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Office of the President

3 August 2009

MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR NO. 40

Series of 2009

T O: All Students, Faculty Members, Staff, Residents and Visitors of VSU Campuses

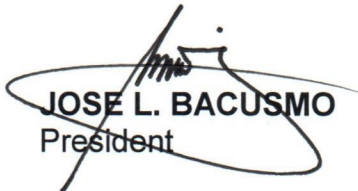
R E: Prohibition on the Use, Sale, Distribution and Advertisements of Tobacco Products within VSU Campuses

In compliance with Republic Act (R.A.) No. 9211 otherwise known as "An Act Regulating the Package, Use, Sale, Distribution and Advertisements of Tobacco Products and for Other Purposes", in accordance with CHED Memorandum Order No. 63, Series of 2007 on "Prohibition of Smoking in Higher Education Institutions" and in line with the Civil Service Commission (CSC) Memorandum Circular No. 17, Series of 2009 imposing an absolute smoking ban in all government premises that provide health, education, and social welfare and development services such as hospitals, health centers, schools and universities, the VSU Administration hereby:

1. Absolutely prohibits smoking by students inside VSU Campuses.
2. Prohibits smoking by faculty members, staff, residents and visitors in public places.
3. Prohibits the sale or distribution of tobacco products within the VSU Campuses.
4. Prohibits advertisement of tobacco products in billboard, murals within the VSU Campuses, in the VSU-owned radio station and in VSU websites.
5. Orders the VSU Security Office to refuse entry of any vehicle (public or private transport) when the driver or any of the passengers is smoking or when it is displaying advertisement of tobacco products.
6. Designates "assigned dwellings" and specific areas (to be determined later) within VSU campuses as "Smoking Area" for faculty, staff, residents and visitors only. In no case shall students be allowed to smoke even in

- "assigned dwellings" such as dormitories and apartments assigned to students, faculty and staff of VSU.
7. Orders the VSU IGP Director to terminate contracts and permits that allow private parties to enter and operate businesses inside the campus when these private parties or privately owned business operations within the VSU campuses are found knowingly allowing, abetting, or tolerating smoking.
 8. Orders the VSU Housing Committee to terminate contracts and permits granting dwelling units or space to VSU faculty, staff and private parties inside VSU campuses who are found knowingly allowing, abetting, or tolerating smoking by students.
 9. Orders the VSU Security Personnel to ascertain the identities and record the names of students, faculty members, staff and residents of VSU Campuses caught violating this memorandum and report the same to the Office of the President.
 10. Orders the VSU Security Personnel to advise visitors to refrain from smoking inside VSU campuses, extinguish lighted cigarettes and to proceed to designated "Smoking Area" if they really want to smoke.
 11. Directs the VSU Administrative Office to initiate investigation and implement disciplinary actions to anyone caught smoking inside VSU campuses outside of the duly designated smoking area and "assigned dwellings" and faculty and staff found knowingly allowing, abetting, or tolerating smoking. Disciplinary actions shall be in accordance with VSU Student Handbook, Civil Service Commission Rules and Republic Act No. 9211. Section 32 of the Republic Act No. 9211 states that the penalty on the first offense for smoking in public places will be a fine of not less than Five Hundred Pesos (Php500.00) but not more than One Thousand (Php1,000.00).

For guidance and immediate compliance of all concerned.


JOSE L. BACUSMO
President