Dimming of the “missionary zeal”: Light of the North proposes another increase of tuition and other fees

For the past years of countless opposition from the students and different student groups both inside and outside campus, Saint Louis University stays loyal to its yearly tradition of tuition and other fees increase. This drives us, the KASAMA/Supreme Student Council to stand in unison with our constituents and oppose the 8% tuition and other fees increase (T.O.F.I.) for incoming freshmen.

The next academic year will be alarming for students as they face a combined 23% increase since the last AY 2015-2016 where freshmen were admitted in the university. This is upon grant of this year’s proposed increase for freshmen added to the increases during the academic years 2016-2017 and 2017-2018 at 5% and 10% respectively.

Saint Louis became fearless about increasing the rate of tuition in a manner that disallows dialogue with its main stakeholders – the students. With the aid of CHED Memo orders that deregulates increases on freshmen students, the university takes it into their advantage and pile up additional charges annually. These charges will be carried out until the last semester of an enrollee because of the implementation of a carry-over scheme. Hence, tuition increases in SLU affect everyone.

Students carry their concerns from individual grumbles of not having enough allowance and added tax to basic goods because of TRAIN law to general and shared concerns like destroyed armchairs, lacking or absence of laboratory equipment, charged use of facility, among numerous others.

Not unless students try to scan dull and vague pieces of paper posted in bulletin boards, they would not in any other way, know that their tuition and other fees are increasing.

Therefore, we request for the University Administration to be more informative and transparent of these sensitive matters. We also request for a dialogue to hear points of view of both the Administration and the studentry and to secure consent from all affected parties.

We, SLU KASAMA/SSC upholding the right of every individual to a quality and affordable education that is accessible to all, ought to take necessary steps towards a just and reasonable service to Louisians. We encourage a unified student body in this act of shared responsibility that is a reflection of the true spirit of a Louisian with the missionary zeal. Let the remaining spark from every single might rekindle into the “Light of the North”.

We are one with a missionary heart, raging against the dying light.

#NoToTuitionIncrease  
#EducationNotForSale  
#AyokoNangMagmahal