

# **University of the Philippines System**

## **CODIFIED RULES FOR STUDENT REGENT SELECTION\***

The Student Councils of the University of the Philippines System hereby promulgate the rules hereunder, governing the democratic selection process for the Member, Representing the Student Body in the Board of Regents, hereinafter referred to as the Student Regent (SR) as mandated under Executive Order Number 204-A.

### **ARTICLE I**

#### **Definition of Terms**

Section 1. Any position of responsibility shall include officers and committee chairpersons in any student or community organization as well as members, officers and committee chairpersons in any University or College Student Council.

Section 2. The General Assembly shall mean the University and College Student Councils in the UP System.

Section 3. The Regional Units (RU) of the UP System are the following:

- UP Extension Program in San Fernando, Pampanga
- UP in the Visayas (UPV) Tacloban College
- UP in the Visayas (UPV) Cebu College
- UP School of Health Sciences in Palo, Leyte

Section 4. The Autonomous Units (AU) of the UP System are the following:

- University of the Philippines Baguio
- University of the Philippines Diliman
- University of the Philippines Los Baños
- University of the Philippines Manila
- University of the Philippines in the Visayas
- University of the Philippines in Mindanao

Section 5. The Office of the Student Regent (OSR) refers to the incumbent Student Regent, the secretariat and the OSR volunteers.

Section 6. A bonafide student of the university means an individual taking up academic units for bachelor's degree, master's degree, doctorate degree, non-degree, or

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\* First adapted by the University and College Student Councils of the University of the Philippines System at the UP System Student Councils Meeting, 2 February 1997, School of Labor and Industrial Relations (SOLAIR) Auditorium, UP Diliman. Subsequently amended at the General Assembly of Student Councils (GASC) of the UP System on 26 and 27 January, 1998 at the National Institute of Geological Sciences (NIGS) Auditorium UP Diliman and at the GASC on 29-30 October, 1999 at the College of Engineering and Agro-Industrial Technology (CEAT) Auditorium, UP Los Baños, on 26-27 October, 2002 at the Commission on Audit (COA) Auditorium in Palo, Leyte, on GASC, October 27-28, 2003 at the Cebu Coliseum Conference Room, Cebu City. Last amended at the GASC, October 25-26, 2004 Miagao Interactive Learning Center, UP Visayas, Miagao, Iloilo. Last amended at the GASC, UP Mindanao, Davao City, October 24-25, 2007.

certificate courses in the university, including those who are in residency status or on leave of absence (LOA).

Section 7. Majority refers to the least whole number greater than 50% of all the councils system-wide.

Section 8. Majority vote refers to the least whole number greater than 50% of the total votes of all the councils present and voting.

Section 9. Protester refers to the party who files protest against a particular nominee, or against the result of any deliberation or process.

Section 10. Protestee refers to the party being protested.

## **ARTICLE II Statement of Principles and Policies**

Section 1. The Student Regent must be democratically selected among all students in the UP System through a peaceful and orderly process that ensures maximum student participation.

Section 2. The selection process must be conducted in a manner consistent with the principle of broad and open participation of students in all levels regardless of race, gender and sexual orientation, political ideology and affiliation, academic standing, social status, ethno-linguistic origin, age physical abilities and religious affiliation.

Section 3. The selection of the Student Regent is exclusively a student affair. The administration and other sectors in the University are prohibited from interfering with the process by conducting interviews, administrative investigations or in any other manner inconsistent with this principle.

Section 4. Consistent with the preceding section, the endorsement of the UP President to the President of the Republic of the Philippines of the nominee/s selected under these rules is purely ministerial. The UP President can neither entertain nor endorse any name aside from those deliberated and selected by the students in the manner consistent with these rules.

Section 5. Controversies and protests regarding the selection shall be resolved through the internal mechanisms provided hereunder.

## **ARTICLE III Qualifications of the Nominees**

Section 1. A nominee for the position of the Student Regent must meet the following qualifications:

- a) S/he must be a student currently enrolled in the university at the time of his/her nomination;

- b) S/he should have an accumulated residency of at least one year which would include periods of residency and/or leave of absence;
- c) S/he must be a Filipino citizen and;
- d) S/he must have a track record reflective of his/her commitment to serve the studentry.

Section 2. No disqualification on the basis of good academic status or standing or performance shall be imposed on the nominees.

Section 3. Grounds for disqualification shall be imposed on nominees found guilty, at any time within his/her stay in the university, including periods when the nominee is under leave of absence, prior to the proclamation of the Student Regent, of any act involving gross misconduct or misbehavior, violence inflicted towards another person or any property that is not his/hers, dishonesty, graft and corruption, or any criminal offense involving moral turpitude.

Section 4. Questions against the qualification of a nominee shall be filed at the OSR, or any officer and/or member of any UP student council. Such questions shall be resolved before the deliberations when the system-wide process begins. The decision of the GA is final.

#### **ARTICLE IV**

#### **Nomination, Acceptance and Withdrawal**

Section 1. Any student, group, or organization may nominate a student from any college of any of the Autonomous or Regional Units of the UP System who has the qualifications set forth above. Open nominations by any student or student group/organization/council shall be held in every college in the UP System under the supervision of the College Student Council (CSC) or, in the absence thereof, the University Student Council (USC).

Section 1.1 In cases wherein a CSC and USC nominate a candidate for SR, the said CSC and USC shall form a College Committee (CC) or University Committee (UC) which will be composed of students from different years or courses or different year level or department as the case may be.

Section 2. Upon written notice of his/her nomination, a nominee must file and sign the certificate of acceptance (CA) of the nomination with the CSC or USC within two (2) weeks from the release of such notice or until the date set forth by the Search Committee.

Section 3. Each CA must be accompanied with a vision statement, curriculum vitae or résumé and biodata. Any material misstatement of facts is a ground for disqualification at any stage of the selection process.

Section 4. The nominee must furnish the Search Committee at each respective level with his/her résumé and vision paper for the Office of the Student Regent at least five (5) days before each respective deliberation except as otherwise provided under these rules.

Section 5. The nominee of any student group / organization / council may not be withdrawn at any level of the search without the consent of the nominee who has validly accepted the nomination.

Section 6. In cases when a student is nominated in more than one unit, s/he must undergo the search process in each of those units; otherwise, s/he must accept only one of the nominations. The search committee concerned must furnish the OSR a certification that such a nominee underwent the process as required.

## **ARTICLE V Duties and Responsibilities**

Section 1. The Office of the Student Regent will serve as the overall coordinating body during the selection process. It shall have the following duties and responsibilities:

- a. It shall inform all the student councils of all official communications pertinent to the process through memoranda, personal orientation and other similar means.
- b. Support information drive on the historical vision-mission of the Office and the historical role of the students in the struggle to reestablish the OSR and in the selection process;
- c. Serve as the General Assembly Secretariat during the system-wide selection process for the SR. The Secretariat shall, among others, facilitate and moderate the deliberations, provide all the student councils of the minutes of the selection process and receive protests.
- d. Form the University Search Committee (USC) in the event that the USCs are unable to form the said committee in their respective unit.

Section 2. The University and College Student Councils shall actively participate during the whole process of the selection. They shall have the following duties and responsibilities:

- a. Inform all the students and student organizations regarding the SR selection process through organizational memoranda, personal orientation and other similar means;
- b. Launch massive information drive on the historical vision-mission of the OSR and the historical role of the students in the struggle to re-establish the OSR and in the selection process;
- c. The chairpersons of the USCs and CSCs shall serve as presiding officer of the UC, or CC, respectively;
- d. The USC shall form the CC in the event that a CSC is unable to form the said committee in their respective college; and
- e. Ensure maximum participation of all the students in the selection process by conducting symposia, fora or similar activities.

Section 3. The KASAMA sa UP, by virtue of its historical role in the re-establishment of the Office of the Student Regent, shall provide the historical perspective of the Office and the Selection Process. They shall have the following duties and responsibilities:

- a. Launch massive information drive on the historical vision-mission of the OSR, the historical role of KASAMA sa UP in the struggle to revive the OSR and the UP student body in the selection process;
- b. Inform all students and student organization regarding the SR selection process through organizational memoranda, personal orientation and other similar means; and
- c. Ensure maximum participation of all the students to the selection process by conducting symposia, fora or similar activities.

## **ARTICLE VI**

### **College-wide Process**

Section 1. The CSC shall act as the College Search Committee for the SR Selection, referred to as the College Committee (CC), which shall be composed of all the members of the CSC.

Section 2. The CC, and in the absence of a CSC, the USC, shall be responsible for gathering required documents from the nominees: his/her vision statement, Curriculum Vitae or résumé and Biodata. The CC shall have the following powers and functions:

- a. has control and supervision on the conduct of the Search on its level;
- b. must conduct information drives and publicity campaigns on the Search;
- c. must decide pre-deliberation or pre-election controversies, questions of eligibility and other matters arising from the interpretation of these rules of the conduct of the Search on its level;
- d. must conduct an open, public and college-wide deliberations with the nominees and, at the discretion of the CC, at least one non-binding straw poll among the constituents of the college;
- e. may promulgate rules and regulation supplemental but not inconsistent with these rules for the smooth, orderly and peaceful conduct of the Search; and
- f. conduct their deliberation(s) on the nominees and vote for at most two (2) official nominee(s) for the college.

Section 3. The official nominee(s) of each college shall be decided upon by each respective CC taking into consideration the result of the straw poll(s), if any, and college-wide deliberations(s).

Section 4. The list of the nominees and the name(s) of the official college nominee(s) shall be submitted to the University Student Council (USC) for the Autonomous University-wide selection. In the absence of the USC and in the case of colleges in the regional units, the list of nominees and the name/s of the official nominee/s shall be submitted directly to the OSR for the System-Wide selection without passing through their respective AU selection process. Each CSC shall attach an official endorsement for their official nominee/s.

Section 5. All protests shall be made in writing stating the reasons therefor and filed with the CC, and furnishing a copy thereof to the other party, within five (5) working days upon receipt of notice of the result of the deliberations or elections, as the case may be. The protester shall only be allowed to file once either before the College level or the Autonomous Unit level.

Section 6. Such protest shall be decided within five (5) working days after they are received. Failure to resolve the matter within the required period resolves the protest in favor of the protestee. The protest shall be resolved by a unanimous decision of the CC, if possible. When the CC decides unanimously, such decision is final and unappealable. In the case of non-unanimity, majority vote of those present and voting in the CC shall decide on the matter. In such case, the protest on the same ground may be evaluated as an appeal during the AU process. Such appeal must be received by the USC and CC concerned two (2) working days before the AU process provided no AU process can be held within two days after College-Wide deliberations.

## **ARTICLE VII**

### **Autonomous University-wide Process**

Section 1. The USC shall be responsible for gathering pertinent data, such as bio-data, résumé, Curriculum Vitae, and the like, regarding the nominees for the CC. It may summon the college nominees for interview and for other purposes. No other nominee shall be considered except those nominated by each college through the CC, or the USC as the case may be.

Section 2. The USC and CSC shall act as the University Search Committee for the Student Regent, referred to as the University Committee (UC), which shall be composed of the members of the respective USCs and the Chairpersons of the CSCs or any other duly elected college representative in case they are not constitutionally part of the CSC.

Section 3. The UC shall have the following powers and functions:

- a. has control and supervision of the conduct of the Search in its level;
- b. must conduct information drives and publicity campaigns on the Search;
- c. must decide appeals from the CC decision concerning the college-wide process, decide pre-deliberation or pre-election controversies, questions of qualifications and other matters arising from the interpretation of these rules and on the conduct of the Search in its level;
- d. must conduct an open, public and college-wide deliberations with the nominees and at the discretion of the UC, at least one non-binding straw poll among the constituents of the college;
- e. shall conduct their own deliberation(s) on the nominees and vote for at most two (2) official nominee(s) of the AU;
- f. shall decide before the AU deliberations proper on the appeals from the decisions of the CCs. Such decision is final and unappealable; and
- g. may promulgate rules and regulations supplemental but not inconsistent with these rules for the smooth, orderly and peaceful conduct of the Search.

Section 4. The two (2) official nominees of each AU shall be decided upon by the UC taking into consideration the result of the straw polls, if any, and the AU-wide deliberation/s.

Section 5. The list of the nominees and the name/s of the official AU nominee/s shall be submitted to the OSR for the System-Wide selection. Each USC shall attach an official endorsement for their official nominee/s.

Section 6. All protest shall be made in writing stating the reasons therefor and filed with the UC, and furnishing a copy thereof to the protestee, within five (5) working days upon receipt of notice of the result of the deliberation or elections, as the case may be.

Section 7. Such protests shall be decided within five (5) working days after they are received. Failure to resolve the matter within the required period resolves the protest in favor of the protestee. The protest shall be resolved by a unanimous decision of the UC, if possible. When the UC decides unanimously, such decision is final and unappealable. In the case of non-unanimity, a majority vote of those present and voting in the UC shall decide on the matter. In such case, the protest on the same ground may be revived as an appeal during the System-wide process. Such appeal must be received both by the OSR and the USC concerned ten (10) working days before the System-Wide process. After the lapse of the prescribed period for appeal, the same can no longer be entertained at any level.

Section 8. The nominees must submit their Vision Paper and GPOA to the Office of the Student Regent fourteen (14) calendar days before the System-wide selection provided no system-wide deliberations shall be held within fourteen (14) days after the AU/RU process.

Section 9. The OSR and the USCs shall provide the Vision Paper and GPOA to all SCs at least ten (10) working days before the System-Wide process, including all protests pertaining to the nominees that were forwarded to the OSR.

## **ARTICLE VIII System-wide Process**

Section 1. A majority of all student councils system-wide shall constitute the quorum of the GA, sanctioning the system-wide process of the Student Regent selection.

Section 2. The General Assembly (GA) of all UP University and College Student Councils of all Autonomous and Regional Units shall deliberate on the AU and RU nominees, with the incumbent Student Regent as the Presiding Officer.

Section 3. The first order of business for the said deliberation shall be the reading of the Codified Rules for Student Regent Selection by the incumbent Student Regent,

subsequent vote of reaffirmation thereof by the majority of the GA, and the deliberation on the protests and appeals elevated to the system-wide level, if any.

Section 3.1 The college representatives who are not officially part of the CSC must be recognized to be part of the CSC and may vote in behalf of the CSC provided that they have written authorization.

Section 4. All the protests and/or appeals shall be read by the presiding officer and immediately be resolved by the majority of the GASC after a deliberation thereon. The GA shall resolve protests and/or appeals from the decisions of the UC. Such decision shall be final and unappealable.

Section 5. After the individual presentation of the nominees with their vision paper, GPOA and an open forum following such, the GA shall vote for the final three (3) nominees by raising of hands or secret balloting depending on the prerogative of the assembly. The presiding officer shall declare the final three nominees who received the highest number of votes from the AUs and RUs present and voting.

Section 6. The three nominees shall then be subjected to further questioning by the GA.

Section 7. Consensus building shall take priority over division of the house in selecting the Student Regent.

Section 8. In the event that no consensus is reached, the three nominees shall be subjected to further deliberation/s until a nominee garners two-thirds vote of all AUs and RUs present and voting. After which, s/he shall be subjected to a final deliberation to receive the mandate of the GASC.

Section 9. The incumbent Student Regent shall declare the selected nominee of the GASC in the UP System for the Student Regent.

Section 10. The votes during the System-wide selection shall be allotted as follows:

UP Baguio	2 votes
UP Diliman	2 votes
UP Los Baños	2 votes
UP Manila	2 votes
UP in the Visayas	2 votes
UP in Mindanao	2 votes
UP Extension Program in San Fernando, Pampanga	1 vote
UPV College Cebu	1 vote
UPV Tacloban College	1 vote
UP School of Health Science in Palo, Leyte	1 vote

Section 11. No individual student or group or student council is allowed to nominate any student directly to the Office of the UP President or the Office of the President of the Republic of the Philippines. All nominations must be submitted and deliberated in the process as herein provided.

## **ARTICLE IX General Provisions**

Section 1. The Student Regent-select must resign from any position of responsibility in any student or community organization and/or student council and student publication.

Section 2. The Student Regent-select must not be permanently disqualified from the University. However, the Student Regent-select is advised to file a leave of absence (LOA) to devote his/her time in the fulfillment of his/her duties and responsibilities.

Section 3. The dates and periods pertinent to the selection process in the college, AU and system levels shall be fixed by the OSR with the consent of all the USCs and regional units.

Section 4. These rules shall be amended or repealed through the majority vote of all the student councils in the UP System. Proposals to amend should be submitted to the OSR not later than the first (1<sup>st</sup>) day of October.

Section 5. These rules shall take effect immediately upon approval by at least a majority of all student councils present and voting.

Section 6. Failure to attend or to send a representative with written authorization to the GASC for the presentation of proposed amendments during the system-wide selection forfeits the right to vote in the processes of amendment and selection, respectively. However, they shall still be bound by the results of the said process.

Section 7. Upon vacancy of the position of the SR-select or the incumbent SR due to permanent disqualification from the university, incapacity to enroll or file an LOA the following semester, death, illness or any other cause which prevents him/her from discharging functions, the position shall be filled by the second selected nominee, or the third nominee if the latter can not assume the position.