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**RECEIVED**  
 OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR  
 University of the Philippines Diliman  
 Date: JAN 08 2010  
 By: \_\_\_\_\_

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5 January 2010

President Emerlinda R. Roman

Office of the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs  
**RECEIVED**  
 Date: JAN 18 2010  
 Time: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Ref. No. 094  
 Document No. 100075  
 Date: 14 2010

Through: Chancellor Sergio S. Cao

Dear President Roman:

On behalf of the University Student Council (USC), I am respectfully endorsing the promulgation of the attached **Revised University of the Philippines Diliman Student Election Code** submitted by the 2008-2009 USC chaired by Mr. Herminio C. Bagro III and endorsed by the 2009-2010 USC chaired by Mr. Titus CK Tan.

This should replace the previous University Student Election Code, which was promulgated through Executive Order No. 6 signed by then President Emmanuel V. Scriano, dated 15 August 1980, and a subsequent revision which was implemented in 1988.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

**ACTION OF THE PRESIDENT:**  
*Approved*  
*Emerlinda Roman*  
**EMERLINDA R. ROMAN**

*[Signature]*  
**Elizabeth L. Enriquez**  
 Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs

JAN 18 2010

- Attachments: Revised University of the Philippines Diliman Student Election Code  
 USC letter dated 12 January 2009  
 USC letter dated 5 January 2010  
 UP Diliman Legal Office Memorandum 0020A-2010 dated 6 January 2010  
 Copies of UP Gazette Vol. XI No. 3 July-September 1980  
 Comparative table of revised and previous USC election code

- Cc: Mr. Titus CK Tan  
 Mr. Herminio C. Bagro III  
 2010 University Student Electoral Board  
 Dr. Oscar P. Ferrer  
 UPD Legal Office

**ACTION OF THE CHANCELLOR:**

*Endorsed for*  
*appropriate*  
*action.*

# OVCSA

Action on President Emerlinda R. Roman  
**APPROVAL**  
 Date: JAN 18 2010  
*[Signature]*  
**LOURDES E. ABADINGO**  
 Secretary of the University  
 and of the Board of Regents

1/13/10  
 Date  
**SERGIO S. CAO**  
 Chancellor

**Noted:**

*[Signature]*  
**PROF. ELIZABETH L. ENRIQUEZ**  
 Vice-Chancellor for Student Affairs  
 1/19

**REVISED UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES DILIMAN  
STUDENT ELECTION CODE<sup>1</sup>**

**ARTICLE I  
GENERAL PROVISIONS**

**Section 1. Title.** This Code shall be known as the "University Student Electoral Code"

**Section 2. Coverage.** This Code shall govern elections to the University Student Council in the "University of the Philippines in Diliman."

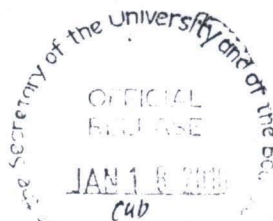
**Section 3. Definition of Terms.**

- a.) College Student Council. This shall refer to the duly constituted central student organization of a degree granting unit; provided that "degree-granting" as used in the preceding clause shall refer to an academic unit that offers at least a degree program.
- b.) University Student Council. This shall refer to the University Student Council (as distinguished from any College Student Council in the University of the Philippines Diliman as defined in letter (d) Section 3 of Article 1 of the University Student Election Code.
- c.) University Student Council Elections. This shall refer to elections to all the positions in the University Student Council, which are Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, University Councilors and College Representatives.
- d.) University of the Philippines in Diliman or UP Diliman. This shall refer to the University of the Philippines as composed of all units located in Diliman only.

**Section 4. Declaration of Objectives.** The objectives of this Code are:

- a.) To institute a manner of election that shall uphold the autonomous, democratic and representative character of the University Student Council.
- b.) To provide safeguards designed to ensure orderly and properly coordinated elections;
- c.) To ensure that real and basic issues in elections are clarified;
- d.) To regulate election expenditures;

<sup>1</sup> Revision finalized by the Centennial University Student Council (USC) on January 2009. This Code incorporates provisions of the previous Electoral Code, as well as the Revised and Additional Guidelines adopted for the previous USC elections.



- e.) To define the qualifications of electors and candidates for elective positions;
- f.) To prescribe basic election rules, procedures, and other guidelines from the filing of certificates of candidacy to the settlement of post-election protests; and
- g.) To define the creation, composition, and functions of the University Student Electoral Tribunal, University Student Electoral Board and the College Student Electoral Boards

## ARTICLE II ELECTIVE POSITIONS

### **Section 1. Composition of the University Student Council.**

The University Student Council shall be composed of a Chairperson and a Vice-Chairperson, twelve University Councilors all elected at large, and one representative per 2,000 students or less for each degree granting unit, provided that each of such units with a population greater than 2,000 students shall be entitled to an additional college representative for every 2,000 students in excess of the first 2,000 as stated in Section 1, Article VI of the University Student Council Constitution.

**Section 2. College Representatives.** Each degree-granting college/school/institute/unit in the University of the Philippines in Diliman shall have a college representative who shall be elected by the qualified electors of the college/school/institute/unit;

**Section 3. Graduate School Council and Graduate School Representative.** Each graduate school/institute shall have a Representative in the Graduate School Council. Members of the Graduate School Council shall elect one member to be a Graduate School Representative to the USC which shall have the same powers and duties as College Representatives as provided for in the University Student Council Constitution.

**Section 4. Exceptions in the Computation of Enrollment Size.** Students falling under any of the following categories shall be excluded in the computation of enrollment size of the unit as a basis for the determination of the number of College Representatives of the unit;

- a) Those under suspension up to or beyond the end of the semester at the time of elections; and
- b) Cross-registrants in the unit from another/other units of the University of the Philippines System.



**Section 5. Term of Office.** The duly elected officers of members of the University Student Council shall hold office for one academic year, including the summer term, to commence from the time they take their oath of office until the next set of officers and other members of the University Student Council for the succeeding academic year shall have qualified and shall have been officially declared likewise by the University Student Electoral Board; unless sooner terminated in accordance with the provisions of Article II, Section 5 and 6.

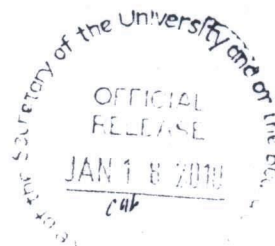
**Section 6. Cessation of Tenure.** The term of office of any incumbent officer or member of the University Student Council shall automatically terminate for any of the causes specified hereunder:

- a.) Upon unconditional confirmation by the Board of Regents of his graduation; provided, that if such confirmation takes place within one month immediately prior to the date of the general commencement exercises of the University, the automatic termination of term of his office shall take effect on the day following such commencement exercises
- b.) Upon final approval by a competent college authority of his application for leave of absence;
- c.) Upon disqualification from re-enrollment for any semester or term during the academic year in his current academic program for scholastic reasons: Provided: That the automatic termination of his term of office shall take effect upon receipt of a written notice of disqualification issued by the Office of the Dean or the Office of the College Secretary in the college/unit where he was last enrolled in;
- d.) Upon his receipt of written notice, issued by a competent college/university authority, of any of the following:
  1. Honorable dismissal or
  2. Suspension (i.e. as distinguished from mere preventive suspension for more than one month, or
  3. Expulsion/dishonorable dismissal

Reconsideration of any of the actions specified in ARTICLE II, Section 5, paragraphs (c) to (d) above by the appropriate authorities shall operate as a reinstatement in office, unless, in the meantime, another person shall have assumed permanently the office vacated.

**Section 7. Filling of Vacancy.** Vacancies arising from causes specified in the preceding section shall be filled in the following manner:

- a.) If the office vacated is that of Chairperson, the Vice-Chairperson shall automatically assume office as the Chairperson.



- b.) If the office vacated is that of Vice-Chairperson either because of assumption of offices as Chairperson by the incumbent Vice-Chairperson pursuant to paragraph (a) above or by reasons or causes specified in the preceding section, the University Student Council shall elect from among the University Councilors a New Vice-Chairperson.
- c.) On the matter of filling up of vacancies for the position of Councilor and College Representative, it shall be done in the manner prescribed in Article VI, Section 4, letters (c) to (d) of the University Student Council Constitution.
- d.) No position other than that of Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson and that of College Representative vacated on or after January 1 likewise for any the forgoing reasons/excuses shall be filled; Provided, that anyone assuming a vacated position pursuant to this section shall serve for the unexpired term only.

### ARTICLE III QUALIFICATIONS OF CANDIDATES

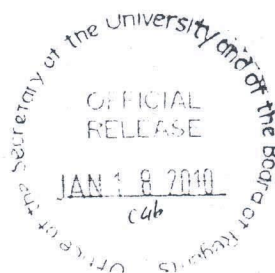
*Section 1.* To qualify for any of the University Student Council positions, a candidate must possess/satisfy the following qualifications:

- a.) He must be of good academic standing as defined by the University of the Philippines System Code;
- b.) He must carry the normal load prescribed by his college during the semester of the elections; and
- c.) He must not have been found guilty in any disciplinary case of any act involving moral turpitude as defined in the Revised Penal Code.

### ARTICLE IV QUALIFICATION OF ELECTORS

*Section 1. General Qualifications.* To qualify as an elector in the general elections, a student must be duly-registered in an undergraduate or graduate or certificate, or diploma degree program in a degree granting unit in the University of the Philippines in Diliman, subject to the following conditions:

- (a) A student enrolled in two or more colleges/institutions/units (e.g., as in the case of a cross-registrant) shall be qualified as an elector and shall be registered (as such elector) only in the college/unit where he is primarily enrolled.
- (b) An "Office of the University Registrar (OUR)," "non-degree," or "no degree" student shall be considered elector of the college where majority of the units of the said student are enrolled.



- (c) A student who is serving a penalty of suspension (as distinguished from more preventive suspension) as of the day of the elections shall not be qualified as elector.

**Section 2. Graduate Students.** Graduate students shall be qualified as electors and shall be registered (as such elector) only in the graduate school/institute where they are primarily enrolled.

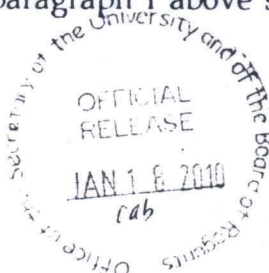
## ARTICLE V STUDENT ELECTORAL BOARDS

**Section 1. Composition of the University Student Electoral Board.** There shall be a University Student Electoral Board composed of the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs as *ex-officio* Chairperson, two faculty members and two students who shall be selected by the outgoing officers and other members of the University Student Council.

**Section 2. Functions of the University Student Electoral Board.** This Board shall perform the following functions:

- a.) To formulate and implement, consistently with the provisions of this Code, such as implementing rules, regulations, and procedures as are necessary for the proper conduct and coordination of University Student Council elections;
- b.) To supervise and coordinate the conduct of the University Student Council elections;
- c.) To decide cases of violations of the provisions of this Code, the implemented rules, regulations, and procedures adopted by the Board as provided for herein above.
- d.) To process certificates of candidacy and other forms for University Student Council positions;
- e.) To settle questions/queries (as distinguished from protests or cases of violations) regarding the provisions of this Code or the implementing rules, regulations, and procedures adopted by the board as provided hereinabove;
- f.) To disqualify any candidate for any University Student Council position prior to the officially prescribed starting time of the general elections for any of the following reasons:
  1. Failure of the candidate to submit any of the requirements prescribed in ARTICLE VII, Sections 1 and 2 below;
  2. Deficiency in any of the submitted requirements.

The decision of the University Student Electoral Board pursuant to ARTICLE V, Section 2, paragraph f above shall be final: Provided, that



- where the case falls under the category of misinterpretation of facts, falsification of/tampering with official records, or the like, the Board shall submit the case to the University Electoral Tribunal for appropriate action.
- g.) To canvass election returns for University Student Council positions transmitted to it by the various College Electoral Boards and proclaim winning candidates.

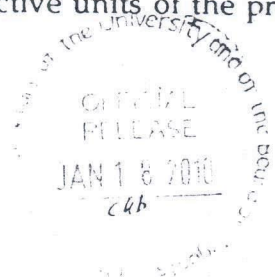
**Section 3. Composition of College Student Electoral Boards.** There shall be a College Student Electoral Board in each degree-granting college/school/institute/unit in the University of the Philippines Diliman, composed of the College Secretary as ex-officio Chairperson, two faculty members of the college/school/institute/unit, and two students who shall be selected by the College Student Council of the unit, or by the University Electoral Board in case there is no duly-constituted College Student Council therein; Provided, that all questions regarding the creation/selection and composition of any College Student Electoral Board shall be referred to the body that created/selected it whose decision thereon shall be final.

In case there is already an existing electoral board in a particular college/unit as of the issuance of this Code, said board shall serve as the unit's College Student Electoral board prescribed in this Code and shall discharge the functions of the College Student Electoral Board provided for in ARTICLE V, Section 5 and elsewhere in this Code.

**Section 4. Qualifications of the Members of the University Student Electoral Boards.** No member of the Board shall be involved in any partisan political activity while serving in the Board, except to vote, as in the case of the student members. The student members must be qualified electors in their respective units and must not be candidates for any position in the University Student Council or any College Student Council, nor be accredited as officers of any University-wide or college-wide political party while they are part of the Board.

**Section 5. Functions of College Student Electoral Boards.**

- a.) To formulate and implement, consistently with the provisions of this Code, the implementing rules, regulations, and procedures adopted by the University Student Electoral Board as provided for hereinabove, and such implementing rules, regulations, and procedures as are necessary for the proper conduct and coordination of University Student Council elections within their respective units;
- b.) To supervise and coordinate the conduct of the University Student Council elections in their respective units;
- c.) To institute before the University Student Electoral Board, cases of violations in their respective units of the provisions of this Code and the



implementing rules, regulations, and procedures adopted by them as well as those adopted by the University Student Electoral Board as provided for hereinabove, without prejudice to the right of the individual candidates, or qualified electors, to do the same;

- d.) To count and canvass the ballots cast within their respective units; and
- e.) To transmit to the University Student Electoral Board the election returns together with a complete report on the conduct of elections in their respective units.

## Article VI Election Calendar

**Section 1. Determination of Date of Elections.** The University Student Electoral Board shall determine the day of the University Student Council Elections: Provided, that said elections shall be held not later than the first week of March.

**Section 2. Election Period.** The election period shall start on the first day for filing of certificates of candidacy and last for not more than five weeks, unless extended by the University Student Electoral Board.

**Section 3. First Week Schedule.** The schedule of activities for the first week of the Election period shall include the following:

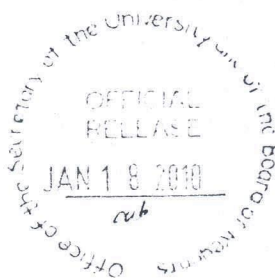
- a.) Filing of certificates of candidacy;
- b.) Submission of bio-data and pictures of candidates for the common leaflets;
- c.) Payment of monetary contributions to the University Student Electoral Board prescribed in Article VIII, Section 3 below and
- d.) Submission of copies of party platforms or individual platforms in the case of independent candidates.

**Section 4. Second Week Schedule.** The schedule of activities for the second week of the election period shall include the following:

- a.) Release of the official list of candidates; and
- b.) Filing of complaints against candidates with the University Student Electoral Board: provided, that such complaints filed after the second week shall not be considered nor entertained.

**Section 5. Third Through Fourth Week Schedule.** The schedule of activities for the third and fourth weeks of the election period shall include the following:

- a.) Start of the official campaign period;
- b.) Release of the common leaflets and putting up of the common billboards;





- c.) Holding a University convocation for the purpose of presenting all the official University Student Council candidates subject to Article VIII, Section 5 below; and
- d.) Holding of college convocations (one in each unit) likewise for the purpose of presenting all the official University Student Council candidates, and subject to Article VIII, Section 5 below.

## Article VII Certificate of Candidacy

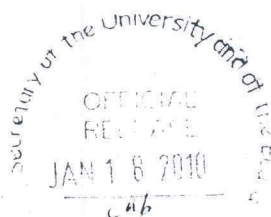
**Section 1. Filing of Certificates of Candidacy.** The following may file their certificate of candidacy with the University Student Electoral Board within the first week of the election period:

a.) A bona fide student running independently shall file their candidacy for only one position. Those filing certificates of candidacy under two or more positions shall be disqualified;

b.) A political party shall file the candidacy of the students running under its slate. Provided, that such party can only file one certificate of candidacy for each position in the University Student Council. If the party files excess candidates for a position, the excess candidates for that position shall be disqualified. The USEB shall select at random the excess candidates to be disqualified. For purposes of this Code a political party shall be composed of two or more University-based or college-based student organizations, and should be duly recognized by Office of Student Activities (OSA);

**Section 2. Supporting Documents.** Simultaneously with the filing of his certificate of candidacy, the candidate, or the party that he belongs to, shall submit to the University Student Electoral Board the following, within the time provided by the USEB:

- a.) a certification, duly signed by the Dean (or his duly authorized representative) of the college/unit where he is primarily enrolled that he has not been found guilty in any disciplinary case of any act involving moral turpitude as defined in the Revised Penal Code;
- b.) a certification, duly signed by the College Secretary (or his duly-authorized representative) of the college/unit where he is primarily enrolled during the semester of the elections, that he is in good academic standing;
- c.) a certification, duly signed by the College Secretary (or his duly-authorized representative) of the college/unit where he is primarily enrolled, that he is currently carrying the normal load prescribed by his college/unit.



Deadlines must be observed strictly. Any request for extension or reconsideration of a late submission shall be filed with the USEB through the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs, during office hours. No communication shall be received or entertained by any of the board members other than in the office address of the USEB.

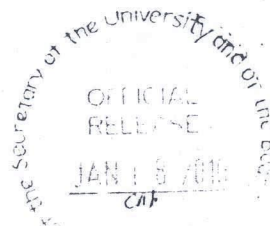
**Section 3. Effect of Failure to Meet Requirement.** Failure on the part of any candidate for any of the University Student Council positions to comply with any of the requirements specified in Article VII, Section 1 and 2 above shall be sufficient ground for his disqualification from running in the elections.

**Section 4. Supporting Documents in Case of Assumption of Vacancy.** Anyone who has a right, pursuant to/by operation of the provisions of Article II, Section 6 above, to assume a vacant University Student Council position shall not be allowed to assume such position until he shall have satisfied all the requirements stipulated in Article II, Section 6 paragraphs (a), (b) and (c) (except in the case of one who as a qualified candidate, had already complied with the aforementioned requirements).

## Article VIII Campaign

### Section 1. Campaign Materials.

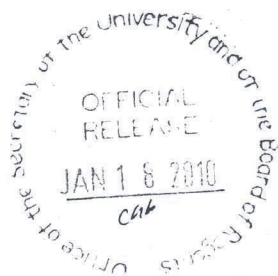
- a.) Only the following election materials are allowed:
1. Slate poster - 1 design, not larger than 20" X 30", black + one color, which may contain the photos and credentials of the candidates of the slate
  2. Thematic poster - newsprint, not larger than 18" X 24", black + one color, with no pictures of candidates
  3. Slate handbill or sample ballot - newsprint, ¼ of 8.5 X 11", one color
  4. Party's General Program of Action - newsprint, not larger than 20" X 30", one color
  5. Streamers - should be no larger than 3 ft. x 9 feet.
  6. An independent candidate is allowed to have an election material of 1 design, not larger than 8 ½" x 11", in black + 1 color, which can contain his/her photo, credentials, and General Program of Action, provided that, no two or more independent candidates may have a common design, mark, or confusingly similar theme on their campaign materials.
  7. Blogs, online slate posters, social networking sites and other forms of online campaigning shall be allowed.



- b.) Machine-printed materials shall be allowed as personal campaign materials, provided that the machines used shall be limited to photocopiers, risographs and personal computers.
- c.) Campaign posters may be put up in bulletin boards of recognized student organizations and other areas designated by the College and/or University administration.
- d.) Positions of posters on bulletin boards shall be determined by drawing lots among party representatives. All the parties shall equally share the bulletin board. Independent candidates shall also be given a proportionate share. The College Electoral Boards shall be informed of the position of posters.
- e.) Ribbons/name tags may be used for identification purposes.
- f.) In general, any handmade personal campaign materials such as posters, pins, stickers, flaglets, handbills, and other similar items shall be allowed.
- g.) The giving, distribution and use of buttons, badges, matches, T-shirts, food, multimedia promotional materials, gifts and other forms of political gimmickry shall be prohibited.
- h.) No campaign materials shall be posted on walls, trees, street signs, electric posts, power houses, lampposts, traffic signs, benches and other outside structures not meant for posting.
- i.) Streamers may be put in colleges if there is permission from the colleges concerned.
- j.) Each party shall be allowed to put up one streamer at designated billboards along the University Avenue and one at the Virzons Hall, upon approval of the Vice Chancellor for Community Affairs. No billboards shall be set up in any part of the campus.
- k.) No campaign materials shall be put up outside the Diliman campus (i.e. no materials outside the *Unibersidad ng Pilipinas* marker at the University Avenue entrance, and outside the fence along Katipunan Avenue).
- l.) Statements (wall and/or for mass distribution) on issues, and on the party and its principles/positions/plans/programs are strongly encouraged. To avoid mudslinging, no candidate's name or direct allusion to such candidate shall appear in these statements.
- m.) Five copies of campaign materials shall be submitted to the Office of Student Activities (OSA).

Any violation of this Section of this Code by any candidate shall constitute sufficient grounds for his/her disqualification.

## Section 2. Campaign Activities



- a.) No motorcades, whether noisy or silent shall be allowed. Motorcades are defined as more than two vehicles carrying election materials of one or more candidates going around the campus in succession.
- b.) There shall be one general *miting de avance* a day before the elections.
- c.) College rallies and/or fora are allowed provided there is permission from the colleges concerned.
- d.) The Philippine Collegian shall be requested to give equal space for the campaign platforms of the parties/candidates.

**Section 3. Clean-up**

- a.) All parties and independent candidates shall be required to clean up the areas where they posted campaign materials.
- b.) There shall be a bond of P1,500.00 to be required of each party and a bond of P500.00 for each independent candidate to ensure that they will clean up the places where they placed campaign materials.
- c.) Failure to clean up one week after the elections shall mean forfeiture of the bond and disqualification from the next USC elections.
- d.) To get back the bond, clearances from the Vice-Chancellor for Community Affairs and from the College Secretaries of the different colleges are required.
- e.) The forfeited bond shall be used to defray the expenses for cleaning up. Any unexpended amount will be turned over to the USC.

**Section 4. Violations**

- a.) Deans and college secretaries of the different colleges and units shall be deputized to remove illegal posters, i.e. those posted on classroom walls and other unauthorized places. These posters shall be removed and concerned parties shall be warned of possible disqualification from candidacy.
- b.) A roving team composed of members deputized by the USEB shall go around to check on illegal campaign posters and other campaign materials. The violator shall be ordered to tear down and withdraw all illegal materials, and turn these over to the USEB.
- c.) The tearing down and confiscation of illegal materials shall be without prejudice to appropriate sanctions that the University Student Electoral Board shall impose upon the erring party.
- d.) Disciplinary action shall be imposed on parties that violate these guidelines.

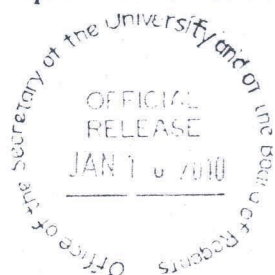
First offense - formal warning

Next offense - disqualification of 6 councilors drawn by the USEB

at

random

Third offense - disqualification of whole slate



Depending on the seriousness of the offense, the Board may directly disqualify the erring party.

e.) For independent candidates who violate these guidelines, the sanctions shall be:

First offense - warning

Second offense - disqualification

**Section 5. Convocations.** The University and College Student Electoral Boards shall organize at least one University convocation and one college convocation, respectively (in the latter case, at least one convocation in each college/unit), within the third and the fourth weeks of the election period. Provided, that no convocation shall be held later than one day before the elections.

**Section 6. Room-to-room Campaign.** Room-to-room campaign shall not be undertaken without the permission of the instructors or professors concerned and present.

## Article IX Election

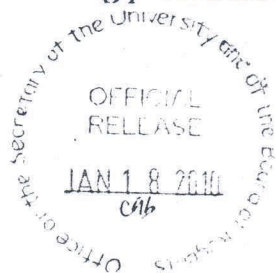
**Section 1. Election Time.** The polls shall be open from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm with no lunch break. Should the college/school/institute have evening classes, the polls shall be open until 7:00 pm. All those within the premises of the polling place who have not yet voted as of closing time shall be allowed to do so.

**Section 2. Election Precincts.** There shall be as many election precincts in every college, school or institute as are necessary at the discretion of the College Student Electoral Board.

**Section 3. Election Assistants.** Each precinct shall be presided over by four election assistants who shall be designated and supervised by the College Electoral Board.

**Section 4. Poll Watchers.** In addition, political parties and independent candidates are entitled to one poll watcher each in every polling or voting place. The poll watcher shall present to the College Electoral Board a written appointment as watcher from the candidate or party whose interests he represents.

**Section 5. Voting Procedure.** The voting procedure shall be as follows:



- a.) The elector shall present his duly-countersigned student ID or Form 5 to the election assistant, or in default thereof, a certificate from the College secretary that he is a bona fide student of the College;
- b.) He signs his name in the Official Voter's List prepared by the College Student Electoral Board and receives the official ballot;
- c.) He votes in an election booth and folds and drops the ballot in the ballot box.

**Section 6. Campaign Area.** Campaigning within ten meters of the polling place shall be strictly prohibited.

**Section 7. Ballots.** Each candidate in a ballot must be identified as to what political party he belongs, or that if he is running as an independent candidate.

## ARTICLE X AUTOMATED ELECTIONS

### **Section 1. Option to Hold Automated Elections**

The College Student Electoral Board shall have the option to hold automated elections provided that the College Student Electoral Board shall express its selection to the USEB prior to the scheduled elections; provided further that the CSEB shall choose from among the software approved and selected by the USEB.

### **Section 2. Approval and Selection of Software**

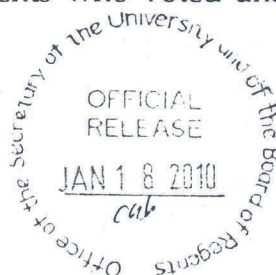
The USEB shall approve the software/s which will be employed by the CEB that have chosen to hold automated elections. The USEB shall come up with implementing rules for the approval and selection of software and for testing of facilities to be used for the automated elections.

### **Section 3. Facilities**

The CSEB shall coordinate with the Office of the College Secretary for the use of appropriate facilities for automated elections.

## ARTICLE XI Canvassing of Votes

**Section 1. Counting of Ballots.** Immediately after the close of voting and before the counting of ballots, the members of the College Student Electoral Board shall note down the number of actual votes as shown in the Voter's List. They shall then open the ballot boxes and count the ballots, taking note of any discrepancy between the number of students who voted and the number of ballots in the



ballot boxes. If there are more ballots than the number of students who voted, members of the College Student Electoral Board shall remove, at random, and without unfolding them or seeing their contents, such number of ballots as correspond to the excess so that the number of actual voters and the number of ballots shall tally. If the number of ballots is less than the number of actual voters, the same shall be noted but there shall be no deduction from or addition to the ballots in the ballot box.

Marks other than "x" used by voters on ballots shall be considered valid, provided that these marks are clear indicators of a voter's choice. These signs include: a check mark before the name of the candidate, shading the blank space, encircling or underscoring the name.

When a ballot indicates more votes than the number of slots for a position, the votes for that position shall not be considered. However, the valid votes within the same ballot for other positions shall still be considered.

**Section 2. Canvassing of Votes.** As soon as the counting of ballots is completed, the College Student Electoral Board shall proceed with the canvassing of votes. Each member of the College Student Electoral Board shall examine the ballot before the votes are recorded.

**Section 3. Settlement of Questions.** Any questions regarding the vote or ballot from any one of the members of the College Student Electoral Board or from any of the duly-authorized poll watchers shall be immediately decided by the majority vote of the members of the College Student Electoral Board.

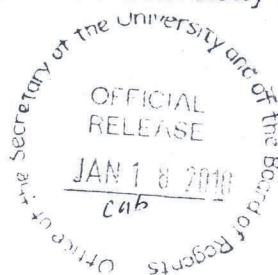
**Section 4. Simultaneous Counting of Ballots and Canvassing.** In a college or unit with more than one precinct, there shall be a simultaneous counting of ballots and canvassing of votes in places within the college/unit determined by the Chairperson of the College Student Electoral Board.

**Section 5. Breaking a Tie.** Should there be a tie between two or more candidates, the said candidates may negotiate to resolve the tie by resorting to a term-sharing agreement, re-election or toss coin. Should the candidates fail to negotiate and/or agree, there will be a toss coin between the candidates under the supervision of the USEB.

**Section 6. Invalid Ballot.** An invalid ballot shall be one that is:

- a.) An unofficial ballot;
- b.) A ballot that has been tampered with or defaced as determined by the University Student Electoral Board.

**Section 7. Report at the College Level.** After the votes have been counted in the college or unit, the results of the University Student Council elections shall be



embodied in a report certified to by all the members of the College Student Electoral Board, containing the following:

- a.) The names of the candidates;
- b.) The number of votes received by each;
- c.) Any question raised together with the final decision reached by the College Student Electoral Board.

**Section 8. Tabulation of Election Returns.** The official reports shall be submitted to the University Student Electoral Board which shall tabulate the final election results.

**Section 9. Over-all report.** The final results of the University Student Council Elections shall be embodied in a report certified to by all the members of the University Student Electoral Board containing the same points enumerated in Article X, section 7 above.

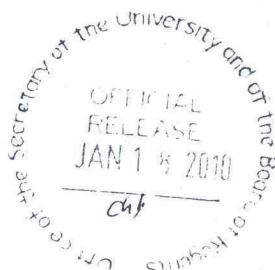
## ARTICLE XII Proclamation of Winning Candidates

**Section 1. Proclamation.** The University Student Electoral Board shall proclaim the winning candidates for all University Student Council positions upon completion of the tabulation of elections results. A copy of the list of duly elected University Student Council officers and other members shall be forwarded to the Chancellor. Copies of the same shall be posted in conspicuous places in all colleges/schools/institutes.

## ARTICLE XIII Election Protests

**Section 1. Creation and Composition of the University Student Electoral Tribunal.** There shall be a University Student Electoral Tribunal composed of three faculty members who shall be selected by the outgoing officers and other members of the University Student Council; Provided that the members of the Tribunal shall be convened by the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs not later than the second week of the election period: Provided further, that the members of the Tribunal shall elect their Chairperson from among themselves: Provided finally, all questions regarding the creation/designation and composition of the Tribunal shall be referred to the body or an officer that selected/designated it whose decision shall be thereon final.

**Section 2. Filing of Protests..** All Post-proclamation cases and protests shall be filed with the Tribunal no later than seven working days after election day.





**Section 3. Functions of the University Student Electoral Tribunal.** The Tribunal shall hear and decide protests and cases of violations brought before it and shall apply/impose penalties/sanctions as provided for in this Code, subject to the following rules:

- a.) The Tribunal shall decide protests/cases of violations of the provisions of this Code and the implementing rules, regulations, procedures and other guidelines, and decisions adopted by the University Student Electoral Board as provided hereinabove, subject to the following conditions:
  1. A decision shall be made within seven days after the case has been submitted to the Tribunal for decision; and
  2. The Tribunal shall not prescribe/impose any form of penalty other than what are provided for in this Code.
- b.) The decision of the Tribunal, in all cases, shall be final.
- c.) The Tribunal shall hear and decide protests and cases of violations in accordance with the provisions of this Code, the implementing rules, regulations, procedures and other guidelines adopted aforementioned electoral boards, as well as such other necessary rules and procedures as the Tribunal may adopt consistently with the provisions of this Code to enable it to discharge its functions effectively.

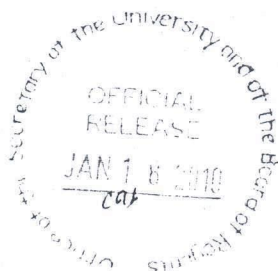
#### **ARTICLE XIV Penalties**

**Section 1. Penalties for Cases of Violations Decided Before the Proclamation of the Winning Candidates—**

- a.) Penalty for violations committed by a candidate for any University Student Council position that are decided before proclamation of the winning candidates shall be either: (1) reprimand, or (2) disqualification as such candidate, or (3) disqualification as such candidate and as elector in the forthcoming UP Student Council elections, depending on the gravity of the offense.

If his disqualification as candidate stems only from his failure to submit any of the requirements prescribed in ARTICLE VII, Sections 1 and 2 above, such disqualification shall not necessarily include disqualification as elector.

However, if the act committed falls under the category of misrepresentation of facts, tampering with/falsifying official records, or the like, the penalty may be disqualification both as candidate and as elector in the forthcoming elections.



- b.) The penalty for violations committed by a qualified elector or by a student who is not a qualified elector, that are decided before proclamation of the winning candidate shall be either: (1) reprimand, or (2) total disqualification from the participation in the forthcoming University Student Council Elections, depending on the gravity of the offense.
- c.) The penalty for violations committed by a political party shall be either: (1) formal warning (2) disqualification of 6 councilors drawn by the USEB at random (3) disqualification of whole slate depending on the gravity of the offense.

**Section 2. Penalties for Cases of Violations Decided After Proclamation of the Winning Candidates.**

- a.) The penalty for violations as committed by a candidate who has been proclaimed a winner that is decided after the said candidate is proclaimed shall be either: (1) reprimand, or (2) forfeiture of position and disqualification as a possible candidate in the University Student Council elections to be held the following academic year or (3) forfeiture of position and total disqualification from participating in the aforesaid future elections, depending on the gravity of the offense.
- b.) The penalty for violations committed by a candidate who lost that is decided after proclamation of winning candidates shall be either: (1) reprimand, or (2) disqualification as a possible candidate in the University Student Council elections to be held at the following academic year, or (3) total disqualification from participating in the aforesaid future elections, depending on the gravity of the offense.
- c.) The penalty for violations committed by a qualified elector, or a student who is not a qualified elector, that is decided after proclamation of winning candidates shall be either: (1) reprimand, or (2) disqualification as a possible candidate in the University Student Council elections to be held the following academic year, or (3) total disqualification from participating in the aforesaid future elections, depending on the gravity of the offense.
- d.) The penalty for violations committed by a political party shall be either: (1) formal warning (2) disqualification of 6 councilors drawn by the USFT at random (3) disqualification of whole slate depending on the gravity of the offense.