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T O: College Deans and Department Heads

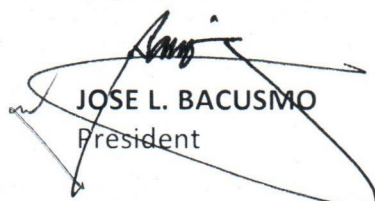
R E: CHED Center of Excellence (COE) and Center of Development (COD)

For the information of everyone, there are two criteria as basis for Vertical Classification of the HEIs (that is, autonomous, deregulated and regulated). These criteria are: **1. Criteria for commitment to excellence (70%)** and **2. Criteria for sustainability and enhancement (30%)**. Under criterion one, the items with the corresponding points (Source: CHED: Primer on Quality Assurance and Institutional Sustainability Assessment of HEIs page 18) as show below:

Criteria for Commitment to Excellence	No. of Points	Maximum Points that can be Awarded (points)
COE (type-based) COD (type-based)	10/COE 5/COD	60
Local Accreditation	25 (points to be aligned with ISA)	60
International Accreditation (CHED recognized – mobility)	10/program	40
International Certification	10/program	20

Currently, we only have one COE (Agriculture program) and COD (Development Communication program). Hopefully, the Engineering (BSAE) and Forestry (BSF) programs which are formerly identified by CHED as COE can re-apply/renew their application. It is at this juncture that I am encouraging the academic units which are offering courses to apply for the CHED-COE/COD for the university to have a bigger chance to be classified as an autonomous institution of higher learning. Application for COE/COD can be downloaded from this website: ched.gov.ph.

With regards to the 2nd criterion which include the ISA (Institutional Sustainability Assessment) and the ISO (International Organization for Standardization) certification, the units involved are already doing a number of activities to facilitate the completion of the required documents for submission to appropriate offices.


JOSE L. BACUSMO
President