

[REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8498, February 12, 1998]

AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE RAMON MAGSAYSAY TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY OUT OF THE INTEGRATION OF THE RAMON MAGSAYSAY POLYTECHNIC COLLEGE IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF IBA, THE WESTERN LUZON AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF SAN MARCELINO AND THE CANDELARIA SCHOOL OF FISHERIES IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF CANDELARIA, ALL IN THE PROVINCE OF ZAMBALES, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

SECTION 1. A State University to be known as the Ramon Magsaysay Technological University, hereinafter referred to as the University, is hereby established out of the integration of the Ramon Magsaysay Polytechnic College in the Municipality of Iba, Province of Zambales, and integrating therewith within three (3) years as its component colleges the Western Luzon Agricultural College in the Municipality of San Marcelino and the Candelaria School of Fisheries in the Municipality of Candelaria, both in the Province of Zambales. The main campus of the University shall be the Ramon Magsaysay Polytechnic College in Iba, Zambales.

SEC. 2. The University shall primarily provide instructions, undertake research and extension, and provide advanced studies and progressive leadership in agriculture, forestry, engineering, education, arts, sciences, humanities, and other fields as may be relevant to the development of the province.

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

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

SEC. 4. The governing body of the University shall be the Board of Regents, hereinafter referred to as the Board, which shall be composed of the following:

- (1) Chairman of the Commission on Higher Education (CHED), chairman;
- (2) President of the University, vice-chairman;

(3) Chairman of the Committee on Education, Arts and Culture of the Senate, member;

(4) Chairman of the Committee on Education and Culture of the House of Representatives, member;

(5) Regional Director of the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA), member;

(6) President of the federation of faculty associations of the university, member;

(7) President of the federation of supreme student councils of the University, member;

(8) President of the federation of alumni associations of the University, member; and

(9) 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 city or the province where the University is located, as recommended by the search committee of the University 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 presidents of the federations of faculty and alumni associations and the student regents shall sit in the Board until the expiration of their term of office in such capacities.

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

In case of vacancy by reason of death, resignation, removal for cause or incapacity of the president to perform the functions of his office, the Board shall have the authority to designate an officer-in-charge pending the appointment of a new president.

SEC. 5. The Board shall promulgate and implement policies in accordance with the declared policies on education and other pertinent provisions of the Philippine Constitution on education, science and technology, arts, culture, and sports, as well as the policies, standards, and thrusts of the CHED under Republic Act No. 7722.

SEC. 6. The Board shall have the following specific powers and duties in addition to its general powers of administration and the exercise of all the powers granted to the Board of Directors of a corporation under existing laws:

- a. To promulgate rules and regulations not contrary to law as may be necessary to carry out the purposes 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, in its discretion, determine to carry out the

purposes 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 charges of the University such as, but not limited to, matriculation fees, graduation fees and laboratory fees, as the Board may deem proper to impose after due consultation 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 fund for the use of the University.

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 purposes for which they are collected.

If, for reasons beyond its control, the University shall not be able to pursue any project 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 used for the attainment of the objectives and goals of the university or college.

- e. 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, materials and equipment;
- f. To appoint, upon the recommendation of the president of the University, vice-presidents, deans, directors, and heads of departments, faculty members and other officials and employees of the University;
- g. To fix and adjust salaries of faculty members and administrative officials and employees in accordance with the Revised Compensation and Position Classification System;
- h. To approve the curricula, institutional programs and rules of discipline drawn by the administrative and academic councils as herein provided;
- i. To set policies on admission and graduation of students;
- j. To award honorary degrees upon persons in recognition of their outstanding contributions in the fields of education, public service, arts, science and technology, or in any field of specialization of the University, and to authorize