



Republic of the Philippines  
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION

CHED MEMORANDUM ORDER (CMO)

NO. 14 \_\_\_\_\_ ;

Series of 1997

SUBJECT : **GUIDELINES FOR THE IDENTIFICATION, SUPPORT AND/OR DEVELOPMENT OF POTENTIAL CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE (PCEs) IN ENGINEERING, ARCHITECTURE AND MARITIME EDUCATION**

x-----x

In accordance with the pertinent provisions of Republic Act (RA) No. 7722, otherwise known as the "Higher Education Act of 1994," and to expedite the utmost achievement of relevant, responsive and quality higher education in the country, the following guidelines for the identification, support and/or development of Potential Centers of Excellence (PCEs) in Engineering, Architecture and Maritime Education are hereby adopted and promulgated by the Commission, thus:

1. **Policy.** It is the policy of the Commission to promote quality and excellence in higher education by identifying, supporting and/or developing Potential Centers of Excellence (PCEs) in Higher Education Institutions (HEIs). All engineering, architectural and maritime fields of specialization are hereby recognized as program areas needed for worldclass scholarship, nation building and national development.
2. **Potential Centers of Excellence (PCEs).** Potential Centers of Excellence (PCEs) are organizations within HEIs offering distinct academic programs which have continuously exhibited qualities indicating excellent potentials in teaching, research and extension service.
3. **Roles and Responsibilities of PCEs.** Identified PCEs in Engineering, Architecture and Maritime Education shall have the following roles and responsibilities, namely:
  - 3.1 Act as role models and engage in extension services in the national, regional and local communities. These could be in the form of technology transfer, industry linkages or consortia with other HEIs;
  - 3.2 Develop research capabilities and offer graduate program(s) in the specific program areas where they have been identified as a PCE;
  - 3.3 Provide assistance to other HEIs within its areas of coverage in terms of faculty development, instructional materials development and other quality upgrading activities;

3.4 Submit annual reports to the Commission on their programs and projects;  
and

3.5 Undertake such other tasks as are necessary in developing engineering, architecture and maritime education in the Philippines.

4. **Support and Development.** The Commission shall provide support and incentives to PCEs so identified in accordance herewith in the form of scholarship to students, faculty and staff development, including faculty fellowships for HEIs within their areas of concern, research grants, equipment, library materials and other material or technical support, subject to the submission of project proposals.

5. **Responsibilities of the Commission's Technical Panel for Engineering, Architecture and Maritime Education (TPEAME).** The Commission's TPEAME, in addition to its regular and usual functions and responsibilities and in relation to the hereinreferred PCEs, shall, thus:

5.1 Recommend the criteria and the procedures for the identification of the PCEs;

5.2 Recommend PCEs to the Commission; and

5.3 Recommend the award of grants, endowment fund and other forms of financial support to the PCEs.

6. **Responsibilities of the Commission's Higher Education Regional Offices (HEROs) anent hereto and in relation to the PCEs.** The Commission's HEROs shall, thus:

6.1 Assist the TPEAME, through the Commission's Office of Programs and Standards (OPS), in identifying possible nominees as PCEs;

6.2 Implement support projects and monitor development and progress of the identified PCEs with assistance from the Regional Quality Assessment Teams (RQATs); and

6.3 Provide regular reports to the Commission, through the Commission's OPS, on the status of the PCEs.

Handwritten signature and initials at the bottom right of the page.

7. **Identification Criteria.** The PCEs hereinreferred shall be identified in accordance with and using the following minimum criteria, to wit:

|     |                                |     |
|-----|--------------------------------|-----|
| 7.1 | Instructional Program Quality  | 50% |
|     | Faculty                        | 35  |
|     | Performance                    | 50% |
|     | Qualification                  | 50% |
|     | Laboratory                     | 30  |
|     | Library                        | 13  |
|     | Other Instructional Facilities | 5   |
|     | Selection and Retention        | 7   |
|     | Board Examination              | 10  |
| 7.2 | Research                       | 25% |
|     | Personnel                      | 30  |
|     | Facilities                     | 30  |
|     | Output                         | 40  |
| 7.3 | Community Extension            | 25% |
|     | Personnel                      | 40  |
|     | Output                         | 60  |

8. **Additional Qualitative Criteria.** The additional qualitative criteria for the identification of PCEs hereinreferred are hereby set forth in Annex "A" which is made an integral part hereof.

9. **Identification Procedure.** The identification of the PCEs shall normally follow the procedure outlined hereunder, thus:

- 9.1 The Commission issues guidelines and a rating system;
- 9.2 The HEIs interested to be included in the identification process then submit a quality profile based on the criteria abovementioned;
- 9.3 The IHERO concerned conducts a preliminary survey and screening;
- 9.4 The Commission conducts an evaluation of prospective PCEs;
- 9.5 The Commission's TPEAME recommends to it the list of PCEs; and
- 9.6 The Commission issues an Order identifying the PCEs.

10. **Duration as PCE.** The status of an HEI shall be for three (3) academic years.

11. **Re-evaluation and/or Reclassification.** The PCEs so selected shall be re-evaluated after the expiration of its term as a PCE to determine if it will be, thus:

*[Handwritten signature and initials]*

## POTENTIAL CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE

QUALITATIVE CRITERIA AND BENCHMARKS  
for Academic Year 1997-1998

## Qualifying Statements:

The criteria and benchmarks herein stated shall be applied to specific departments/schools or program areas.

The qualitative criteria enunciate the principles to be used in the evaluation.

The benchmarks have been set arbitrarily as targets for a specific round of evaluation. These are minimum standards set for giving the full ratings.

## I. INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM QUALITY ..... 50%

Faculty: Majority of the faculty of PCEs should be performing excellently based on consistent results in institutional evaluation system (dean, peer and student evaluation).

A PCE must have selected its faculty well, suited to its objectives, studentry and curriculum. An objective is to have all faculty members with graduate degrees.

- at least one (1) faculty with doctorate degree
- at least 30% of faculty with graduate degree
- at least 50% with industry experience

Laboratory: An ideal set-up shows the principles and theories, moving towards an approximation of projected (when the student graduates) industry situation.

- must have met the minimum laboratory requirements
- must have other equipment

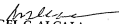
Library : A mix of current and traditional reference materials (books and periodicals), conducive to research, with room for expansion and connectivity to Internet is essential.

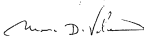
- 5 non-duplicate book titles per course
- subscription to relevant scientific journals
- access to computerized retrieval system


*Handwritten signature and date: [Signature] 1997*

- 11.1 Classified as a CENTER OF EXCELLENCE;
- 11.2 Retained as a PCE for another term; or
- 11.3 Removed from the list of PCEs.
12. Repeal. All existing rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed, superseded or modified accordingly.
13. Effectivity. This CMO shall take effect immediately.


Pasig City, Philippines, March 19, 1997

  
ANGEL C. ALCALA  
Chairman

  
MONA D. VALISNO  
Commissioner

  
ESTER A. GARCIA  
Commissioner

KATE C. BOTENGAN  
Commissioner

  
ROLANDO S. DELAGOZA  
Commissioner