation on this matter.

Board Action: NOTED

IV. OTHER MATTERS (cont'd)

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3. Delay in the Release of the Academic Performance Incentive Award for Lecturers for FY 2022

3.1 Regent Ramota raised concerns regarding the delay in releasing the Academic Performance Incentive Award for FY 2022. He explained that a joint memorandum by the Office of the Vice President for Academic Affairs and Office of the Vice President for Administration was issued on 29 November 2022. Said memorandum was also presented during the BOR Meeting on 23 February 2023, during which Vice President Yunque reported that it would be circulated to the different Constituent Units (CUs). However, there were reports that lecturers had not yet received the Award since the memo had not been officially disseminated to the CUs.

3.2 Vice President Yunque explained that they have encountered difficulty in approving the implementation of the Incentive Award due to former President Danilo Concepcion's concerns regarding the notices of disallowances from the Commission on Audit on the three (3) P5,000 emergency allowances given to UP employees during the pandemic. Regent Pagdanganan clarified that if the Award has obtained Board approval, the System Administration must ensure that it would be implemented.

3.3 President Jimenez acknowledged the delay in the release of the Academic Performance Incentive Award, but assured the Board that preventive measures will be taken to avoid any delay in the future.

Board Action: NOTED

4. Pending Amendments in the eHOPE

4.1 Regent Ramota said that the other pending proposed amendments in the Enhanced Hospitalization Programme (eHOPE) will be included in the agenda of the meeting that will be scheduled between the Sectoral Regents and the Vice President for Planning and Finance and the Vice President for Administration to discuss fiscal- and administrative-related matters.

Board Action: NOTED



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