



Republic of the Philippines
Polytechnic University of the Philippines
Student Council Constitutional Commissions
Commission on Elections

Commission En Banc

DATE: 28 JULY 2023
PETITION: PETITION TO ADJUST THE PUP STUDENT COUNCIL ELECTION CALENDAR
PETITIONERS: BUKLURAN ng Progresibong Mag-aaral

Decision

BUKLURAN ng Progresibong Mag-aaral, the petitioners, filed a **Motion to Adjust the PUP Student Council Election Calendar** to the Commission En Banc on July 27, 2023. The petitioners referenced the Student Council Assembly Resolution No. 014, Series of A.Y. 2022-2023 or "A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE CALENDAR FOR THE PUP STUDENT COUNCIL ELECTIONS 2023," as well as the proposed amended SCE calendar by the Sandigan ng Mag-aaral para sa Sambayanan PUP (SAMASA PUP) in their previous petition to amend the SCE calendar. The petitioners have also referenced the Commission on Elections Decision No. 001, Series of 2023, to wit:

"The Commission En Banc GRANTS THE PETITION WITH RESERVATION. The Commission will adjust the PUP Student Council Elections Calendar whereas the Filing of Certificate of Candidacy shall be extended from July 21 to July 28, and the events scheduled to follow shall be moved accordingly without change to the number of days allotted for each."

The petitioners states that they agree with the concerns raised by SAMASA PUP in their initial petition to amend the SCE Calendar, wherein the petitioners argue that with important events such as the Period for Filing of Certificate of Candidacy July 17 to 28, 2023, and Deliberation of Certificate of Candidacy and Verification of Candidates set on July 29 to August 4, 2023



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still coincide with the final examinations of the students and the democratic processes that would be undertaken would be greatly affected negatively. The petitioners also argue that potential participants of the SCE will be hindered in participating as they might not be able to prepare the needed documents and have “headspace or breathing room to juggle both important matters.”

They have also argued that due to students being busy with their academic requirements and the lack of information dissemination activities of the Commission, a huge number of students are unaware of the filing of COC which would also affect the said democratic process.

DECISION: With 12 votes of not in favor, and 3 no votes due to absence, the Commission En Banc **DENIES THE PETITION** by the petitioners, BUKLURAN ng Progresibong Mag-aaral, to amend the PUP Student Council Elections 2023 Calendar.

The Commissioner from the College of Accountancy and Finance (CAF) delivered the opinion of the Commission En Banc, joined by the College of Arts and Letters (CAL), College of Business Administration (CBA), College of Communication (COC), College of Computer and Information Sciences (CCIS), College of Education (COED), College of Engineering (CE), College of Human Kinetics (CHK), College of Social Sciences and Development (CSSD), College of Science (CS), College of Tourism, Hospitality, and Transportation Management (CTHTM), and Institute of Technology (ITECH).

Opinion of the Commission:

The Commission has already taken into consideration the concerns raised by the petitioners, and through the COMELEC Resolution No. 009, Series of 2023 otherwise known as “A RESOLUTION AMENDING THE ELECTION CALENDAR FOR THE PUP



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STUDENT COUNCIL ELECTIONS 2023,” which was released on July 13, 2023, the calendar was amended to cater the concerns of the previous petition filed by SAMASA PUP. The period for filing the certificate of candidacy was extended for seven (7) days, and all other election activities scheduled were moved accordingly without change to the number of days allotted for each. The petitioners have stated that they were in agreeance with the petition filed by the SAMASA PUP, who have mainly argued that the deliberation period for COCs and verification of candidates coincides with the final’s week of the students which would clearly hinder the Commission’s function to deliberate on and verify the COCs. To which the Commission, through Decision No. 001, Series of 2023, have granted the petition with reservations as a way to compromise with the proposed calendar of SAMASA PUP and the internal schedule of the Commission.

The Commission sees no merit to the statement of the petitioners that they were in agreeance with the petition filed by the SAMASA PUP as this current petition was filed one day before the last day of period of filing of COCs. They had more than 10 days to have come up with a petition to adjust or reconsider adjusting to the calendar proposed by the previous petition.

The Commission also considered the long and hard planning of events. Regarding the planning of events, with all the processes the Commission has to go through such as reserving dates, planning programs, as well as allotting available personnel for said events, it would be difficult to adjust the period for filing the COCs for more than a week. The Commission sees any further drastic adjustment to the SCE Calendar as not feasible and difficult to mitigate and adjust to.

With the lack of other objective data and information, timeliness of the filing of the petition, as well as the concerns of the Commission to deliver better service through the set internal schedule, the Commission therefore denies this petition.



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SO, ORDERED.

(SGD) GAD THOMAS DEUEL S. MENDIOLA

Chairperson

College of Arts and Letters Commissioner

(SGD) LORIELYN Y. BELMONTE

Vice Chairperson

College of Communication Commissioner

(SGD) MELWEL ARCEL C. GORUMBA

Secretary-General

College of Accountancy and Finance Commissioner

ANNA KATRINA C. TENA

Treasurer

College of Political Science and Public Administration Commissioner

PIOLO MIGUEL A. BARCELONA

College of Architecture, Design, and Built Environment Commissioner

(SGD) ADAM JESS C. DE GUZMAN

College of Business Administration Commissioner

(SGD) LUKE MARK P. LEONA

College of Computer and Information Sciences Commissioner

(SGD) CARLOS JAIRO L. TIAGA

College of Engineering Commissioner



Republic of the Philippines
Polytechnic University of the Philippines
Student Council Constitutional Commissions
Commission on Elections

(SGD) KRISTAL ANDREA MARQUEZ
College of Human Kinetics Commissioner

(SGD) GENER AUGUST S. LINTAG
College of Education Commissioner

(SGD) MARY JOY B. DAGDAG
College of Science Commissioner

(SGD) PAUL JANRY D. ROLUSTA
College of Social Sciences and Development Commissioner

(SGD) JUAN MIGUEL G. MORADO
College of Tourism, Hospitality, and Transportation Management Commissioner

(SGD) KEREN CLAIRE L. CABUELLO
Institute of Technology Commissioner

FRINCE CARL N. FORTUNADO
Open University System Commissioner