FIFTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES First Regular Session



SENATE

11 JAN 25 P2:12

P.S. Resolution No.

RECEIVED BY:

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR VILLAR

RESOLUTION

EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE CONGRATULATING THE PONTIFICAL AND ROYAL UNIVERSITY OF SANTO TOMAS, THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES ON ITS QUADRICENTENNIAL YEAR

OF EDUCATING THE YOUTH, TRANSFORMING THEM INTO COMPETENT AND COMPASSIONATE FILIPINOS IN THE SERVICE OF GOD AND COUNTRY

WHEREAS, The University of Santo Tomas is the oldest existing university in Asia having been founded in 1611 through the initiative of Bishop Miguel de Benavides, O.P., the third Archbishop of Manila;

WHEREAS, In terms of student population, it is the largest Catholic university in the world in a single campus;

WHEREAS, the University comprises of several faculties, colleges, schools and institutes, each conferring undergraduate, graduate and postgraduate degrees, and the basic education units, some degrees have been accredited by the Commission on Higher Education as Centers of Excellence and Centers of Development;

WHEREAS, it was elevated to the status of a "Royal University" in 1785 by King Charles III of Spain, made a "Pontifical University" on September 17, 1902 by Pope Leo XIII, the second university in the world to be granted the formal title of Pontifical University, and was subsequently bestowed the title of "The Catholic University of the Philippines" by Pope Pius XII in 1947;¹

WHEREAS, through four centuries, the University has remained committed to its purpose of educating the young men and women of the Philippines, in its entire history the continuity of academic life in the University was disrupted only twice: the first during the Philippine Revolution and the Filipino-American War, and second, during World War II when the Japanese Occupation Forces converted the campus into an internment camp;

WHEREAS, the University's contribution to the development of the Filipino nation is attested by the fact that it is the alma mater of four Filipino heroes namely Jose Rizal, Emilio Jacinto, Marcelo H. del Pilar and Apolinario Mabini;

WHEREAS, among its notable alumnis at present are Asian Institute of Management founder Washington SyCip, founder of Jollibee Tony Tan Caktiong, Soprano Rachelle Gerodias, Miss Universe first-runner up Miriam Quiambao, Pugad Baboy creator Pol Medina, Jr., and Journalist Arnold Clavio;

¹ As cited in http://www.ust.edu.ph/index.php/history.html 01/24/2010 10:00AM

WHEREAS, it is home to the Faculty of Civil Law, the oldest lay faculty in the Philippines established to train lawyers dedicated to the pursuit of truth and justice, it has produced Philippine Presidents Manuel Luis Quezon, Sergio Osmeña, Jose P. Laurel and Diosdado Macapagal; Patriots and Nationalists Claro M. Recto, Fernando Ma. Guerrero, and several Chief Justices of the Supreme Court as well as notable jurists, lawmakers and statesmen;

WHEREAS, it is the Center of Excellence in medical education through the Faculty of Medicine and Surgery, an institution dedicated to provide the country with doctors armed with the commitment to serve the Filipino with quality and compassionate health services;

WHEREAS, the University of Santo Tomas, envisions itself as a globally-recognized institution of higher learning, actualizing the professional and moral formation of her students, and effecting social transformation, inspired with the ideals of its founding fathers, the University dedicates itself to the pursuit of Truth through the production, advancement, and transmission of knowledge for the formation of competent and compassionate professionals, committed to the service of the Church, the nation, and the world;²

WHEREAS, now on its quadricentennial year, the University aims to reaffirm its commitment to education by contributing more to the overall development of the marginalized communities, particularly the Indigenous Peoples, by increasing their educational opportunities through adult education through its Distance Education for the Marginalized Program under the University Community Development Program.³

NOW, WHEREFORE, BE IT RESOVED, as it is hereby resolved by the Senate of the Philippines to expressing the sense of the Senate congratulating the Pontifical and Royal University of Santo Tomas, The Catholic University of the Philippines on its quadricentennial year of educating the youth, transforming them into competent and compassionate Filipinos in the service of God and country.

Adopted,

MANNY VILLAR

² As cited in http://www.ust.edu.ph/index.php 01/24/2010 11:30 AM

³ As cited in http://www.ust.edu.ph/index.php/distance-education-for-the-marginalized.html 01/24/2010 2:00 PM