

[PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 1341, April 01, 1978]

CONVERTING THE PHILIPPINE COLLEGE OF COMMERCE INTO A POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY, DEFINING ITS OBJECTIVES, ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE AND FUNCTIONS, AND EXPANDING ITS CURRICULAR OFFERINGS.

WHEREAS, the administration strongly addresses itself to the problems of mass poverty, unemployment and underemployment, and social justice thus necessitating the achievement of national development and its full democratization as the top priority in the national agenda;

WHEREAS, it is imperative that to carry out this task, the tremendous human resources potential of the nation be harnessed by improving the physical, intellectual and material well-being of the individual;

WHEREAS, a pragmatic approach to the immediate realization of his goal requires the realignment of the educational offerings with manpower realities and goals through the adoption of a polytechnic program of education designed to provide the individual with employable skills and managerial know-how in order to make him creative, productive, and self-reliant;

WHEREAS, the occupation-oriented baccalaureate and graduate degree programs, ladder-type curriculums, "Classroom-in-the-factories" program, continuing non-formal education programs for skills in rural development, and other similar short-term programs for in-school and out-of-school youth and adults presently offered by the Philippine College of Commerce are polytechnic in content, scope and direction;

WHEREAS, the Philippine College of Commerce is a potential instrument in the effective implementation of the administration's policies on democratization of educational opportunities and on organization of a strongly-based egalitarian society as shown by the economic and social states of its present enrollment of about 23,000 students;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, FERDINAND E. MARCOS, as Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, and pursuant to Proclamation No. 1081, dated September 21, 1972, and General Order No. 1, dated September 22, 1972, as amended, do hereby order and decree to be part of the laws of the land the following:

SECTION 1. The present Philippine College of Commerce is hereby converted into a university to be known as the "Polytechnic University of the Philippines," hereinafter referred to in this decree as the University.

SECTION 2. The University shall primarily provide higher occupational, technical and professional instruction and training in the applied arts and sciences. It shall also promote applied research, advance studies, and progressive leadership in the stated fields.

SECTION 3. In addition to its present offering of ladder-type higher vocational, technical and professional programs in the areas of business and distributive arts, education and the social sciences related to the fields of commerce and business

administration, the University shall offer programs in other polytechnic areas. The University shall take steps to enrich the academic program in other fields of study such as agriculture, arts and trades, and fisheries by integrating such courses as are necessary to produce individuals with highly-technical and managerial skills.

SECTION 4. The head of the University shall be known as the President of the Polytechnic University of the Philippines who shall be appointed by the President of the Philippines upon recommendation of the Secretary of Education and Culture after consultation with the University Board of Regents. The powers and duties of the President of the University in addition to those enumerated in the succeeding Section shall; be those normally pertaining to the Office of the President of a University.

SECTION 5. Specifically, the President of the University shall have the following powers and duties in addition to those normally appertaining to the Office of the President of the University:

- a. He shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the University. As such, progressive and dynamic and intellectual and administrative leadership in the University is expected of him and vested in him;
- b. He shall be the head of the University Faculties and of any branch thereof;
- c. He shall have general supervision over all academic as well as business and financial operations of the University;
- d. He shall promulgate and enforce general policies affecting any unit of the University and take such actions which in his judgment are necessary for the protection of property and general interest of the University, students and personnel and for the operation of the University as a whole and shall inform the Board on all matters relating to the operation and welfare of the University;
- e. He shall appoint qualified persons to fill all vacancies and new positions subject to the approval of the Board and make such other arrangements to meet emergencies occurring between meetings of the Board so that the work of the University shall not suffer;
- f. He shall institute disciplinary action against any member of the University personnel, faculty or non-faculty as well as any student of the University whose actions adversely affect the general interest of the University;
- g. He shall decide appeals in controversies between ranking officials of the University, his decisions being final and conclusive;
- h. He shall grant or deny sabbatical leaves and leaves of absence without pay and/or extension of such leaves as well as extension of fellowships or any form of scholarship for a period not exceeding one academic year if the budget permits and for reasons he may deem satisfactory;
- i. He shall make ad-interim appointments;
- j. He shall grant or withhold permission to reveal confidential matters affecting the University or any unit thereof, as well as any action taken by the Board of Regents;
- k. He shall grant permission for the use of buildings and premises of the University for academic, professional and scientific conventions, for student and related activities and to fix the fee thereof;
- l. He is authorized to join in the execution of all contracts, deeds, and instruments for the proper conduct of the business of the University and to assign the same in behalf of the University;