

Republika ng Pilipinas  
(Republic of the Philippines)  
MINISTRY OF EDUKASYON, KULTURA AT ISPORTS  
(MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, CULTURE AND SPORTS)  
Manila

December 11, 1984

MECS O R D E R  
No. 76, s. 1984

OBSERVANCE OF GUIDELINES AND SUPPLEMENTARY GUIDELINES IN MEC  
ORDERS NOS. 57 AND 62, SERIES OF 1981, RESPECTIVELY

To: Director, Bureau of Higher Education  
Regional Directors  
Presidents, State Colleges and Universities  
Heads of Private Schools, Colleges and Universities

1. The Ministry has received reports that some colleges and universities, both public and private, have not allowed the organization of student councils and/or student newspapers and some allegedly have exercised repressive measures in this regard.
2. In case it has been forgotten, MEC Orders Nos. 57 and 62, both series of 1981, which spell out policy guidelines on the organizations of student councils and campus newspapers, are hereby being reissued.
3. All heads of institutions of higher learning are urged to allow the students to exercise freedom in managing their own affairs following the guidelines and supplementary guidelines provided in the aforesaid MEC Orders.

(SGD.) FERNANDO A. BERNARDO  
Deputy Minister  
Officer-in-Charge

Incls.:  
As stated

References:  
MEC Orders: (Nos. 57 and 62, s. 1981)

Allotment: 1-3-4--(D.O. 1-76)

To be indicated in the Perpetual Index  
under the following subjects:

BOARD or COUNCIL  
PUBLICATIONS  
RULES & REGULATIONS

SOCIETY or ASSOCIATIONS  
STUDENTS  
UNIVERSITIES and COLLEGES

Republika ng Pilipinas  
(Republic of the Philippines)  
MINISTRI NG EDUKASYON AT KULTURA  
(MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE)  
Maynila

November 4, 1981

MEC O R D E R  
No. 57, s. 1981

GUIDELINES GOVERNING STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS

To: Director, Bureau of Higher Education  
Regional Directors  
Presidents, State Colleges and Universities  
Heads of Private Schools, Colleges and Universities

1. Since students not only constitute an essential sector of the Educational Community, but at the same time are citizens at the threshold of professional and community leadership, it is desirable and necessary to recognize, confirm, provide for, and support the right of students to form and operate, for their civic development, welfare, and other purposes not contrary to law, student organizations and student publications in colleges, universities, and other tertiary (or post-secondary) educational institutions.
2. Students in these institutions desiring to establish, join, or participate in student organizations and publications on campus shall do so as a right, subject only to such reasonable regulations as exist in the various institutions or as they may promulgate, in return for recognition by affiliation with, and/or support from the respective institutions. It is understood that organizations or publications of students that exist or operate outside of the system of school recognition shall continue to be governed by law.
3. All colleges, universities, and other tertiary educational institutions are hereby enjoined to promulgate and implement reasonable regulations to govern the establishment and operation of all student or campus organizations and publications for their students enrolled in post-secondary courses. Such regulations shall require that the student or campus organizations and publications shall be established and operated for lawful purposes; and shall, in the light of the circumstances prevailing in the various institutions, provide for:
  - a. the procedure and standards for recognition or authorization of organizations and publications, usually through the institution's approval of a constitution or charter;
  - b. the mode of selection and qualifications of officers in the case of organizations, and staff in the case of publications;
  - c. the funding of organizations and their operations, or of publications, and the collection, disbursement, accounting, and auditing of funds;

- d. the system of disciplinary proceedings governing violation of regulations, in order to ensure due process; and
  - e. such other regulations pertinent hereto.
4. A copy or set of the regulations promulgated pursuant to this Order shall be furnished to the appropriate MEC regional office and to the Bureau of Higher Education, MEC, Manila, by the institutions.
5. This Order shall take effect immediately.

(SGD.) ONOFRE D. CORPUZ  
Minister

References:

Department Orders: Nos. 33, s. 1975 and  
63, s. 1976  
MEC Order: No. 39, s. 1979  
Department Memorandums: Nos. 135, s. 1977  
and 37, s. 1978

Allotment: 1-3-4--(D.O. 1-76)

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CORRECTED COPY

December 8, 1981

MEC ORDER  
No. 62, s. 1981

SUPPLEMENTARY GUIDELINES GOVERNING STUDENT  
ORGANIZATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS

To: Director, Bureau of Higher Education  
Regional Directors  
Presidents, State Colleges and Universities  
Heads of Private Schools, Colleges and Universities

1. The following guidelines shall supplement the more general guidelines provided for in MEC Order No. 57, s. 1981, issued by this Ministry on 04 November 1981, for the purpose of providing the essentials of students' rights relative to their organizations and publications on campus and providing standards for the "reasonableness" requirement for institutional regulations contained in Paragraphs 2 and 3 of the said MEC Order No. 57.

Students are expected to exercise their rights responsibly, and educational institutions encouraged to apply the standards supportively, in order that campus relationships promote both academic and civic development.

2. Relative to Student Councils.

- 2.1. In view of the desirability of activating or reviving student councils at an early date, preferably during the second semester of school year 1981-1982, tertiary educational institutions may either re-issue their regulations in force before 1972, with appropriate amendments, or promulgate new regulations.
- 2.2. Student councils shall have the right to determine their policies and programs on student activities, subject to the provisions of their recognized constitutions or charters.
- 2.3. Members of student councils shall be elected in annual popular elections.
- 2.4. Student councils shall have participation in the determination of school policies which directly affect students. Such participation shall not impair the authority vested by law and MEC regulations in any educational institutions.
- 2.5. Each institution shall make available to the student council, from fees collected for the purpose or from other appropriate funds, financing for the programs of activities of the council, in accordance with an income and expenditures budget for the semester or school year, as the case may be.
- 2.6. Amendments to institutional regulations governing student councils or other student organizations shall be effected with the participation of a representative of the council, subject to the same condition in 2.4 above.

2.7. Department Order No. 63, s. 1976 is hereby revoked.

3. Relative to Student Body Publications.

- 3.1. No individual who is not a member of the publication staff shall determine the content of the student publication. The editor and members of the staff are fully responsible for consequence arising out of publication of any editorial, comment, article, or other material.
- 3.2. The faculty adviser, where one is provided for, shall be limited to technical guidance.
- 3.3. The selection of the editor shall normally be through competitive examinations, conducted and supervised by a board of judges composed of faculty members and students. Alternative selection methods may be adopted by the institution, provided that the editor shall not be chosen on the sole or exclusive authority of school administrators. Satisfactory grades or scholarship standing may be prescribed as a pre-qualification requirement for candidates to the editorship, but academic ranking shall not thereafter be the decisive criterion except when a tie or equality obtains between or among candidates on all other criteria.
- 3.4. Editors as such shall enjoy security of tenure, which shall not be terminated before the lapse of the prescribed term, usually for the school year, except for cause.
- 3.5. The student paper shall be published regularly.
- 3.6. Student papers shall enjoy the right to access to institutional records unless otherwise provided by law.
- 3.7. Student publications shall be published independently the students.
- 3.8. MEC Order No. 39, s. 1979 is hereby revoked.

4. All MEC Orders inconsistent with this Order are hereby rescinded.

5. These supplementary guidelines are hereby deemed part of the regulations promulgated by tertiary educational institutions.

6. This Order shall take effect immediately.

(SGD.) ONCFRE D. CORPUZ  
Minister

References:

MEC Orders: (Nos. 39, s. 1979 and 57, s. 1981)

Department Order: (No. 63, s. 1976)

Allotment: 1-3-4 (D.O. 1-76)

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