



January 31, 2023

Dr. Edgardo E. Tulin
President
Visayas State University

Thru: Dr. Beatriz S. Belonias
Vice President for Academic Affairs

Dear Sir:

The DoPAC Personnel Committee (DPC) would like to make an appeal to your good office that the OP Memorandum No. 769 Series of 2022 (Prescribed Class Sizes for Second Semester AY 2022-2023) would be relaxed for course offerings of the BS Chemistry program. This is to be compliant with the CMO No. 47 series 2017 for the BS Chemistry Program and maintain the Certificate of Program Compliance (COPC) for the BS Chemistry program that was received from the Commission on Higher Education only last year.

The Committee would like to inform your good office that the class size in the Projected Workload for 2nd Semester AY 2022-2023 and 1st Semester AY 2023-2024 especially for the BS Chemistry courses which is an attachment to the request for the replacement of Mr Atoz A. Vasquez who tendered his resignation effective January 2023, could not strictly follow the OP Memorandum No 769 series of 2022. This is because the three (3) lecture rooms at DoPAC can only accommodate a maximum of 35 students. Meanwhile, the laboratory rooms such as AC-105 can only accommodate a maximum of 16 students while AC-106, AC-108, AC-206 and AC-208, with only 24 students. Most importantly, the CHED Memorandum No. 47 series of 2017 for the BS Chemistry program requires that the regular lecture class should be kept to not more than forty (40) students except when provisions are made to larger classes and at least one (1) laboratory instructor for every twenty-five (25) students. Moreover, all faculty members handling professional chemistry courses must be registered chemists. Thus, we need registered chemists as replacement for DoPAC Faculty who tendered resignation and had gone on mandatory retirement from government service. Although, affiliate faculty of DoPAC can be also be tapped to teach chemistry courses however, most of them are not registered chemist, are affiliated with other departments and can only handle a maximum of 9 units teaching load.

The DPC is making this appeal in support to our effort in improving the performance of the BS Chemistry graduates during the PRC Chemist Licensure Examination and comply with the current qualification requirements of professional chemists for local and overseas employment as well as entrepreneurship by building a strong analytical and technical background for employment in various fields.

The DPC would also like to request that the class size for chemistry laboratory classes for non-chemistry major students should not be more than 24 students due to limited laboratory space. With the coming face-to-face evaluation for VSU-ISO recertification, it would not be a good practice for laboratory classes to be overcrowded with students. As experienced during the 1st Semester AY 2022-2023, chemistry laboratory classes with more than 30 students were very difficult to manage. Students had no choice but to set on additional benches inside the laboratory rooms. Experiments were also performed on benches placed outside the laboratory room which increases the risks and hazards to both the students and the instructor. This practice is also not in consonance with Good Laboratory Practice (GLP). In addition, students were also forming a long que outside the laboratory rooms for their turns to use laboratory instrument during experiment. Much worst, there were students attending



laboratory classes who were rushed to the VSU Hospital due to difficulty in breathing which may be a result to overcrowding. In this connection, we are requesting for support in our effort to deliver effective instruction where students can work individually in the laboratory or at the very least by pair with conducive learning environment. We are hoping that this problem will not be a recurring one during the next semesters to come as this would significantly affect the delivery of services and would be translated negatively as compromised quality education, safety and health.

Looking forward to a prompt and positive response to this request.

Respectfully yours,

ELIZABETH S. QUEVEDO
Chair, DPC

ALLAN A. RAMAL
Member, DPC

VIVIAN P. LINA
Member, DPC

FELIX M. SALAS
Member, DPC

MARIA ROBELYN A. INSIK
Member, DPC

Recommending Approval:

MA. THERESA P. LORETO
Dean, CAS

BEATRIZ S. BELONIAS
VP for Academic Affairs

Approved:

EDGARDO E. TULIN
President