



Commission on Elections

RULES AND REGULATIONS IMPLEMENTING THE STUDENT COUNCIL ACT NO. 001 SERIES OF 2021, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE ELECTION CODE OF THE PUP STUDENT COUNCIL

ARTICLE I GENERAL PROVISIONS

- Section 1** **Title** – These rules and regulations shall be known as the “Rules and Regulations Implementing the Student Council Act No. 001 Series of 2021, otherwise known as the Election Code of the Student Council.”
- Section 2** **Applicability** – These rules and regulations shall govern and regulate all election of officers of the PUP Student Council. This election code is only applicable for the current and succeeding academic years when Flexible Technology Learning (FlexTel) setup is still being implemented or followed.

ARTICLE II THE STUDENT COMMISSION ON ELECTIONS

- Section 1** **Composition** – The Commission shall be composed of fourteen (14) commissioners, representing their respective college, duly screened by the Student Council Assembly.
- a. **COMELEC Executive Committee** – The commissioners shall elect their executive committee, composed of Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Secretary General and Treasurer.
- Section 2** **Appointment** – The Commissioners shall be elected by the Student Council Assembly (SCA). The President of the SCA shall nominate three students per college. The SCA on secret voting will elect a Commissioner from the three nominees.
- a. The Commission through its Chair or the Executive Committee shall have the power to appoint additional commissioners if during the conducted screening by the Student Council Assembly, the total number of applicants who passed the screening and interview is less than the prescribed number of commissioners as provided in the assembly.
- Section 3** **Deputy Commissioners** – The Commission shall appoint and deputize bona fide student to ensure fair, orderly, and honest election. They may act as poll chairperson, poll clerk or other positions needed for the conduct of the elections, instruct and answer all inquiries and questions relating on electronic voting; raise all the pending inquiries and questions relating on electronic voting that were unanswered by the Deputy Commissioner to the members of the Commission; Act as online administrator, online administrator assistant, and other positions; and Other functions and responsibilities the Commission may delegate; However, they cannot vote on *en banc* sessions and participate on decisions of the Commission.
- Section 4** **Powers and functions of the Commission** – In addition to the powers and functions conferred upon it by the PUP Student Council Constitution, the Commission shall:
- a. ensure fair, orderly and honest election;

ARTICLE II

THE STUDENT COMMISSION ON ELECTIONS

- b. keep and preserve all election materials, inclusive of electronic ballots, documents, and other election paraphernalia;
- c. inspect and approve campaign materials;
- d. pass and promulgate implementing rules other than those within these rules and regulations and exercise all other powers necessary to administer and ensure a fair, orderly and honest conduct of elections;
- e. prohibit and stop illegal campaign practices including but not limited to:
 - i. removal and destruction of campaign materials by other party or candidates within the campaign period;
 - ii. any form, light or obvious, accidental or intentional, verbal or visual defamation against other party or individual candidate, and ultimately all forms of black propaganda;
 - iii. physical coercion and/or grave threat, and online attacks that are but not limited to:
 - iii.1 **Cyber bullying** – Any act of using any electronic device to send messages that might cause intimidation to another party or to be perceived as a threat to one's welfare;
 - iii.2 **Libel** – As stipulated in Republic Act no. 10175 also known as the Anti Cyber-crime law, it is the unlawful or prohibited acts of libel committed through a computer system or any other similar means which may be devised in the future.
 - iii.2.1 During the university student council elections, it is any published statement, conversation, story, that causes damage to the reputation of the candidate or political party.
 - iii.3 Malicious statements in public social media fora, including but not limited to red tagging and/or false accusations expressed through comments on Facebook statuses and posts and/or replies on Twitter posts and threads.
 - iv. non-removal of campaign paraphernalia after campaign period.
- f. Administer, govern, and carry out the necessary electronic election process and platform through commission deliberation
- g. Recommend the removal of any officer of the PUP Student Council for violations or disregard of disobedience to its decisions, orders or directives to the SCA. (Article XII-A Section 3 of the Constitution)

Section 5 All decisions, rules, regulations, and resolutions shall be valid upon approval by the majority of the Commissioners. Signed copies of which shall be posted in social media accounts, accessible links, and given to all interested parties.

Section 6 **Decisions** – All decisions of the Commission *en banc* shall be final and executory upon notification of all parties involved. However, interested parties can still file their motion/s of reconsideration and shall be deliberated again by the Commission *en banc*. Further, after the election period, any pending appeal on any decision of the Commission shall be filed with the Student Council Assembly. Provided, that the Student Council Assembly shall decide based on the facts of the case, such power is vested to the Commission alone.

ARTICLE III

QUALIFICATION OF CANDIDATES

- Section 7** **Domicile** – The Commission holds office at the Constitutional Commissions office, 2nd Floor, Charlie del Rosario Building or other office designated by the Student Council Assembly for election purposes. Provided, that said shall be known to all interested parties.

ARTICLE III

QUALIFICATION OF CANDIDATES

- Section 1** **Qualification** – No student may be qualified to run in any position on the Student Council unless he/she is a bona fide student without financial liability of this university at the time of his/her filing of candidacy.
- a. **Bona fide defined** – For Student Council election purposes, any student admitted in the university with at least two (2) semesters and completed the requirements for formal acceptance in Polytechnic University of the Philippines, shall be considered as a bona fide student.
- Section 2** **Registered** – One who is registered for formal academic credits and who carries the academic loads required in a given semester by his/her curriculum, he/she may be regular or irregular (sec. 7.2 PUP Student Handbook) provided he/she is not a graduating student.
- Section 3** **Legitimate student political party** – defined as accredited organization/s duly screened and approved by the Commission on Student Organization and Accreditation.
- Section 4** **Candidates holding elective office** – Candidates holding elective office including such as student council officers and/or student organization shall exercise their power and duties until a new set of officers are proclaimed and sworn in. However, the Student Council Assembly cannot institute actions concerning the manner of the conduct of the elections; such actions are vested only to the Commission during the election period.
- Section 5** **Candidates holding appointive office** – Students appointed as member or officers of Constitutional Commissions, such as Student Commission of Audit, Commission on Student Organization and Accreditation, Student Tribunal and other Commissions created by the Student Council Assembly, shall resign from their Office prior to his/her filing of Certificate of Candidacy.
- Section 6** **Filing period** – The period of filing of Certificate of Candidacy shall be prescribed by the Student Council Assembly. Further, the Commission *motu proprio* or by petition of any interested party, can extend the filing period. Provided, that such extension is necessary, with just case, for the conduct of the widely participated, fair and orderly elections. Provided further, that the copies of the announcement of the filing period and any extension shall be posted on social media platforms and be known to all interested parties.

ARTICLE IV

CERTIFICATE OF CANDIDACY

- Section 1** **Certificate of Candidacy** – No students shall be eligible for any elective office unless he/she files a sworn certificate of candidacy within the period fixed by the Commission. A person who has filed a certificate of candidacy may, prior to the election, withdraw the same by submitting to the Commission a written declaration.

ARTICLE V

ELECTION AND CAMPAIGN PERIODS

Section 2 Requirements – A certificate of candidacy shall be awarded to a candidate who has submitted the following:

- a. Two of the most recent Certification from the Admission and Registration Office (ARO) e.g., Registration Card as a proof that he/she is enrolled. In cases that the Registration Card is unavailable, the candidate may provide either of the following as an alternative:
 1. A copy of official Certification of Enrollment/Attendance through Online Document Request System (ODRS) within the specified election timeline.
 2. Certificate of Grades which reflects his/her two most recent accomplished semesters and containing his/her student number. This document must be issued by their respective department office, signed by the Dean and/or Chairperson.
- b. A scanned copy of certification/clearance from the Student Council Commission on Audit (SC-COA) stating that the candidate has no financial liabilities.
- c. Other documents deemed necessary by the Commission for Election Purposes:
 1. Digital copy of 2X2" sized picture, in formal attire, with a white background and nametag of the candidate at the bottom of the image.
 2. Duly signed Party Registration Certificate (signed by the party paralegal representative).

Section 3 Ministerial duty of receiving and acknowledging receipt – The Commission shall have the ministerial duty to receive and acknowledge receipt of the certificate of candidacy.

Section 4 Candidates in case of disqualification or withdrawal of another – If within the period of the filing of certificates of candidacy, an official candidate of a registered or accredited political party withdraws or is disqualified for any cause, only a person belonging to, and certified by, the same political party may file a certificate of candidacy to replace the candidate who withdraw or was disqualified. The substitute candidate nominated by the political party concerned may file his/her certificate of candidacy to the Commission not later than the day of the last day of the filing of candidacy.

Section 5 Official list of candidates – The official list of candidates shall be posted by the Commission on social media accounts such as Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. Further, copies of which shall also be emailed and forwarded to the official campus publication/s, Office of the Student Services, Office of the Vice President for Student Services, and the Central Student Council.

ARTICLE V

ELECTION AND CAMPAIGN PERIODS

Section 1 Unless otherwise fixed by the Student Council Assembly through a resolution, the election period shall commence on the first day of filing of certificate of candidacy and shall end ten (10) days after the final casting of ballots and resolution of post-election disputes.

Section 2 The schedule of election shall be on the date provided in the PUP Student Council Constitution, unless fixed by the Student Council Assembly.

ARTICLE VI

CAMPAIGN AND ELECTION PROPAGANDA

Section 3 Postponement of election – When for any serious case such as violence, terrorism, loss or destruction of electronic election devices, software, and paraphernalia, *force majeure*, University administration intervention, and other analogous causes of such nature that the holding of a free, orderly, and honest election should become impossible, Student Commission on Election, which hereinafter shall be referred to as the Commission, *motu proprio* or upon a verified petition by any interested parties are afforded equal opportunity to be heard, shall postpone the election therein to a date which should be reasonably close to the date of the election not held, suspended, or which resulted in a failure to elect but not later in ten (10) days after the cessation of the cause for such postponement or suspension of the election or failure to elect.

Section 4 Failure of election – If, on account of *force majeure*, violence, and fraud, failure of online election system, University administration intervention, or other analogous causes, the election in any polling precinct has not been held on the date fixed, or had suspended before the hour fixed by this rules and regulations for the closing of the voting, or after the voting and during the preparation and transmission of the election returns or in the custody or canvass thereof, such result in a failure to elect, and in any of such cases, the failure or suspension of election would affect the result of the election, the Commission shall, on the basis of a verified petition by any interested party and after due notice and hearing, call for the holding and continuation of the election not held, suspended or which resulted in a failure to elect on a date reasonable close to the date of the election not held, suspended or which resulted on a failure to elect but not later than ten (10) days after the cessation of the cause of such postponement or suspension of the election or failure to elect.

Section 5 Violence and fraud definition – All election activities, such as filing requirements, done by deceptions, tricks, and lies are considered fraud. Activities of online defamation and threats, causing harm to the Commission and its Commissioners, or to at least one (1) voter will be considered as election violence;

a. Both are counted as grounds for suspension of election campaign and ultimately, disqualification, to a candidate and/or to his party, as stated in Article IX of this document.

b. A student committing fraudulence is punishable under: Title IX Section 3.28 of the PUP Student Handbook.

Section 6 Administration intervention – A direct campaign and command of any faculty member to vote in favor of any political party or individual candidates is a form of administration intervention. However, failure of election may be declared depending upon the gravity of the influence it may inflict to total result of votes which are subject to the findings and recommendation of the commission. It will be considered as administrative intervention if at least one (1) voter has been proven influenced by any faculty member.

ARTICLE VI

CAMPAIGN AND ELECTION PROPAGANDA

Section 1 Campaign period – The campaign period shall be fixed by the Student Council Assembly. Unless otherwise provided, the campaign period shall be at least three (3) days not counting Sunday.

ARTICLE VI

CAMPAIGN AND ELECTION PROPAGANDA

- a. The *Miting de Avance* shall be held on the afternoon (1PM) of the last day of the campaign period. Provided, that the Commission on Elections shall release guidelines for the *Miting de Avance*.

Section 2 Campaign materials – All campaign materials to be used by the candidates and political parties shall be previously approved by the Commission. The Commission will approve any form of campaign materials as long as it ensures fair, orderly, and honest election.

- a. Publicity Photos and videos including posters, videos, display picture (DP) blasts, and alike are considered campaign materials.

Section 3 Campaign Materials for Independent Slates – Independent candidates may consolidate their campaign materials as a slate, provided that it undergone to the review of the Commission.

Section 4 All campaign material promotions online shall be organic (unpaid and/or unsponsored promotional material boosting). Facebook ads, Instagram ads, and the likes are prohibited.

Section 5 Campaign materials duration – All campaign materials will be valid and only be used on the given campaign period as stated on Section 1 of this same Article.

Section 6 Election Campaign Activities – Election Campaign Activities refer to any physical or online activity conducted by political parties or any bona fide participant of this election to promote a candidate/s or political party during the election, which includes but not limited to webinars, online meeting room discussions, flash mobs, and physical campaign rallies/demonstrations, shall be allowed provided that the candidates/political parties shall notify the Commission.

- a. All independent candidates/political parties shall submit a list of online election campaign activities to the Commission at the date specified in the election calendar. Candidates are not allowed to conduct any activity that is not included in the list they submitted.
- b. The Commission shall establish a protocol of monitoring all election campaign activities.
- c. For physical election campaign activities, the Commission shall only allow half of the total number of members of the official slate and campaign team. The official slate and campaign team shall observe IATF guidelines and minimum health protocols during the activity.

Section 7 Prohibited to campaign – Commissioners, deputies and staff of the Commission, faculty members, administrative officials, employees of the University and outsiders are prohibited to campaign for and/or against any candidate or party. Further, any people outside of the University are not allowed to campaign inside the University or through online campaign platforms. All above mentioned person may, on the other hand, campaign outside the University vicinity, and will be outside the jurisdiction of this Commission.

- a. University outsider definition. To ensure fair elections and prevent external intervention, any person/s that is/are not a student/s of this University in any manner will be considered people outsider to the University. They are not allowed to enter the University premises (in connection with this University's protocols), unless with valid reasons. Campaigning is not considered as valid reason for the University to entertain these said outsiders and will be prohibited to, as stated in Section 3 of this same article.

ARTICLE VII

WATCHERS, PRECINCT, AND POLLING PLACES

- b. University vicinity definition. The vicinity of the University will be limited to its territorial boundaries enclosed by its walls. The campus ground and the one-meter sidewalk outside the campus is still part of this University vicinity.
- c. For physical election campaign activities, the Commission shall only allow half of the total number of members of the official slate and campaign team. The official slate and campaign team shall observe IATF guidelines and minimum health protocols during the activity (Section 30 of the Election Code 2021)

Section 8 Propaganda – Any form of propaganda is not prohibited by the Commission unless it addresses any of the given prohibitions in this code and a complaint has been filed. The Commission shall then investigate the complaint.

- a. Black Propaganda defined – any form of propaganda such as but not limited to statements, social media posts, newsletters, and publications that are proven baseless, falsified, and with malicious intentions shall be considered black propaganda. Moreover, any candidate or Party proven to have committed a black propaganda against a candidate, Party, or the Commission is subjected to suspension and ultimately, disqualification.

Section 9 Post campaign procedure. All campaigns will be prohibited after the campaign period. Further, all campaign paraphernalia will also be removed after, with the presence of at least one (1) Commissioner and/or one (1) Deputy Commissioner after the campaign period.

ARTICLE VII

WATCHERS, PRECINCT, AND POLLING PLACES

Section 1 Precincts - Unless otherwise deemed by the Commission to increase the numbers of precincts on every college based on the student population, there shall be at least one (1) precinct on every college.

Section 2 Person allowed in and around the virtual polling place. During the voting, no person shall be allowed inside the virtual polling place, except the members, deputies and staff of the Commission, official watchers of every political party and candidates, the voter's casting votes, and the voters waiting to turn to vote.

Section 3 Watcher - Poll watchers, personnel and deputies are subject to disciplinary action to be meted out by the COMELEC Commissioners in case of misconduct. Prior to there, candidates or parties should submit a list of their campaign personnel et. al. volunteers of the COMELEC and their substitutes. The personnel, however, are limited to the following positions:

- a. Prior to there, independent candidates should submit a list of their campaign personnel et. al. volunteers of the COMELEC and their substitutes.
 - 1. Candidates running in the Central Student Council are entitled with three (3) legal representatives, three (3) campaign managers, one (1) spokesperson, and two (2) poll watchers.
 - 2. Candidates running in their College Student Council are entitled with one (1) legal representative, one (1) campaign manager, one (1) spokesperson, and two (2) poll watchers.
- b. Political parties and independent slates should submit a list of their campaign personnel et. al. volunteers of the COMELEC and their substitutes.
 - 1. Parties running in the Central Student Council are entitled with three (3) legal representatives, three (3) campaign managers, one (1) spokesperson, and three (3) poll watchers.

ARTICLE VIII

SYSTEM OF ELECTIONS

2. Parties running in their College Student Council are entitled with one (1) legal representative, one (1) campaign manager, one (1) spokesperson, and three (3) poll watchers.

Section 4 All personnel shall be bona fide students of this University.

**ARTICLE VIII
SYSTEM OF ELECTIONS**

Section 1 **Voting hours** -The casting of votes starts at eight (8) o'clock in the morning and shall end at six (6) o'clock in the evening

Section 2 **Qualified voters** - All bona fide students shall be allowed to cast their votes.

Section 3 The voters shall proceed to their respective online and electronic polling precincts and shall present their registration cards.

- a. In the absence of the registration card, the student ID issued on or earlier academic year 2019 shall be presented to be able to cast his vote to prohibit multiple casting of vote. Provided, his name shall be specially marked in the list of voters who cast their votes on using an ID.
- b. The system shall be doubled checked every time a voter cast his/her vote to prohibit multiple casting votes.

Section 4 **Student Council Voting** - The voter is advised to select the name of candidates for the Student Council, found in the list provided by the Commission in every precinct, as stated in Article VI Section 4 of this Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR).

Section 5 **Ballot** – Each voter is entitled to one electronic ballot, consisting of two (2) sections: the College Student Council (CSC); and the Sentro ng Konseho ng Mag-aaral (SKM).

- a. **College Student Council Voting** – Each voter is entitled to vote among the official candidates only for their respective College Student Council (CSC).
 1. Each voter is entitled to one (1) vote for the position of CSC President, who shall be elected by direct vote.
 2. Each voter is entitled to one (1) vote for the position of CSC Vice President, who shall be elected by direct vote.
 3. Each voter is entitled to up to six (6) votes for the position of CSC Councilors, who shall be elected by direct vote.
- b. **Sentral na Konseho ng Mag-aaral Voting**- Each voter is entitled to vote among the official candidates for the Sentral na Konseho ng Mag-aaral (SKM).
 1. Each voter is entitled to one (1) vote for the position of SKM President, who shall be elected by direct vote.
 2. Each voter is entitled to one (1) vote for the position of SKM Vice President, who shall be elected by direct vote.
 3. Each voter is entitled to up to twelve (12) votes for the position of SKM Councilors, who shall be elected by direct vote.

**ARTICLE IX
PENAL PROVISIONS AND SANCTIONS**

- Section 1** All violations and infractions committed by candidates, party leaders, members, and other students shall be treated under pertinent provisions of laws, rules, and regulations in the University.
- Section 2** Deliberate falsification and tampering of any documents such as clearance, application forms, Certificate of Candidacies, certifications, and other documents similar in nature or purpose submitted to the Commission.
- a. First offense – disqualification
- Section 3** Campaign violations (as listed in Articles II Section 4, Article V Section 5 and 6, and Article VI).
- a. First offense – warning. A letter will be sent privately to issue the warning.
- b. Second offense – one (1) day suspension on campaign
- c. Third offense – disqualification
- Section 4** **Deliberate disruption definition** – Any act by a person affiliated to a candidate and/or to a political party to intentionally disrupt campaigns, casting and canvassing. It is commonly, but not limited to, physical disruption, but other form may exist such as influential disruption. Deliberate disruption during campaign, casting and canvassing which leads to create disorder or disturbance.
- a. During the campaign period
1. First offense – warning. A letter will be sent privately to issue the warning.
2. Second offense – one (1) day suspension on campaign
3. Third offense – disqualification if the offender is the candidate while non-candidates and personnel are banned from participating in the election activities excluding their right to vote. Officials banned may be replaced by the parties concerned.
- b. During the casting and canvassing of votes
1. First offense – warning. A letter will be sent privately to issue the warning.
2. Second offense – disqualification if the offender is the candidate while non-candidates and personnel are banned from participating in the election activities excluding their right to vote. Officials banned may be replaced by the parties concerned.
- Section 5** All acts of disrespect and harassment, in word or in deed, which tends to put a member of the Commission in ridicule or contempt such as, but not limited to, use of foul words, gestures, and among others.
- a. First offense – warning. A letter will be sent privately to issue the warning.
- b. Second offense – reprimand. The Commission will issue an official statement concerning the violation through their official social media platforms.
- c. Third offense – personnel shall be suspended from his/her designated position depending on the gravity of the united decision of the Commission with its corresponding resolution.

ARTICLE X

GROUNDS FOR DISQUALIFICATION

Section 6 Retribution for Candidates, Party Leaders and its Members with Multiple Offenses. At least three (3) offenses accumulated regardless of its nature and degree, stated in Sections 3 to 5 in this article, are punishable to the extent of disqualification of the candidates, where the basis of retribution shall be the number of offenses committed.

- a. However, if there are vast offenses committed by the candidates of the same party that deliberately disrupts the election process, causes confusion to the Commission and to the electorate, the commission may impose the same punishment to the slate or party concerned.

ARTICLE X

GROUNDS FOR DISQUALIFICATION

Section 1 Completion of Requirements – failure to submit all the requirements on time shall be subjected to disciplinary action and disqualification to extent.

Section 2 Falsification of Documents – tampering with falsifying or causing the falsification of any documents such as clearance, application forms, Certificate of Candidacies, certifications, and other documents similar in nature or purpose submitted to the commission.

Section 3 Certificate of Candidacy – failure to file and accomplish the certificate of candidacy on time shall be subjected to disciplinary action and disqualification to extent.

Section 4 Pre and Post Campaign – room-to-room and other different forms of campaign that will be held by political parties before and/or after the campaign period shall be subjected to disciplinary action and disqualification to extent.

Section 5 Destroying Campaign Materials – Candidates or individuals affiliated to a political party caught destroying campaign material shall be subjected to disciplinary action and disqualification to extent.

ARTICLE XI

CASTING OF VOTES

Section 1 Election Day – unless deemed necessary by the Commission to increase the days of election, there shall be at least five (5) consecutive days for casting of votes. As soon as the voting is finished, the canvassing of votes shall commence in designated canvassing areas. The canvassing committee shall compose of official representative of the Commission and the watchers of each political party and independent candidates.

Section 2 Rules for the appreciation of electronic ballots – in the reading and appreciation of ballots, every ballot **shall be presumed to be valid** unless there is clear and good reason to justify its rejection. The canvassing committee shall observe the following rules, bearing in mind that the object of the election is to obtain the expression of the voter's will:

- a. Any vote cast in favor of a candidate who has been disqualified by final judgment shall be considered as stray and shall not be counted but it shall not invalidate the ballot.
- b. The voter form shall be filled out and completed per candidate before being recognized as a verified vote.

ARTICLE XII

COUNTING AND CANVASSING PROCEDURES

Section 3 Unused ballots. Any excess blank ballots in all precincts after the last day of casting of votes will be treated as unused ballots. The unused ballots will be destroyed in the presence of all parties through their poll watchers in the precinct before the transmission of election returns.

Section 4 Casting of Votes duration. It is highly recommended to the Commission that there must be at least ten (10) minimum hours of duration to cast vote on the designated electronic election precinct. However, the minimum ten (10) hours duration for the casting of votes on the designated area may not be executed depends upon the following, but not limited to, justified reasons and circumstances that may occur which are subjected to the recommendation and/or approval of this Commission.

ARTICLE XII

COUNTING AND CANVASSING PROCEDURES

Section 1 As soon as the voting is finished, the canvassing of votes shall commence immediately. The Commission shall decide whether the canvassing of votes shall be broadcasted live only on its official social media platforms or shall be conducted in a private, online meeting, with the designated poll watchers of each political party or candidate only. (Art. VIII Sec. 34 of the Election Code)

Section 2 The board of canvassers, which will be composed of deputy commissioners and the commissioners, shall prepare the election returns simultaneously with the counting of votes.

Section 3 **Determination of the validity of electronic ballots** – The board of canvassers shall determine the validity of the electronic ballots through cross-matching the casted ballots with the information indicated in Article XI of these rules.

Section 4 The returns shall show the date of the election, the precinct numbers and links, the department and college in which it was held, the total number of electronic ballots cast, the total number of valid electronic ballots, the total number of void ballots, and the total number of votes obtained by each candidate, writing out the said number in figures and, at the end thereof, the board of canvassers shall certify that the contents are correct.

Section 5 Immediately upon the accomplishment of the election returns, each copy thereof shall be signed in the presence of the watchers and the public and published.

Section 6 **Proclamation of the result of the election in a college.** Upon the completion of the election returns, the Commission shall publicly announce and present the total number of votes received in the election in the college by each and every one of the candidates, stating their corresponding office.

Section 7 **Alterations and corrections in the election returns.** Any correction or alteration made in the election, returns by the board of canvassers before the announcement of the results of the election in the department shall be duly initialed by all the present parties and the Commission thereof.

Section 8 The Commission shall promulgate rules for the speedy and safe delivery of the election returns.

**ARTICLE XIII
ELECTION PROTEST**

- Section 1** **Disqualification Protest** – any disqualification protest against any candidate shall be filed not later than one (1) day before the Election Day and shall be decided by the Commission immediately before the elections. Failure by the Commission to resolve the issue before the Election Day will hold the disqualification protest pending.
- Section 2** **Post-Election Protest Period** – any post-election protest on the manner of casting and canvassing of votes or other cases that will affect the results of the election, shall be filed not later than five (5) days after the canvassing of the last votes and shall be resolved by the Commission not later than five (5) days after the filing such.

**ARTICLE XIV
PROCLAMATION OF WINNING CANDIDATES**

- Section 1** If there is no post-election protest filed with the Commission, the winning candidates shall be proclaimed after the post-election protest period. Further, the proclamation will be after the resolution of a protest if there is one.
- Section 2** **Determining the winner of the elections.**
- a. For the SKM and CSC Presidents and Vice Presidents, the candidate having the highest number of votes shall be proclaimed elected.
 - b. For the SKM Council, the twelve (12) candidates having the highest number of votes shall be proclaimed elected.
 - c. For the respective CSC Councils, the six (6) candidates having the highest number of votes shall be proclaimed elected.
 - d. **Election resulting in tie.** Unless otherwise resolved in other settlement by the Commission, whenever it shall appear from the canvass that the two or more candidates have received an equal and highest number of votes, or in cases where two or more candidates are to be elected for the same position and two or more candidates received the same number of votes for the last place in the number to be elected, the Commission, shall by resolution, upon notice to all the tied candidates, hold a special public meeting at which the board of canvassers shall proceed to the recounting of votes who have tied.
 - 1. In cases that the recounting will still results in a tie, a form of lottery will be held by the Commission to decide the winning candidate. The form of lottery will be decided depending on the number of candidates tied.
- Section 3** The offices of the University President, Vice President for Student Services, Dean of the Student services and the political parties and independent candidates hailed shall be furnished with the official list of the proclaimed winning candidates. Copies of which also be posted on all social media platforms of the Commission.

**ARTICLE XV
FINAL PROVISIONS**

- Section 1** **Separability Clause** – if, for any reason, any section or provision of this Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR), or the application of such section or provision to any person, group or circumstance is declared invalid or

unconstitutional, the remainder of this IRR or the application of such section or provision to other persons, groups, or circumstances shall not be affected by such declaration.

Section 2 Repealing Clause – the previous election rules and regulations of the PUP Commission on Elections is hereby repealed.

Section 3 Effectivity – This IRR shall take effect immediately upon its approval by the majority of the Commission on Election *en banc*. Upon the resumption of face-to-face classes in the PUP Mabini Campus and the easing of quarantine restrictions due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, this IRR shall be null and void, and the Implementing Rules and Regulations of the PUP Commission on Elections 2019 Edition shall take effect as the official IRR of the said campus.

This Implementing Rules and Regulations of the PUP Commission on Elections is hereby revised through proper deliberation, subjected to the approval of the majority of the members of the Commission on the 24th day of August 2021.

(SGD) JANNETTE PRINCESS V. HINATE
Chairperson
College of Education Commissioner

(SGD) JANEL MARIEKE B. BANARIA
Vice Chairperson
College of Social Science and Development
Commissioner

(SGD) ALEC MARIZ G. AVERILLA
Secretary General
College of Human Kinetics

(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. IBÁÑEZ
College of Arts and Letters Commissioner

(SGD) ELIZABETH MARIE G. ANDAYA
College of Business Administration
Commissioner

(SGD) MARC JOSEPH V. BARCIAL
College of Computer and Information Sciences
Commissioner

(SGD) CHARLIZE KRIZIA R. LOPEZ
College of Engineering Commissioner

(SGD) PETER THADDEUS V. IBÁÑEZ
College of Communication Commissioner

(SGD) CYRUS JAMES P. MAGSINO
College of Political Science and Public
Administration Commissioner

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