

# Republic of the Philippines Polytechnic University of the Philippines Student Council Constitutional Commissions

# Commission on Elections

## Pecision

Petition: MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION TO APPROVE THE CAMPAIGN

MATERIALS OF THE CANDIDATES OF SPEAK FOR THE SENTRAL NA KONSEHO NG MAG-AARAL AND THE COLLEGE OF ARTS AND

LETTERS STUDENT COUNCIL

Petitioners: PUP Students' Party for Equality and Advancement of Knowledge (PUP

SPEAK)

In August 24, 2021, the Implementing Rules and Regulations of the 2021 PUP Election Code has taken effect.

The submission of the Campaign Materials expired on September 9, 2021. Any corrections or slight alterations is allowed by the commission, even after the deadline.

The concerned slate submitted the campaign materials, in line with the final adjusted election calendar, was accepted on September 13, 11:53pm.

The petitioners filed this motion on September 19, 2021.

**Decision:** The Commission dismisses the Motion for Reconsideration.

The sent files to the commission in lieu of the adjustment of the campaign that was accepted last September 13, 11:53pm; the only changes were made are the revised election campaign activities and social networking sites to be utilized for the College of Arts and Letters, no modifications were made to the publication materials, on the other hand the for the Sentral na Konseho ng Mag-aaral, the received link was duly accepted by the Commission, the materials were received as it is and already reviewed by the Commission to be posted by the candidates.

The commissioners from CCIS and CPSPA delivered the opinion of the commission, joined unanimously.

The commissioners from ITECH took no part in the deliberations of the motion.

#### **Opinion of the Commission:**

#### Part I:

The petitioners cited the following grounds for this motion:

a. On the part of our campaign managers who are tasked with submitting the campaign materials, there was a slight error in our process of consolidating the materials due to the

slow internet connection. This caused a two-minute delay in submitting the materials to the COMELEC.

b. The Creatives Team of PUP SPEAK uploaded the publicity materials in the wrong folder which was not uploaded in the link sent to the COMELEC. There was also the problem of the permission to upload in the Google Drive, which caused a delay in the uploading.

The Commission understands the constraints established by poor internet connection in the country, however, the campaign managers never informed the Commission prior to this motion. This motion was filed two days after the commencement of the campaign period and cannot see how the lack of communication between the campaign managers and the Commission will justify the two-day delay of informing about this issue.

On the other hand, it is the responsibility of the campaign team to submit the files correctly. The Commission is not at fault in Ground B. The permission issue is not supported by evidence. The Commission set the security of the folders as unrestrictive, which means anyone with the link can access, so the Commission cannot see how they are in fault in the permissions of the drive, when it is accessible to the Campaign Team in the first place.

#### Part II:

The petitioners cited the following grounds for this motion:

- c. PUP SPEAK believes that these slight technical errors and miscommunications must not be a reason to jeopardize the campaigning of all the participating candidates, not just in PUP SPEAK.
- d. PUP SPEAK also believes in the spirit of fairness. For so long, the COMELEC has made several adjustments in the election calendar as well as adjustments in their guidelines. Despite these added burdens to all interested parties, we have, nonetheless, complied with these adjustments. We believe that it is only fair that the COMELEC gives consideration and flexible resolutions to address these slight errors, in the same way that the candidates and the electorate have understood the situation of the COMELEC.

The Commission has been considerate in accepting the campaign materials of the candidates. In this matter at hand not only the candidates failed to pass the materials with due diligence but also the materials in the said link were deemed incorrect.

The submission of the campaign materials is already extended. The Commission, with respect to the campaign team of the candidates, allowed certain corrections in their design and content beyond the extended deadline.

This will be an internal indecision and miscommunication among the campaign managers and the candidates that led to perplexity in the campaign materials, the Commission distributed the said approved materials that was only given to them upon reviewing.

SO, ORDERED

(SGD) JANNETTE PRINCESS V. HINATE

Chairperson
College of Education Commissioner

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### (SGD) JANEL MARIEKE B. BAÑARIA

Vice Chairperson

College of Social Science and Development Commissioner

#### (SGD) ALEC MARIZ G. AVERILLA

Secretary General

College of Human Kinetics Commissioner

#### (SGD) KATHERINE CLAIRE A. HOANG

**Treasurer** 

College of Architecture, Design and Built Environment Commissioner

# (SGD) ANGELA LUISA H. MONTENEGRO

College of Accountancy and Finance Commissioner

#### (SGD) DIVINA MARIE B. IBAÑEZ

College of Arts and Letters Commissioner

#### (SGD) ELIZABETH MARIE G. ANDAYA

College of Business Administration Commissioner

#### (SGD) PETER THADDEUS V. IBAÑEZ

College of Communication Commissioner

### (SGD) MARC JOSEPH V. BARCIAL

College of Computer and Information Systems Commissioner

#### (SGD) CHARLIZE KRIZIA R. LOPEZ

College of Engineering Commissioner

# (SGD) FRANZ MARIELLA D. SUMOCOL

College of Science Commissioner

#### (SGD) CYRUS JAMES P. MAGSINO

College of Political Science and Public Administration Commissioner

#### (SGD) KRISTAN MARK F. BERNARDO

College of Tourism, Hospitality and Transportation Management Commissioner

#### **DIVINA I. ASIS**

Institute of Technology Commissioner

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Appendix A: E-mail of SPEAK for their campaign materials.

