THIRTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
OF THE PHILIPPINES

First Regular Session

"04 DCT 26 P4:16

MECEIVED BY:

SENATE

COMMITTEE REPORT NO.

Submitted jointly by the Committees on Education, Arts and Culture; Ways and Means; and Finance on 26 OCT 2004

Recommending its approval in substitution of Senete Bill Nos. 221, 566, 1066, 1106, 1334, 1399, and 1739, and 1827

Sponsors: Senators Flavier and Pangilinan

Mr. President:

The Committees on Education, Arts and Culture; Ways and Means; and Finance, to which were referred **Senate Bill No. 221**, introduced by **Senator Osmeña III**, entitled:

"AN ACT

TO ENHANCE THE ACADEMIC FREEDOM AND INSTITUTIONAL AUTONOMY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

Senate Bill No. 566, introduced by Senator Villar Jr., entitled:

"AN ACT

TO STRENGTHEN THE UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILLIPPINES AS THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY"

Senate Bill No. 1066, introduced by Senator Angara, entitled:

"AN ACT

TO STRENGTHEN THE UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES AS THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY"

Senate Bill No. 1106, introduced by Senator Drilon, entitled:

"AN ACT

TO ENHANCE THE ACADEMIC FREEDOM AND INSTITUTIONAL AUTONOMY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES"

Senate Bill No. 1334, introduced by Senator Recto, entitled:

"AN ACT

TO STRENGTHEN THE UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES AS THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY"

Senate Bill No. 1399, introduced by Senator Pangilinan, entitled:

"AN ACT

TO STRENGTHEN THE UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES AS THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY"

and Senate Bill No. 1739, introduced by Senator Ejercito Estrada (J.), entitled:

"AN ACT

TO STRENGTHEN THE UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES AS

THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY"
and Senate Bill No . 1827, introduced by Senator Gordon, entitled: "An Act to strengthen the University have considered the same and have the honor to report back to the Senate University

with the recommendation that the attached bill, Senate Bill No.

1833

entitled:

"AN ACT

TO STRENGTHEN THE UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES AS THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY"

be approved in substitution of Senate Bill Nos. 221, 566, 1066, 1106,

1334, 1399, and 1739, with Senators Osmeña III, Villar Jr., Angara,

Drilon, Recto, Pangilinan, and Ejercito Estrada (J.) as authors thereof.

Respectfully submitted:

SEN./RALPH G. RECTO

Charperson, Committee on Ways and Megns, and Member, Committees on Education, Arts and Culture, and SEN JUAN M. FLAVIER

Chairperson Committee on Education, Arts and Culture, and Senate President Pro-Tempore

suith reservations regarding for exemptions

SEN. MANUEL B. VILLAR JR. Chairperson, Committee on Finance, and Member, Committee on Ways and Means

SEN. FOKER P. ARROYO

Vice-Chairperson, Committee on Ways and Means, and Member, Committee on Finance

MEMBERS:

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Committees on Education, Arts and Culture, on Ways and Means,

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Sen. Mar roxas

Committees on Education, Arts

and Culture, on Ways and Means and on Finance W/ remalion re:

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SEN. -RICHARD J. GORDON

Committees on Education, Arts and Culture, on Ways and Means,

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SEN. RODOLFO G. BIAZON

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Committees on/Education, Arts and Culture, on Ways and Means, and on Finance w/

SEN. COMPAÑERÁ PIA S. CAYETANO

Committees on Education, Arts and Culture, on Ways and Means, and on Finance with reservationSEN. EDGARDO J. ANGARA

Committees on Education, Arts and Culture, on Ways and Means, and on Finance

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SEN. SERGIO R. OSMEÑA III

Committees on Education, Arts and Culture, on Ways and Means, and on Finance

SEN. ALFREDO S. LIM

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EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS:

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Minority Leader

SEN. FRANCIS W. PANGILINAN

Majority Leader

THE HONORABLE SENATOR FRANKLIN M. DRILON

Senate President Senate of the Philippines Pasay City

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC) OF THE PHILIPPINES

First Regular Session

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SENATE

1833

S. B. No.

(In Substitution of S. B. Nos. 221, 566, 1066, 1106, 1334, 1399, and 1739) and 1827 (1827)

Introduced by Senators Osmeña III, Villar Jr., Angara, Drilon, Recto, Pangilinan, and Ejercito Estrada (J.), and Goodon

AN ACT

TO STRENGTHEN THE UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES AS THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY

Be it enacted by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:

- SECTION 1. Title. This Act shall be known as "The University of the
 Philippines Charter of 2004."
- 3 SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy. The State shall promote, foster,
- 4 nurture and protect the right of all citizens to quality education. Toward
- 5 this end, it is the policy of the State to strengthen the University of the
- 6 Philippines as the National University.
- 7 SEC. 3. Purpose of the University. As the National University, a
- 8 public and secular institution of higher learning, and a community of
- 9 scholars dedicated to the search for truth and knowledge, the University of
- 10 the Philippines shall carry out its unique and distinctive leadership in
- 11 higher education and national education development through its
- 12 combined functions, as follows:
- 13 (1) Lead in setting academic standards and initiating innovations in
- teaching, research and faculty development in philosophy, the arts

1	and humanities, the social sciences, the professions and
2	engineering, natural sciences, mathematics, and technology; and
3	maintain centers of excellence in such disciplines and professions;
4	(2) Serve as a graduate university by providing advanced studies
5	and specialization for scholars, scientists, writers, artists and
6	professionals, especially those who serve on the faculties of state
7	and private colleges and universities;
8	(3) Serve as a research university in its various fields of expertise
9	and specialization by conducting basic and applied research and
0	development, and promoting research in the various colleges and
1	universities;
12	(4) Lead as a public service university by providing various forms of
13	community, public, and volunteer service, and scholarly and
14	technical assistance to the government, the private sector, and civil
15	society while maintaining its standards of excellence;
16	(5) Provide opportunities for training and learning in progressive
17	leadership, responsible citizenship, and the development of
18	democratic values, institutions and practice; and
19	(6) Serve as a regional and global university in cooperation with
20	international and scientific unions with networks of universities and
21	scholarly and professional associations in the Asia-Pacific region
22	and around the world.
23	SEC. 4. The University System. The University of the Philippines,
24	hereinafter referred to as the "University," is a university system and shall
25	be composed of constituent universities established solely by its Board of
26	Regents upon the recommendation of the President of the University

1	SEC. 5. Academic Freedom. The University shall have the right to
2	enjoy and the responsibility to exercise academic freedom.
3	SEC. 6. Academic Excellence. The University has the
4	responsibility to maintain and enhance its high academic standards in the
5	performance of its functions of instruction, research, and extension and

6 public service.

SEC. 7. Social Responsibility. The University is committed to serve the Filipino nation and humanity. While it carries out the obligation to pursue universal principles, it must relate its activities to the needs of the Filipino people and their aspirations for social progress and transformation. The University may provide venues for student volunteerism.

SEC. 8. Democratic Access. No student shall be denied admission to the University by reason solely of age, gender, nationality, religious belief, ethnicity, physical disability, or political opinion or affiliation. The University shall take affirmative steps to enhance the access of disadvantaged students to its programs and services.

SEC. 9. Institutional Autonomy as the National University. To provide greater flexibility to the University, it shall be treated in a manner consistent with its institutional requirements as the National University by the service-wide agencies in the exercise of their respective jurisdiction.

SEC. 10. The Board of Regents.

- (1) Composition The government of the University is vested in a board of regents known as the "Board of Regents of the University of the Philippines System," hereinafter referred to as the "Board," composed of:
- 26 (a) The Chairperson of the Commission on Higher Education as 27 Chairperson;

(b) The President of the University of the Philippines System as 1 Vice-Chairperson; 2 The Chairperson of the Senate Committee on Education, Arts 3 and Culture; The Chairperson of the House Committee on Higher and 5 Technical Education; 6 The President of the U.P. Alumni Association, to serve as 7 (e) Alumni Regent during his or her incumbency in that position; 8 One Faculty Regent chosen by the full-time tenured faculty 9 (f) members of the University from their ranks, to serve for a term 10 of two (2) years; 11 One Student Regent, to serve for a term of one (1) year, chosen 12 by the students from their ranks in accordance with rules and 13 qualifications approved in a referendum by the students; 14 One Staff Regent representing the full-time permanent 15 research, extension, and professional staff (REPS) and 16 administrative personnel and chosen by them from their ranks, 17 to serve for a term of two (2) years; and 18 Three (3) other Regents who have distinguished themselves in 19 (i)their professions or field of specialization chosen from a list of 20 five (5) persons for every vacancy as recommended by a search 21 committee constituted by the President of the University based 22 on standards and guidelines approved by the Board of Regents. 23 At least two (2) of these Regents should be alumni. All these 24 Regents shall be appointed by the Board of Regents and shall 25 each serve for a term of two (2) years: Provided, That the 26

Regents holding office as members of the Board of Regents at

27

1	the time of the effectivity of this Act shall continue to serve until
2	the expiration of their appointments as provided in Executive
3	Order No. 204-A issued by the President of the Philippines on
4	July 15, 1987.
5	(2) Vacancy - In case of vacancy in the Board of Regents, except for
6	the President of the University, such vacancy shall be filled in the same
7	manner as provided for the predecessor, and such appointee shall hold
8	office for the unexpired term. In the case of a sectoral Regent, membership
9	in the Board ceases upon suspension, separation, or recall.
10	(3) Compensation - Members of the Board shall serve without
11	compensation other than actual and necessary expenses incurred in
12	attendance of meetings of the Board or other official business authorized
13	by the Board.
14	(4) Meetings; Quorum – The Board of Regents shall convene
15	regularly. The Chairman of the Board may call a special meeting whenever
16	necessary: Provided, That members are notified in writing at least three (3)
17	days prior to said meeting.
18	A majority of all members of the Board holding office at the time the
19	meeting is called shall constitute a quorum for Board meetings.
20	In no case shall any and all members of the Board appoint
21	representatives to act on their behalf.
22	SEC. 11. Powers and Duties of the Board of Regents. The
23	administration of the University and the exercise of its corporate powers
24	are vested in the Board of Regents.
25	The Board shall exercise the following specific powers and duties:
26	(a) To define the thrusts of the University and adopt broad policy
27	midalines to ensure their implementation:

Ţ	(p)	To preserve the integrity of the University;
2	(c)	To approve the institution, merger or abolition of academic
3		programs upon recommendation of the University Council of
4		the Constituent University concerned through the President of
5		the University;
6	(d)	To approve the graduation of students and grant of honors, as
7		recommended by their respective University Councils through
8		the President of the University;
9	(e)	To confer honorary degrees upon persons in recognition of
10	will come	learning, statesmanship, or eminence in literature, science, or
11		art, upon recommendation of a committee created by the
12		President of the University: Provided, That such degrees shall
13		not be conferred in consideration of any payment, gift or other
14		valuable consideration;
15	(f)	To approve the institutional programs and rules on student
16		discipline upon recommendation of the University Councils
17		through the President of the University;
18	(g)	To create, organize, reorganize, merge or abolish constituent
19		universities, colleges, institutes, and other academic and
20		administrative units of the University;
21	(h)	To establish professorial chair awards;
22	(i)	To provide fellowships, scholarships and grants, and to award
23		the same to faculty, staff and students having special evidence
24		of merit;
25	(j)	To elect the President of the University for a term of six (6)
26		years following a process of consultation with the University
27		community based on standards and guidelines set by the Board

of Regents. In the event of a vacancy, the Board of Regents shall elect a president who shall serve a full term within six (6) months from the occurrence of the vacancy;

- (k) To appoint faculty members and other officials and employees, to draw up a position classification and compensation plan for its faculty and staff, and to fix and adjust salaries and benefits of the faculty members and other employees; to determine their hours of service, and such other terms and conditions of employment as it may deem proper; to grant leave of absence under such regulations as it may promulgate, any other provisions of law to the contrary notwithstanding; and to remove them for cause as provided by law after due investigation and proper hearing;
- (l) To extend, with their consent, the tenure of faculty members of the University beyond the compulsory retirement age, on recommendation of the units upon endorsement of the President of the University, whenever their services are especially needed;
- (m) To fix the tuition fees and other necessary school charges, as the Board may deem proper to impose, after due consultation with the students concerned. Such fees and charges, including government support and other income generated by the University, shall constitute special trust funds and shall be deposited in an authorized government depository bank. Any and all interests that shall accrue therefrom shall form part of the same funds for the use of the University.

Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, all
incomes generated by the University or by its subsidiaries shall,
upon their collection, be retained by the University and
disbursed at the discretion of the Board for the professional
growth and development, health, welfare, and other benefits of
the faculty members and other personnel; for the acquisition,
construction, maintenance and repair of urgently needed
instructional and auxiliary facilities, equipment, buildings and
other infrastructure; and for expenses necessary for the
attainment of its purposes under its approved program of
expenditures;

- (n) To receive and appropriate all sums as may be provided by law for the support of the University to the ends specified by law, and all other sums in the manner it may, in its discretion, determine to carry out the purposes and functions of the University;
- (o) To authorize the construction, maintenance or repair of its buildings, machinery, equipment and other facilities, and the purchase and acquisition of real and personal properties, including necessary supplies, materials and equipment;
- (p) To receive in trust legacies, gifts and donations of real and personal property of all kinds and to administer and dispose the same when necessary for the benefit of the University and subject to the instructions of the donor, if any;
- (q) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, to authorize its faculty and staff to travel abroad in order to study, deliver papers, attend conferences and disseminate research:

1		Provided, That the fellowship, scholarship or grant is authorized	
2		by the Board of Regents;	
3	(r)	To exercise the general powers set out in the Corporation Code;	
4	(s)	To delegate any of its powers to the President of the University	
5		or any other officials or officers as it may deem necessary;	
6	(t)	To prescribe rules for its own government and the discipline of	
7		the faculty and other personnel and to enact for the	
8		government of the University such general policies, rules and	
9		regulations, not contrary to law, as are consistent with the	
10		purposes of the University; and	
11	(u)	To exercise such powers as may be proper and necessary to	
12		carry out the objectives of this Act.	
13	SEC	C. 12. The President of the University. The President of the	
14	University	y is the chief academic officer, head of the University Faculty and	
15	the chief	executive officer of the University. The President of the University	
16	shall exercise the powers specifically provided for in this Act, thos		
17	determined by the Board of Regents, those which usually pertain to th		
18	office of	the president of a university, and those which are related or	
19	necessary	to its functions. The Board of Regents shall determine the	
20	compensa	ation of the President of the University.	
21	Th€	e President of the University shall be appointed by the Board of	
22	Regents.	S/He shall serve for a term of six (6) years without prejudice to	
23	one reapp	pointment after a determination of outstanding performance by a	
24	committe	e created by the Board of Regents: Provided, That, the President	
25	of the Un	iversity sought to be reappointed shall not vote or participate in	

the creation of such committee.

1	SEC	. 13. The Secretary of the University and of the Board of
2	Regents.	There shall be a Secretary of the University appointed by the
3	Board of I	Regents, who shall also be the Secretary of the Board, and who
4	shall keep	such records of the University as may be designated by the
5	Board.	
6	SEC	2. 14. The University Council. There shall be in each
7	constituer	nt university a University Council consisting of the Chancellor as
8	Chairpers	on, and of all the faculty members in the University holding the
9	rank of as	sistant professor and higher as members.
10	SEC	2. 15. Powers of the University Council. The University
11	Council sl	hall be the highest academic body of each constituent university
12	and shall	exercise the following powers:
13	(a)	Fix the requirements for admission to any college or unit,
14		graduation, and the grant of honors subject to the minimum
15		system-wide requirements;
16	(b)	Prescribe the academic programs including their institution,
17		revision, abolition and merger, subject to the approval of the
18		Board of Regents;
19	(c)	Recommend to the Board of Regents the graduation of students
20	المهدد	and the grant of honors;
21	(d)	Exercise disciplinary power over the students, through the
22		Chancellors or their appropriate committees, subject to review
23		by the President of the University according to the limits
24		prescribed by system-wide rules on student discipline;
25	(e)	Undertake the periodic review of academic courses, programs,
26		standards, thrusts and policies; and

1 (f) Adopt internal rules of procedure consistent with the provisions 2 of this Act.

SEC. 16. The Chancellor of the Constituent University. The administration of each constituent university is vested in the Chancellor insofar as authorized by the Board of Regents and the President of the University. The Chancellor of the constituent university shall be elected by the Board of Regents upon nomination of the President of the University. following a process of consultation with the constituents of the Constituent University based on standards and guidelines set by the Board of Regents. The Chancellor shall report to the President of the University, and shall perform the duties and functions elsewhere stated in this Act, and all the usual, necessary and related functions of the office of the chancellor, subject to the policies and rules prescribed by the Board of Regents. The Board of Regents shall determine the term and compensation of the Chancellor.

SEC. 17. The Faculty. The teaching staff of each college shall constitute its faculty. The College Faculty shall be presided over by a Dean. The Dean shall be elected by the Board of Regents on nomination by the President of the University and upon recommendation of the Chancellor of the constituent university, following a process of consultation with the constituents of the college based on standards and guidelines set by the Board of Regents.

SEC. 18. Appointment Requisites and Practice of Profession.

Faculty members, as well as research, extension and professional staff (REPS) of the University shall be exempt as such from any civil service examination or regulation as a requisite to appointment. The provisions of existing law to the contrary notwithstanding, licensing requirements for

professional regulatory boards shall not affect appointments to faculty 1 positions. In the appointment of faculty members, no religious test shall 2 be applied, nor shall the religious or political opinions or affiliations of the 3 faculty members of the University be made subject of examination or 4 5 inquiry. Sec. 19. Student Affairs. (1) There shall be established in the 6 7 University the following student councils: for every college and degreegranting institute, a college or institute student council; and for every 8 constituent university, a university student council. Each student council 9 shall advance the interests, welfare, and aspirations of its constituents. It 10 shall have the power to adopt internal rules of procedure consistent with 11 the provisions of this Act. 12 Each student council shall be composed of students of an academic 13 unit of the University duly elected by the students of such unit. Each 14 member of the student council shall serve for a term of one (1) year, 15 without prejudice to re-election. 16 (2) Every constituent university, college, institute, and department 17 of the University shall have the right to organize a student publication 18 funded by student fees and enjoy freedom of expression and autonomy in 19 the formulation of editorial policies. 20 SEC. 20. Land Grants and Other Real Properties of the 21 University. 22 (a) The State shall provide subsidy to the University of the 23

23 (a) The State shall provide subsidy to the University of the
24 Philippines System as the National University in the form of
25 lump sum amount, through general appropriations and other
26 financial benefits, and in kind, through land grants and
27 donations and use of other real properties. To carry out the

intent of these grants, income derived from the development of all land grants and real properties shall be used to further the ends of the University, as may be decided by the Board of Regents.

- Such parcels of land ceded by law, decree or presidential issuance to the University of the Philippines, are hereby declared to be reserved for the purposes intended. The absolute ownership of the University over these landholdings, including those covered by original and transfer certificates of title in the name of the University of the Philippines and their future derivatives, is hereby confirmed. Where the issuance of proper certificates of title is yet pending for these landholdings, the appropriate government office shall expedite the issuance thereof within six (6) months from the date of effectivity of this Act provided that all registration requirements necessary for the issuance of the said titles have been submitted and complied with.
- the Board of Regents may plan, design, approve and/or cause the implementation of contracts, mechanisms, and financial instruments, such as joint ventures, long-term leases, fully-owned subsidiaries, securitization and, in exceptional cases, sale, to give the University the flexibility to generate revenues and other resources from land grants and other properties:

 Provided, That such mechanisms and arrangements shall sustain and protect the environment in accordance with law, and be exclusive of the academic core zone of the campuses of the University of the Philippines: *Provided*, finally*, that such

1	mech	anisms and arrangements shall not conflict with the
2	acade	emic mission of the University.
3	SEC. 21.	Tax Exemptions. The provisions of any general or special
4	law to the contr	ary notwithstanding:
5	·(1) All re	evenues and assets of the University of the Philippines
6	used	actually, directly and exclusively for educational purposes
7	shall	be exempt from all taxes and duties;
8	(2) Gifts	and donations of real and personal properties of all kinds
9	shall	be exempt from the donor's tax and the same shall be
0	consi	idered as allowable deductions from the gross income of
11	the o	donor, in accordance with the provisions of the National
12	Inter	nal Revenue Code, as amended;
13	(3) Impo	ortation of economic, technical, vocational, scientific,
14	philo	sophical, historical and cultural books, supplies and
15	mate	rials, including scientific and educational computer and
16	softw	vare equipment, shall be exempt from customs duties;
17	(4) The	University shall be exempt from payment of value-added
18	tax;	and
19	(5) All h	onoraria for professional chair awards and other University
20	awar	ds to faculty and staff shall be exempt from taxes.
21	SEC. 22.	Auditing of Accounts. All accounts and disbursements of
22	the University s	shall be audited by the Commission on Audit.
23	SEC. 23.	Rules of Construction. No statutory or other issuances
24	shall diminish	the powers, rights, privileges, and benefits accorded to the
25	University und	er this Act or enjoyed at present by the University under
26	other issuances	s not otherwise modified or repealed under this Act, unless
27	subsequent leg	islation expressly provides for their repeal, amendment or

- 1 modification. Any case of doubt in the interpretation of any of the
- 2 provisions of this Charter shall be resolved in favor of the academic
- 3 freedom and fiscal autonomy of the University of the Philippines.
- 4 SEC. 24. Appropriations. The amount needed to carry out the
- 5 implementation of this Act shall be charged against the current fiscal
- 6 year's lump sum appropriation and other internal funds of the University.
- 7 Thereafter, such lump sum representing the national government's
- 8 responsibility for the continued growth, operation and maintenance of the
- 9 University shall be included in the Annual General Appropriations Act.
- The University may use unexpended balances in any appropriation
- 11 for purposes that the Board of Regents determines.
- 12 SEC. 25. Separability Clause. Should any provision herein be
- 13 declared unconstitutional, the same shall not affect the validity of the
- 14 other provisions of this Act.
- 15 SEC. 26. Repealing Clause. Act No. 1870, as amended, and all
- laws, decrees, orders, rules, and regulations or other issuances or parts
- 17 thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or
- 18 modified accordingly.
- 19 SEC. 27. Effectivity. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after
- 20 its publication in the Official Gazette or in any newspaper of general
- 21 circulation in the Philippines.

Approved,