



119TH BOARD OF REGENTS MEETING

BOR RESOLUTION NO. 49
Series of 2025

APPROVING THE PROPOSED GUIDELINES ON AVAILING SUPPORT FOR ARTICLE PUBLICATION CHARGES FOR REPUTABLE SCOPUS-INDEXED JOURNALS, THE DETAILS OF WHICH ARE REFLECTED IN THE DOCUMENT HERETO ATTACHED AND MADE PART HEREOF.

WHEREAS, under Section 4 (a) of Republic Act No. 8292, otherwise known as the "Higher Education Modernization Act of 1997," the VSU Board of Regents is empowered to enact rules and regulations not contrary to law as may be necessary to carry out the purposes and functions of the university or college;

WHEREAS, Section 2 of Republic Act No. 9158, the University's enabling law, declares it a policy of the State to strengthen higher education institutions as centers of excellence and development in instruction, research, and extension;

WHEREAS, in the absence of approved institutional guidelines governing the use and disbursement of financial support for Article Publication Charge (APCs), such support shall not be granted to researchers until such guidelines are formally developed, reviewed, and approved by the Board;

WHEREAS, to ensure accountability, consistency, and fairness in the payment of APC support to VSU's faculty-researchers, such support must be guided by an officially approved policy;

WHEREAS, the Office of the Vice President for Research, Extension and Innovation proposed the guidelines on availing support for Article Publication Charge (APC) aimed at boosting the publication output of the university, concomitant to its strategic priorities;

WHEREAS, the proposal has been thoroughly reviewed and evaluated by the University Administrative Council (UADCO) at the March 10, 2025, meeting and obtained favorable action;


WHEREAS, finding the recommendation in order, the Governing Board agreed to approve the proposal;

NOW, THEREFORE, on motion, duly seconded, and unanimously approved, be it;

RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved, that the Board of Regents of Visayas State University approves the Proposed Guidelines on Availing Support for Article Publication Charges for Reputable Scopus-Indexed Journals, as reflected in Annex "Z" attached hereto and made an integral part of this Resolution.

IN WITNESS of our approval thereof, we affix our signatures this 29th day of April 2025 at VSU, Baybay City, Philippines.

VSU BOARD OF REGENTS


HON. ETHEL AGNES P. VALENZUELA
CHED Commissioner and Chairperson
VSU-Board of Regents


HON. PROSE IVY G. YEPES
VSU President, Vice Chairperson
VSU-Board of Regents


(Absent)

HON. BERNADETTE REMALLA-MAYBITUIN
Representing Hon. **ALLAN PETER S. CAYETANO**
Chairperson, Senate Committee on Higher,
Technical and Vocational Education
Member, VSU BOR


HON. CARL NICOLAS C. CARI
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Regional Executive Director, Department of
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Member, VSU BOR



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Faculty Regent - VSU System Faculty Union of
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HON. OSCAR B. POSAS
President, VSU Federated Alumni Association
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HON. RYAN C. ILAIDA
Student Regent - VSU Student Council Federation
Member, VSU BOR

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Member, VSU BOR
Tacloban City, Leyte



VISAYAS
STATE UNIVERSITY

OFFICE OF THE
**VICE PRESIDENT
FOR RESEARCH,
EXTENSION AND
INNOVATION**

February 5, 2025

Dr. Prose Ivy G. Yepes
President

Dear Pres. Yepes,

Good day, Ma'am. I pray you are safe and well.

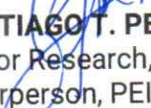
On behalf of the Publications Evaluation and Incentives Committee (PEIC) which the undersigned chairs, this office gladly submits the following proposals for consideration in the upcoming UADCO Meeting for possible endorsement to the BOR. These proposals are urgent as these have significant implications for the awarding of publication incentives and the support we aim to provide for article publishing fees, all in line with our priority to boost the publication outputs of our university.

1. **Proposed Guidelines on Availing Support for the Article Publication Fees**
2. **Proposed Revisions to the VSU Scientific Publication Award**

I look forward to your kind approval.

Thank you very much.

Very truly yours,


SANTIAGO T. PEÑA, JR.
VP for Research, Extension and Innovation
Chairperson, PEIC

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Proposed Guidelines on Availing Support for Article Publication Charge

Rationale

Open access (OA) publications offer unrestricted access to scholarly articles for free bypassing paywalls. This free sharing of research is important for several reasons including but not limited to ease of access, wider visibility, greater impact, and an opportunity to support the longstanding academic tradition of research sharing and collaboration. Generally, open-access publications follow either one of the following models: Green, Gold, and Diamond OA. Green OA allows researchers to upload the accepted version of their manuscripts via their personal webpage or university repositories after an embargo period. On the other hand, the Gold and Diamond OA both permit unrestricted access to the published version only after paying an article publishing/processing charge (APC), or through institutional funding or government support, respectively. Many publishers rely on APCs for open-access publishing to cover editorial and production costs including online hosting leveraging the internet to ensure that the scholarly content remains openly available.

While open access significantly augments the visibility of scholarly research, researchers often face the challenges of expensive and variable APCs across different publishers and journals. Young researchers are particularly affected, with many relying on waivers or personal funds. Some universities have looked into possible institutional financing and collaborative endeavors aimed at reducing financial constraints, including the inclusion of dedicated funds for APC assistance in their fiscal planning. These efforts could encourage faculty and students to publish in open-access journals, fostering collaboration and ensuring broader access to research findings, contributing to the global body of knowledge.

Notably however, the DOST or the UP System do not provide funds for APCs. Instead, researchers may submit their articles for incentives under the Publication Incentives Program (DOST) or the International Publication Award (UP System) for Scopus or WoS-indexed publications to offset the cost of APCs. Moreover, many of the nearly 30 Philippine-based Scopus-indexed journals listed in SCImago Journal & Country Rank¹ do not charge for

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¹ <https://www.scimagojr.com/journalrank.php?country=PH&year=2023>

processing fees, while 64% of the 21, 300 journals listed in DOAJ², do not require any fees. While APCs may range from \$8 to \$3,900³, some reputable Philippine-based Scopus-indexed journals collect APCs between ₱3,000.00 (for local authors) to \$250.00 (for foreign authors) per accepted article (Table 1).

To boost the publication output of the university concomitant to its strategic priorities, funding for APCs is crucial for enabling faculty and staff to pursue publication of their research outputs and/or creative works in reputable journals that require APCs. Increased publication outputs through APC assistance can enhance academic output, increase visibility of scholarly work, and advance the university's reputation, impact, and rankings, hence this proposal.

Proposed Guidelines on Availing APC Support

The following guidelines shall be followed when availing support for APC:

1. All qualified articles published in OVPREI-recognized Scopus-indexed journals may qualify for APC support. The OVPREI shall initiate a call asking academic units and research centers to submit a list of vetted Scopus-indexed journals.
2. Only active VSU faculty or staff who serve as the primary or corresponding author may apply for the APC support and may be granted only once per article per year depending on the availability of budget. Where the number of submissions exceeds the available budget, priority shall be given those who have submitted first.
3. The following may qualify for the APC support: original research articles, review articles, meta-analyses, and systematic reviews. Commentaries, letters to the editors, book reviews, poems, conference abstracts, testimonials, policy briefs, editorials, news/feature articles are not eligible.
4. A maximum of ₱10,000.00 (Philippine-based journals) and ₱20,000.00 (foreign-based journals) APC support may be granted per article published in OVPREI-recognized Scopus-indexed journals.
5. Support for APC shall be granted only to articles accepted within the within the current year as the call for APC support has been announced.
6. Documentary requirements for APC support shall include the following:
 - a) Letter request endorsed by the Department Head and Faculty Dean addressed to the OVPREI specifying the amount required along with a copy of the

² <https://doaj.org/>

³ Solomon, D. J., & Björk, B. C. (2012). A study of open access journals using article processing charges. *Journal of the American Society for Information Science and Technology*, 63(8), 1485-1495.

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HAZELLE V. ASALDO
BOR & University Secretary

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Vision: A global green university providing progressive leadership in agriculture, science and technology, education and allied fields for social transformation.

Mission: To produce graduates equipped with advanced knowledge and lifelong learning skills with ethical standards through high quality instruction, innovation research, and impactful community engagement.

No.

accepted version of the manuscript and a notice of acceptance from the publisher/journal. A link to the journal webpage showing the APC and/or an official receipt of payment may be submitted to support the amount of APC requested. For publications emanating from externally-funded project, documentary proof should be provided signifying that APC support is not part of its line-item-budget.

Note: An application form will be developed by the OVPREI to facilitate submissions.



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Table 1. Article Publication Charges (APCs) for some Scopus-indexed journals in the Philippines.

Journal Title	Publisher	Scopus	Clarivate	APC
Philippine Journal of Systematic Biology	Association of Systematic Biologists of the Philippines	✓	X	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ₱3,000.00 (local) • \$100.00 (foreign)
The Philippine Agricultural Scientist	College of Agriculture and Food Science, University of the Philippines Los Baños	✓	✓	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ₱400/page • \$250.00 (foreign)
Philosophia: International Journal of Philosophy (PIJP)	Philippine National Philosophical Research Society (PNPRS)	✓	✓	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ₱6,000.00 (sole author) • ₱3,500.00 (per author for multiple authors)
Philippine Journal of Crop Science	Crop Science Society of the Philippines (CSSP)	X	✓	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ₱2,500.00 (non-members) • ₱2,500.00 (foreign)
SciEnggJ	Philippine-American Academy of Science and Engineering	✓		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ₱5,000.00-7,500.00 (local) • \$150.00-\$200.00 (foreign)

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