

[REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8468, January 22, 1998]

AN ACT CONVERTING THE DON SEVERINO AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF INDANG, PROVINCE OF CAVITE INTO A STATE UNIVERSITY, TO BE KNOWN AS THE CAVITE STATE UNIVERSITY

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:

SECTION 1. The Don Severino Agricultural College in the Municipality of Indang, Province of Cavite, is hereby converted into a State university to be known as the Cavite State University, hereinafter referred to as the University.

SEC. 2. The University shall primarily provide advance instruction and professional training in agriculture, science and technology, education and other related fields, undertake research and extension services, and provide progressive leadership in these areas.

SEC. 3. The University shall offer undergraduate, graduate and short-term technical courses within its areas of specialization and according to its capabilities, as the Board of Regents may deem necessary to carry out its objectives, particularly in order to meet the needs of the province and the region.

The existing high school shall be transferred to the jurisdiction and supervision of the Department of Education, Culture and Sports: Provided, That the high school shall be allowed to remain and operate within the campus of the University until the students shall have completed their high school education: Provided, further, That the University may operate a reasonably-sized laboratory school, if it has a college of education.

SEC. 4. The University shall have the general powers of a corporation set forth in the Corporation Law. The administration of the University and the exercise of its corporate powers shall be vested exclusively in the Board of Regents.

SEC. 5. The governing body of the State University shall be the Board of Regents, hereinafter referred to as the Board, which shall be composed of the following:

- a. Chairman of the Commission on Higher Education (CHED), Chairman;
- b. President of the University, Vice-Chairman;
- c. Chairman of the Committee on Education, Arts and Culture of the Senate, member;
- d. Chairman of the Committee on Education and Culture of the House of Representatives, member;

- e. Regional Director of the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA), where the main campus of the University is located, member;
- f. President of the federation of faculty associations of the University, member;
- g. President of the federation of student councils of the University, member;
- h. President of the alumni association of the University, member; and
- i. Two (2) prominent citizens who have distinguished themselves in their professions or fields of specialization of the University, chosen from among a list of at least five (5) persons qualified in the Province of Cavite, as recommended by the search committee constituted by the University President, in consultation with the Chairman of the CHED, based on the normal standards and qualifications for the position, members.

The term of office of the President of the faculty associations, the President of the federation of student councils and the President of the alumni association shall be coterminous with their respective terms of office.

The two (2) prominent citizens shall serve for a term of two (2) years.

In multi-campus universities, the faculty, alumni, and the student council shall be represented by the presidents of federations.

In case of vacancy in the office of the president, the officer-in-charge of the University designated by the Board shall serve for the unexpired term only.

The President of the University, whose term may be terminated, according to this Act, shall be entitled to full retirement benefits under existing laws.

SEC. 6. The Board shall promulgate and implement policies in accordance with the declared state policies on education and other pertinent provisions of the Constitution on education, agriculture, science and technology, as well as the policies, standards and thrusts of CHED under Republic Act No. 7722.

SEC. 7. The Board shall have the following specific powers and duties in addition to its general power of administration and the exercise of all the powers granted to the board of directors of a corporation under existing law:

- a. To enact rules and regulations not contrary to law as may be necessary to carry out the purpose and functions of the University;
- b. To receive and appropriate all sums as may be provided, for the support of the University in the manner it may determine, in its discretion, to carry out the powers and functions of the University;
- c. To receive in trust legacies, gifts and donations of real and personal properties of all kinds and to administer and dispose the same when necessary for the benefit of the University, and subject to the limitations, directions and instructions of the donor, if any. Such donations shall be exempt from all taxes and shall be considered as deductible items from the income tax of the donor.
- d. To fix the tuition fees and other necessary school charges, such as but not limited to, matriculation fees, graduation fees and laboratory fees, as the

Board may deem proper to impose, after due consultations with the involved sectors.

Such fees and charges, including government subsidies and other income generated by the University, shall constitute special trust funds and shall be deposited in any authorized government depository bank, and all interests that shall accrue therefrom shall form part of the same funds for the use of the University.

Any provision of existing laws, rules and regulations to the contrary notwithstanding, any income generated by the University from tuition fees and other charges, as well as from the operation of auxiliary services and land grants, shall be retained by the University, and may be disbursed by the Board for instruction, research, extension, or other programs/projects of the University: Provided, That all fiduciary fees shall be disbursed for the specific purpose for which they are collected.

If, for reason beyond its control, the University shall not be able to pursue any projects for which funds have been appropriated and allocated under its approved program of expenditures, the Board may authorize the use of said funds for any reasonable purpose which, in its discretion, may be necessary and urgent for the attainment of the objectives and goals of the University;

- To adopt and implement a socialized scheme of tuition and school fees for greater access to poor but deserving students;
- To authorize the construction or repair of its buildings, machineries, equipment and other facilities and the purchase and acquisition of real and personal properties, including necessary supplies and materials and equipment. Purchases and other transactions entered into by the University through the Board shall be exempt from all taxes and duties;
- To appoint, upon recommendation of the President of the University, vice presidents, deans, directors, and heads of departments, and the appointments of faculty members and other officials and employees of the University;
- To fix and adjust salaries of faculty members and administrative officials and employees subject to the provisions of the Revised Compensation and Position Classification System and other pertinent budget and compensation laws governing hours of service, and such other duties and conditions as it may deem proper; to grant them, at its discretion, leaves of absence under such regulations as it may promulgate, any provisions of existing laws to the contrary notwithstanding; and to remove them for cause in accordance with the requirements of due process of law;
- To approve the curricula, institutional programs and rules of discipline drawn by the administrative and academic councils as herein provided;
- To set policies on admission and graduation of students;
- To award honorary degrees upon persons in recognition of outstanding contribution in the field of agriculture or any field of specialization within the academic competence of the University and to authorize the award of certificate of completion of non-degree and non-traditional courses;
- To establish and absorb tertiary institutions within the Province of Cavite as branches, centers, stations, etc., in coordination with the CHED and in