

POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES

**MOTION TO ADJUST THE PUP STUDENT COUNCIL ELECTION CALENDAR IN
CONSIDERATION TO THE**

BUKLURAN ng Progresibong Mag-aaral,

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COME NOW, BUKLURAN ng Progresibong Mag-aaral in the above-titled motion and unto this Honorable Commission respectfully states:

- That on June 30, 2023, the PUP Commission on Elections released, through their Facebook Page, the Student Council Elections Calendar based on the prescribed period of the Student Council Assembly through its resolution no. 14 entitled “A Resolution Adopting the Calendar for the PUP Student Council Elections 2023”. The calendar released presents the following:

July 1	-	Release of Implementing Rules and Regulation
July 17 – 21	-	Filing of COC
July 22 – 28	-	Deliberation of COC and Verification of Candidates
July 29	-	Release of Official List of Candidates
July 30 – Aug 8	-	Campaign Period and LSC Miting De Avance
Aug 8	-	University Wide Miting De Avance
Aug 9 - 13	-	Casting of Votes
Aug 14 - 18	-	Canvassing of Votes
Aug 19 – 23	-	Post Electoral Protest
Aug 25	-	Proclamation and Oath Taking

- That on July 12, 2023, the Sandigan ng Mag-aaral para sa Sambayanan PUP (SAMASA PUP) submitted a petition to the SC Commission on Elections to adjust the PUP Student Council Election Calendar wherein they present the following arguments:
 - The Student Council Calendar coincides with the Final Examinations of Non-Graduating students and effectively severely hampers the participation and performance of all concerned parties of the student council elections.
 - There can be negative outcomes and repercussions in the submission rate, compliance of requirements, voter turnout, and other factors if the original schedule will push through even though it coincides with the Final Examinations.

The petitioner further proposed an adjusted election calendar, as provided below:

SAMASA PUP Proposed revised Election Calendar:

Aug 1 – 5	-	Filing of COC
Aug 6 – 12	-	Deliberation of COC and Verification of Candidate's

		Financial Liability
Aug 13	-	Release of Official List of Candidates
Aug 14 – 23	-	Campaign Period and LSC Miting De Avance
Aug 25 – 29	-	Casting of Votes
Aug 30 – Sept 3	-	Canvassing of Votes
Sept 4 – 8	-	Post-Electoral Protest
Sept 9	-	Proclamation of Elected Officials and Oath-Taking

- That on July 13, 2023, the SC Commission on Elections released their decision on the SAMASA PUP's petition granting the petition with reservation. The SC COMELEC adjusted the Filing of Certificate of Candidacy from July 21 to July 28, and the events scheduled to follow were moved accordingly without change to the number of days allotted for each.

The SC COMELEC agreed with the concerns and acknowledged the circumstances that the student community is experiencing would negatively affect all parties involved.

- The on July 13, 2023, the SC Commission on Elections released Resolution No. 09, Series of 2023 entitled "A Resolution Amending the Election Calendar for the PUP Student Council Elections 2023". Wherein, the amended election calendar are as follows:

Amended Election Calendar

July 17 – 28	-	Filing of COC
July 29 – Aug 4	-	Deliberation of COC and Verification of Candidates
Aug 5	-	Release of Official List of Candidates
Aug 6 - 15	-	Campaign Period and LSC Miting De Avance
Aug 15	-	University Wide Miting De Avance
Aug 17 – 20	-	Casting of Votes
Aug 21 – 25	-	Canvassing of Votes
Aug 26 – 30	-	Post Electoral Protest
Sept 1	-	Proclamation and Oath Taking

- That the BUKLURAN ng Progresibong Mag-aaral agrees with the concerns raised by SAMASA PUP in their petition to adjust the election calendar. BUKLURAN believes that with the vital activities of the Student Council Elections: Filing of Certificate of Candidacy (July 17 – 28) and Deliberation of COC and Verification of Candidates (July 29 – August 4), coinciding with the schedule of final examinations and compliance to other academic requirements, the participation and performance of students in this democratic process are greatly affected in a negative manner.

Even though the SC COMELEC adjusted the Election Calendar, the concerns raised in the conflict of schedule (vital election activities coinciding with the schedule of finals examination and compliance) is not addressed. In the amended election calendar, the Filing of Certificate of Candidacy is scheduled on July 17 – 28 and the Deliberation of COC and Verification of Candidates is on July 29 to August 4, which also coincides with the schedule of Final Examinations of Non-graduating students (July 24-30) and the time period for

compliance of students to their academic requirement. Furthermore, there are also colleges who scheduled their evaluation and departmental examinations until the first week of August i.e., CAF.

With the vital activities of this election scheduled at the same time with the schedule of finals examination and compliance of other academic requirements, potential participants in the elections will be hindered in participating as they may not be able to prepare required documents or may not have the enough headspace or breathing room to juggle both important matters.

- That the BUKLURAN ng Progresibong Mag-aaral believes that given that students are busy with their academics and with the lack of enough information dissemination activities of the SC COMELEC on the existence of the ongoing Student Council Elections, huge number of students are unaware of the filing of COC which subsequently affect their participation in the said democratic process. Although the SC COMELEC have efforts online through their public posts, but the engagement on the said posts is noticeably low. This hinders to our goal of an inclusive and truly democratic process.
- That the BUKLURAN ng Progresibong Mag-aaral believes that students deserve an undivided attention in complying with their academic examinations and requirements. Added by the current situation and material condition that the students are experiencing in the learning environment in PUP, there is a more compelling reason for students to exert more time and effort in their studies.
- That the BUKLURAN ng Progresibong Mag-aaral believes that both this democratic process and fulfilling academic duties are both important for students and it should not be an either-or situation for the students. That at the expense of their participation in this democratic process is their academic performance, or at the expense of their academic performance is their right to participate to this democratic process.

BUKLURAN believes that with further understanding and leniency of the SC COMELEC, students will be given an opportunity to excel in their students and serve their fellow iskolar ng bayan.

WITH THE ABOVE-STATED, the BUKLURAN ng mga Progresibong Mag-aaral move to amend the election calendar in the proposed schedule provided below:

Proposed Election Calendar:

Aug 9	-	Deadline of Filing of COC
Aug 10 - 16	-	Deliberation of COC and Verification of Candidate's Financial Liability
Aug 17	-	Release of Official List of Candidates
Aug 18 – 27	-	Campaign Period and LSC Miting De Avance
Aug 28 – Sept 1	-	Casting of Votes
Sep 1	-	U- WIDE Miting de Avance
Sept 2 – Sept 6	-	Canvassing of Votes

Sept 7 – 11	-	Post-Electoral Protest
Sept 12	-	Proclamation of Elected Officials and Oath-Taking

PRAYER

WHEREFORE, it is respectfully prayed of this Honorable Commission to immediately issue a notice of hearing for this motion. Please take notice that the movants, invoking their right to due process and upholding fair elections, have requested to be heard on 27/07/23 at exactly 7:30pm

WHEREFORE, it is respectfully prayed of this Honorable Commission to amend the election calendar based on the proposed date provided by the movants.

WHEREFORE, it is respectfully prayed of this Honorable Commission to grant the petition as early as they could.

WHEREFORE, it is respectfully prayed of this Honorable Commission to render an immediate judgment on this motion.


Bea Reigne Tarlac
Chairperson


Dion Rainer Sta. Rosa
Secretary-General