



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

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**Commission En Banc**

**DATE:** 20 AUGUST 2023

**PETITION:** MOTION TO HOLD THE CANVASSING OF VOTES DESPITE OF THE HOLIDAY IN CONSIDERATION TO THE, OR MOTION TO RELEASE SECURITY MEASURES OF THE COMMISSION IN REGARDS TO THE HOLIDAY PAUSE FOR THE CANVASSING OF VOTES IN THE ELECTION 2023

**PETITIONERS:** WORKING TOWARDS IMPROVED STUDENT ENGAGEMENT, LEADERSHIP, & YOUTH DEVELOPMENT (WISELY)

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**Decision**

Working Towards Improved Student Engagement, Leadership, & Youth Development (WISELY), the petitioners, filed a **Motion to Hold the Canvassing of Votes Despite of the Holiday in Consideration to the, Or Motion to Release Security Measures of the Commission in Regards to the Holiday Pause for the Canvassing of Votes in the Election 2023** to the Commission En Banc on August 20, 2023. According to the petitioner, detailed security measures taken by the PUP Commission on Elections over the holiday break should be made public in order to dispel any potential concerns regarding the security and legitimacy of the election.

The petitioners contested the provision of Article XII Section 1 of the Implementing Rules and Regulations on the canvassing of votes, which state that:

*Section 1. As soon as the voting is finished, the canvassing of votes shall commence immediately through physical or virtual means. The Commission shall decide whether the canvassing of votes shall be broadcasted live only on its official*



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*social media platforms or shall be conducted in a private, online meeting, with the designated poll watchers of each political party or candidate, and student publications only. (Article VII Section 46 of the Election Code).*

**DECISION:** The Commission En Banc has **DENIED THE PETITION, BUT WITH RESERVATION.** The Commission has decided not to allow the commencement of vote canvassing on August 21, 2023. However, the deadline for casting votes has been extended until tomorrow, August 21, 2023, at 11:59 PM.

The Commissioner from the College of Communication (COC) delivered the opinion of the Commission En Banc, joined by the Commissioners from College of Accountancy and Finance (CAF), College of Business Administration (CBA), College of Computer and Information Sciences (CCIS), College of Engineering (CE), College of Political Science and Public Administration (CPSPA), College of Social Sciences and Development (CSSD), College of Science (CS), Institute of Technology (ITECH), and Open University System (OUS).

**Opinion of the Commission:**

VOX POPULI  
VOX DEI

The Commission declined to approve the motion due to the absence of a designated location for ballot canvassing on August 21, 2023. Additionally, the Commission will face inconvenience if the canvassing of votes is conducted in a hybrid manner tomorrow, considering it is a holiday. The Commission is particularly concerned about potential technical difficulties that may arise if the canvassing of votes is handled in a hybrid or fully online manner. These difficulties could potentially compromise the integrity of the PUP Elections 2023. However, extending the voting period is an opportunity that can be utilized to enhance voter turnout in this election.



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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

**(SGD) ANNA KATRINA C. TENA**

*Treasurer*

College of Political Science and Public Administration Commissioner

**(SGD) 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

**(SGD) KRISTAL ANDREA MARQUEZ**



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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) KEREN CLAIRE L. CABUELLO**  
Institute of Technology Commissioner

**(SGD) FRINCE CARL N. FORTUNADO**  
Open University System Commissioner

