

II. MATTERS APPROVED BY THE BOARD (cont'd)

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B. ACADEMIC MATTERS (cont'd)

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3. Proposed Institution of the Dual PhD Degree Program in Meteorology in UP Diliman (with the University of Reading, United Kingdom)

Board Action: APPROVED

- 3.1 The Director of the Institute of Environmental Science and Meteorology (IESM), Dr. Lemnuel V. Aragonés, presented to the Board the proposed Dual PhD Degree Program in Meteorology, in partnership with the University of Reading in the United Kingdom.
- 3.2 Chair De Vera inquired about the status of the proposed initiative of increasing the number of meteorology graduates by expanding the meteorology program across public universities. Dr. Aragonés said he is a member of a technical working group in CHED that is working on the development of a BS Meteorology course to be offered by several state universities and colleges (SUCs) by the coming school year.
- 3.3 Chair De Vera thought that the BS Meteorology program in SUCs had already been started three years ago. He was expecting that it could be the feeder program for this Dual PhD in Meteorology Program. Dr. Aragonés replied that the Committee took time in developing the bachelor's degree program. He said that the proposed program would also benefit the faculty members who are pursuing PhD degrees in Meteorology.
- 3.4 Chair De Vera inquired about the number of public and private universities in the country that offer a master's degree program in meteorology. He said he supports the proposal but he is concerned that the proposed Dual PhD Program in Meteorology will not thrive without a strong master's programs in meteorology across the country which will serve as feeder schools to this proposed program. He added that the recently-approved Dual PhD by Research in Agriculture will not have any problem attracting students since agriculture is offered by so many institutions.
- 3.5 In response, Dr. Aragonés replied that IESM has already graduated many MS and PhD students since its inception and they mainly go to various government agencies.
- 3.6 Upon motion duly made and seconded, the proposed institution of the Dual PhD Degree Program in Meteorology in UP Diliman was approved by the Board.

4. Proposed Revision of the Guidelines for the International Publication Awards

Board Action: APPROVED

- 4.1 Vice President Bautista explained that the request for revision of the guidelines on the International Publication Award (IPA) was prompted by the following reasons:

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4. Proposed Revision of the Guidelines for the International Publication Awards (cont'd)

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- i) The existing guidelines stipulate that only articles in specifically indexed Institute for Scientific Information (ISI) and Scopus journals are eligible for the IPA. However, there are publications which are very limited and highly specialized that are not indexed in the ISI. The proposed revision is to consider such journals, on a case-to-case basis, as eligible for the IPA provided it is evaluated by the IPA Committee to be of high quality owing to the reputation of the Board of Directors and the track record.
 - ii) The Board approved a very restrictive provision that only books published in the Socio-Economic and Natural Sciences of the Environment (SENSE) list and tiered accordingly are eligible for the IPA. The SENSE list, while listing reputable publishers may be an unreliable, inconsistent and ad hoc list if used as the sole basis for granting an IPA for books and book chapters, particularly those in the field of social sciences and humanities. The Committee at that time did not know yet the provenance and the usefulness of the SENSE list;
 - iii) The existing guidelines exclude books in the literary world that are published by small publishing houses—including academic publishers—that are not as commercial as the big ones that are considered reputable. In this field, some of the literary works of quality are published by such publishing houses; and,
 - iv) The existing guidelines stipulate that applications for publications applied for more than 6 months after their publication are no longer eligible for the award. A number of faculty members have appealed this timeframe. The committee that was created to actually look at publication issues recommended that it should be one (1) year because six (6) months is too stringent a time frame.
- 4.2 In response to Regent Jimenez's query, Vice President Bautista explained that predatory journals are journals that make you pay to get published, which is a business of publications.
- 4.3 There being no objection to the motion made by Regent Arinto and seconded by Regent Jimenez, the Board approved the proposed revision of the guidelines on the International Publication Award.