

[REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7665, December 30, 1993]

AN ACT CONVERTING THE BULACAN COLLEGE OF ARTS AND TRADES IN THE PROVINCE OF BULACAN INTO A STATE UNIVERSITY TO BE KNOWN AS THE BULACAN STATE UNIVERSITY, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

SECTION 1. The Bulacan College of Arts and Trades located in the Province of Bulacan is hereby converted into a state university to be known as the Bulacan State University, hereinafter referred to as the University.

SEC. 2. The University shall primarily provide higher professional, technical, and special instructions for special purposes and promote research and extension services, advanced studies and progressive leadership in agriculture, commerce, education, fishery, forestry, engineering, arts and sciences, law, medicine, public administration, technical and other fields as may be relevant.

SEC. 3. The University shall offer undergraduate and graduate courses in the fields of education, agriculture, forestry, engineering, arts and sciences, commerce, fishery, law, medicine, public administration, technical and other degree courses as the Board of Regents may deem necessary to carry out its objectives. It shall also offer opportunity in short-term technical or vocational courses within its areas of specialization to meet the agro-industrial needs of the nation, in general and the Province of Bulacan in particular.

SEC. 4. The existing high school shall be transferred under the supervision of the Department of Education, Culture and Sports: *Provided*, That the existing high school shall be allowed to remain and operate within the campus of the University until it shall have been transferred to another location, or until its students shall have been accommodated in other high schools, public or private: *Provided, further*, That the University may operate a reasonably-sized laboratory high school if it offers a teacher training program.

SEC. 5. 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 and the President of the University insofar as authorized by the Board.

SEC. 6. 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:

- a. The Secretary of Education, Culture and Sports, or his representative, chairman;

- b. The President of the University, member;
- c. The chairman of the Committee on Education of the Senate, or a member of said committee having the power to vote as his representative, member;
- d. The chairman of the Committee on Education of the House of Representatives or a member of said committee having the power to vote as his representative, member;
- e. The president of the faculty association of the University, member;
- f. The president of the supreme student council of the University, member.

The president of the alumni association of the University, as member; and

Two (2) prominent citizens who have distinguished themselves in their profession or fields of specialization of the University chosen from among those qualified in the Province of Bulacan.

The two (2) prominent citizens so appointed by the Board shall have the same powers, authority, and privileges as the regular members of the Board.

The Secretary of Education, Culture and Sports, the President of the University, the education committee chairmen of the Senate and the House, shall have an ex officio term of office, while the presidents of the faculty association and of the supreme student council and, when deemed necessary, the president of the alumni association shall serve only during their respective terms of office and, when likewise necessary, the two (2) prominent citizens shall serve for four (4) years while the succeeding appointees shall serve for two (2) years or until their replacements shall have been appointed and qualified. In the absence of the Chairman or his representative during a particular meeting, the board members present shall elect a temporary chairman from among themselves.

SEC. 7. The Board shall promulgate and implement policies in accordance with the declared state policies on education and other pertinent provisions of the Philippine Constitution on education, science and technology, arts, culture and sports.

SEC. 8. 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 enact rules and regulations not contrary to law as may be necessary to carry out the purposes and functions of the University;
- b. To import duty-free essential materials and equipment for educational or technological programs for the exclusive use of the University as an exception to existing laws, provided such materials and equipment are not available locally;
- 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: *Provided, That* such donation shall not be disposed, transferred or sold;
- d. Subject to existing laws, 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.

Such fees and charges, including government subsidies and other income generated by the University, constitute special trust funds and shall be deposited in any authorized government depository bank, any and all interests that shall accrue therefrom shall form part of the same funds for the use of the University. The incomes generated by the University may, at the discretion of the Board, be disbursed for the professional growth and development, health, welfare and other similar benefits of the faculty members and personnel, for the acquisition, construction, maintenance and repair of urgently-needed instructional and auxiliary facilities, equipment, buildings and other infrastructure and for expenses necessary for the attainment of its purposes under this Act;

- 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. Purchases and other transactions entered into by the University through the Board shall be exempt from all taxes and duties;
- f. To confirm appointments of vice-presidents, deans, directors, heads of departments, faculty members, and other officials and employees of the University made by the President of the University;
- g. To approve the curricula, institutional programs and rules of discipline drawn by the administrative and academic councils as herein provided;
- h. To confer degrees upon successful candidates for graduation, to award honorary degrees upon persons in recognition of outstanding contribution in the field of education, public service, arts, science and technology or in any field of specialization, and to authorize the award of certificates for completion of non-degree and non-traditional courses;
- i. To establish branches within the Province of Bulacan, if and when it becomes essential and necessary where there is no existing school offering similar programs or courses to promote and carry out equal access to education opportunities as mandated by the Constitution; and
- j. To establish chairs in the University and to provide fellowships for qualified faculty members and scholarships to deserving students.

SEC. 9. A quorum of the Board shall consist of a majority of all members holding office at the time of the meeting: *Provided, however,* That among those present is the Secretary of Education, Culture and Sports, who is chairman of the Board, or the President of the University who acts as presiding officer in the former's absence. The Board shall convene regularly once every two (2) months. The chairman of the Board may call a special meeting whenever necessary.

The members of the Board shall not receive salary but shall be entitled to reimbursement for actual and necessary expenses incurred either in attendance in meetings of the Board or in other official business authorized by resolution of the Board subject to existing laws on *honoraria* and allowances.

SEC. 10. The University shall be headed by a president to be elected by the members of the Board and shall hold office for a term of six (6) years without reappointment unless he reaches the age of retirement or earlier removed for cause or incapacitated to discharge the duties of the office.