



Republic of the Philippines
VISAYAS STATE UNIVERSITY
Visca, Baybay, Leyte

BOR RESOLUTION NO. 195, s. 2020

**A RESOLUTION APPROVING TO IMPLEMENT AN ACADEMIC EASE POLICY ON
STUDENT PROMOTION WITHIN THE VISAYAS STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM**

WHEREAS, the Leyte State University was created by virtue of Republic Act 9158 which converted the then Visayas State College of Agriculture (ViSCA) into a state university last 11 August 2001, and was later renamed Visayas State University (VSU) by virtue of R.A. 9437 on 27 April 2007;

WHEREAS, Section 4 of R.A. 9158 specifically provides that the University “*shall have the general powers of a corporation as set forth in the Corporation Law. The Administration of the University and the exercise of its power shall be vested exclusively in the Board of Regents*”;

WHEREAS, Section 7 Paragraph (b) of R.A. 9158 empowers the Governing Board “*to receive and appropriate all sums as may be provided for the support of the University in the manner it may determine, in its discretion, to carry out the purposes and functions of the University*”;

WHEREAS, the first semester of Academic Year 2020-2021 has been difficult due to the unprecedented circumstances of the pandemic that obliged the administration, faculty, and students to adjust, adapt, and implement a new system foreign to almost everyone in the university;

WHEREAS, in view of the rising concerns with Flexible Learning – most notably the educational challenges and mental health crises that many are facing – the University Supreme Student Council Federation proposes for an **Academic Ease Policy on Student Promotion** in the VSU system for the First Semester of Academic Year 2020-2021;

WHEREAS, no student shall receive a grade of “4” or “5” while an INC may be given in lieu of a failing grade subject to the following guidelines: **a.** an INC may be given if a student has complied with all course requirements yet has failed to meet the passing grade (3.00), **b.** an INC may be given if a student lacks course requirements but has shown enough engagement (i.e., submissions, examinations taken, quizzes taken) for a Professor/Instructor to make a reasonable assessment, **c.** an INC may only be given after intensive intervention and communication with the student, **d.** a student may still enroll in a higher subject for the following semester despite an INC grade in that subject’s pre-requisite. The deadline for compliance with the INC requirements will be one week after the midterm examinations’ final day. Failure to comply with the INC will result in the student being dropped in both the pre-requisite subject and the higher subject the student is currently taking, **e.** an INC mark for non-prerequisite subjects may be complied within one year; non-compliance of the INC will result in a dropped status. **e.** an INC mark may be removed by completing the required work and/or some additional work or by taking a required examination arranged by the teacher and the student;

WHEREAS, a student may be dropped, given the following guidelines: **a.** a student may be dropped if the student has not submitted a single course requirement, provided the dropped status is given after intensive intervention and communication with a student, **b.** a student may be dropped if the student has not shown enough engagement (i.e., submissions, examinations

taken, quizzes taken) for the Professor/Instructor to make a reasonable assessment, provided the dropped status is given after intensive intervention and communication with a student, **c.** a dropped status may **not** be given based on non-attendance to synchronous classes provided the student has shown reasonable engagement wherein the faculty can make a fair assessment, he/she should be considered for an INC or a passing grade.

WHEREAS, the proposed policy is **not one that guarantees an automatic pass** – instead, it is one that assures that students who have been complying **yet have failed to meet the course standards** (i.e., total scores does not meet passing, lack of graded attendance due to connectivity problems) be given a second chance in the form an INC instead of a failing grade (4 or 5);

WHEREAS, the proposal recommend the temporary suspension of the following guidelines on incomplete grades taken from the VSU Code (approved per BOR Resolution No. 33 Series 2016);

“Inc. – indicates that the work is incomplete. It is given when a student whose class standing throughout the semester is passing but fails to appear for the final examination due to illness or other valid reasons. If, in the opinion of the department head, the absence was justifiable, the student may be given an examination. In case the class standing is not passing and the student fails to take the final examination for any reason, a grade of “5” is given. If a student passes an examination for the removal of an “Inc.”, the final grade may be “3” or better; if he/she fails, the final grade shall be “5”. “Inc.” is also given for work that is of passing quality, some part of which is, for good reasons, unfinished. If the mark of “Inc.” is to be removed by submitting a written report or term paper, the final grade may be “3” or better if the student passes; if he/she fails, the final grade shall be “5”. – Chapter 48, Section 354 (b)

“A mark of “Inc.” not removed within the period provided in the preceding section shall automatically become a “5.0” – Chapter 49, Section 361

WHEREAS, the proposal recommends the retention of the following guideline on INC grades taken from the same handbook;

“The period for the removal of a mark of “Inc.” should not extend beyond one calendar year from the date the mark was received” – Chapter 49, Section 360

“Any “Inc.” mark not completed within the prescribed period should be re-enrolled to earn credit for the course.” – Chapter 49, Section 362

WHEREAS, students should actively communicate with their instructors to monitor their standing, relay and discuss concerns, participate in intervention strategies given by their instructors, and should continue complying with the academic requirements to the best of their abilities;

WHEREAS, instructors must ensure that an INC or a dropped status be given only after intensive intervention and communication with the student and provide sufficient basis for the dropping and giving of an INC and are encouraged, before the semester ends and grades are passed, to explore various methods to give students a chance to redeem themselves and acquire a passing grade;

WHEREAS, the VSU Board of Regents discussed and approved the proposal on its 100th BOR meeting on 28 January 2021.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED to approve the implementation of an Academic Ease Policy on Student Promotion within the Visayas State University System for the first semester of School year 2020-2021.

IN WITNESS of our approval thereof, we hereby affix our signatures this 28th day of January 2021.

VSU BOARD OF REGENTS



HON. J. PROSPERO E. DE VERA III
*CHED Chairperson and Chairperson
VSU-Board of Regents*



HON. EDGARDO E. TULIN
Vice Chairperson and President, VSU

HON. EMMANUEL JOEL J. VILLANUEVA
*Chair, Committee on Education, Arts & Culture
Senate of the Philippines*

HON. MARK O. GO
*Chair, Committee on Higher & Tech. Educ.
House of Representatives*

Represented by:



HON. MARK MICHAEL O. UNLU-CAY
Ex-Officio Member, SP-City of Baybay


Absent
HON. CARL NICOLAS C. CARI
Congressman, Fifth District of Leyte



HON. BONIFACIO G. UY
*Regional Executive Director
National Economic & Dev. Authority-RO8
Government Center, Palo, Leyte*



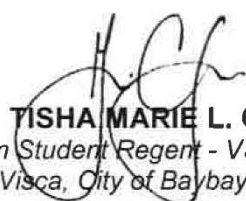
HON. ANGEL C. ENRIQUEZ
*Regional Executive Director
Department of Agriculture-RO8
Tacloban City*



HON. BON ANTHONY F. COSTILLAS
*Faculty Regent - VSU Faculty Association
VSU, Visca, City of Baybay, Leyte*



HON. DEOGRACIAS E. PERNITEZ
*President, VSU Federated Alumni Assn.
VSU, Visca, City of Baybay, Leyte*



HON. TISHA MARIE L. CORTEZ
*Interim Student Regent - VSU System
VSU, Visca, City of Baybay, Leyte*