

February 5, 1988

Memorandum No. 10  
Series of 1988

T O: All ViSCA Officials and Faculty Members

R E: Rationalizing Government Budgetary Support for SUC's

This is to keep you abreast of current developments in the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) which may eventually affect the operations of state universities and colleges (SCUs). Although the recent information gathered has not been translated into concrete policies, it is important for us to be aware and be prepared to respond if needed in any manner appropriate.

Sometime in 1987, DBM created a Task Force whose primary task was to formulate and establish a rational basis for determining the appropriate level of current budgetary support for SUCs. It is hoped that this project will result in the upgrading of the quality of educational services rendered by these institutions.

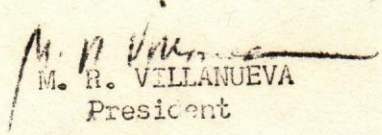
Among the areas covered by the Task Force were the following: (a) organization, b) academic program, c) system of revenue raising and financial management, d) acquisition and utilization of equipment and other physical facilities, e) faculty-student ratio, f) teaching/non-teaching ratio, g) compensation of SUC personnel, h) cost per student, and i) research and extension services. A summary of the recommendations made by the Task Force based on its findings are as follows:

1. Limited fiscal autonomy should be granted to deserving SUCs whereby the Board of Trustees/Regents shall be authorized to determine the use of their income free from central budgetary controls, under certain conditions and limitations.
2. Subsidy to SUCs for higher and advanced education should not be more than 75% of the total current operating cost.
3. There should be a gradual phasing out in the next four (4) years of secondary and elementary schools presently maintained by SUCs. In areas where there are no public or private schools offering secondary education except the SUCs, the function of providing high school education should be transferred to the DECS. During the phasing-out period, the DECS shall be allowed to use the existing facilities of the SUCs, including buildings and sites. Teachers who will be displaced by the phase-out should be either absorbed in the SUCs tertiary level if qualified or transferred to the DECS without reduction in salary. SCUs specializing in teacher education may maintain their laboratory schools in the secondary and elementary levels.



4. In programs with low student-faculty ratio, the SUCs concerned should freeze the hiring of new faculty members.
5. Research should be given a reasonable allocation of not less than 10% of the current operating expenses (COE) while extension should have a separate budget of not less than 5%.
6. An amount at least equal to P60 per College student must be provided in the budget for the purchase of books and other library holdings.
7. Construction of new buildings shall require the recommendation of a Regional SUC Building Construction Committee. Completion of on-going constructions shall be limited to five (5) buildings based on a fixed amount per unit. Additional allocation will be based on the balance left for capital outlays for all SUCs.
8. To reduce the gap in salary scales between faculty and administrative personnel, four distinct institutional position classifications for the latter are proposed: a) Educational Staff Officers, b) Educational Staff Assistants, c) Educational Staff Aides, and d) Educational Utility Servicemen.

Further developments will be communicated.

  
M. R. VILLANUEVA  
President

cc: Information Office