

# [ PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 1427, June 10, 1978 ]

## **CONVERTING THE ZAMBOANGA STATE COLLEGE INTO THE WESTERN MINDANAO STATE UNIVERSITY, DEFINING ITS POWERS, FUNCTIONS, AND DUTIES AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

**WHEREAS**, the Constitution of the Philippines directs the State to establish and maintain a complete, adequate, and integrated system of education relevant to the goals of national development and prescribes that all educational institutions shall aim to develop scientific, technological and vocational efficiency;

**WHEREAS**, under Presidential Decree No. 6-A otherwise known as the Educational Development Decree of 1972, promulgated on September 29, 1972, it had been declared a policy of the government to reorient the educational system toward an accelerated national economic growth and meaningful social development;

**WHEREAS**, the Western Mindanao Region, comprising the provinces of Sulu, Tawi-Tawi, Basilan Province, Zamboanga del Norte, and Zamboanga del Sur and the cities of Dapitan, Dipolog, and Pagadian and Zamboanga, is endowed with natural resources the exploitation, utilization, and conservation of which will certainly accelerate its development, thereby contributing immensely to the economic growth of the region, in particular, and of the country, in general;

**WHEREAS**, an adequate system of public education at the tertiary level is believed to be an effective instrument of the New Society in facilitating, the socio-economic upliftment of the people in Western Mindanao and in effecting a more equitable sharing of the country's wealth and income that will ultimately make them productive, progressive, and dignified citizens;

**WHEREAS**, the establishment of the Western Mindanao State University will, likewise, relieve the city of Manila from congestion and other concomittant problem arising from overpopulation, such as housing, sanitation, transportation, and peace and order:

**WHEREAS**, the establishment of the Western Mindanao State University will, in the ultimate analysis, serve as an instrument for the promotion of the socio-economic advancement of the various cultural communities inhabiting therein;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, FERDINAND E. MARCOS**, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by the Constitution, do hereby order and decree:

**SECTION 1.** *Conversion and Establishment.*—There is hereby converted the Zamboanga State College into the Western Mindanao State University (WMSU), a university to serve Western Mindanao region herein referred to in this Decree as the University.

**SEC. 2.** *Composition of the University.*—The University shall be composed of the presently existing academic departments and institutes, administrative and supportive units, and external units of the Zamboanga State College. The academic departments and institutes shall be reorganized and renamed as follows: The Graduate Department shall become the Graduate School; the Institute of Arts and

Sciences shall become the College of Arts and Sciences, College of Forestry, and College of Social Work; the Institute of Education, including the High School department and the Laboratory School shall become the College of Education; the Institute of Nursing shall be the College of Nursing; the Institute of Engineering as the College of Engineering and Technology; the external studies at Dipolog City, Tawi-Tawi, and Sulu shall become the External Unit at Zamboanga del Norte, External Unit at Tawi-Tawi, and External Unit at Sulu respectively. A College of Agriculture, a College of Medicine; an External unit at Zamboanga del Sur and an External unit at Basilan Province and other new colleges, departments, or units may later be organized to become part of the University.

**SEC. 3. Purpose.**—The main purpose of the University is to provide the necessary leadership in professional and technical instruction in the arts, sciences, and technology in line with the goals for national and regional development. The University shall offer undergraduate and graduate course in the arts and sciences, education, medical sciences, agriculture and forestry, engineering and technology, and other courses necessary to meet the needs for trained manpower for the region. It shall promote research in the various disciplines and fields of specialization for the advancement knowledge and for the socio-economic and cultural development of the region.

**SEC. 4. Powers of the University.**—The following are the powers of the University:

- a. It shall have the general powers as set forth in Section Thirteen of Act numbered Fourteen Hundred Fifty-nine, as amended. The exercise of its corporate powers are hereby vested exclusively in the Board of Regents and in the President of the University in so far as authorized by the Board.
- b. It shall have the power to acquire public lands, real estate for its expansion and/or beneficial use; and to purchase motor vehicles, conveyances, and other facilities and equipment necessary for the operation of the University.

**SEC. 5. The Governing Board.**—(a) Composition—The government of Western Mindanao State University is vested in Board of Regents which shall be composed of seven members, three of which are regular members and four are *ex-officio* members. The three regular members must be Filipino citizens and residents of the Philippines one of whom shall be the President of the University Alumni Association and two from the private sector who are appointed by the President of the Philippines, one of whom shall be a well known educator who belongs to a cultural minority in the region. The four *ex-officio* members shall be the Secretary of Education and Culture, as Chairman, the Regional Commissioner for Region IX, the Executive Director of the NEDA for Region IX, and the President of the University. The regular members of the Board shall serve a term of four years. In case of a vacancy in the regular membership of the Board, the President of the Philippines shall, upon recommendation of the Board of Regents, appoint a new member to serve for the unexpired term only.

The regular members of the Board shall each receive for every meeting actually attended a per diem of One Hundred Pesos: *Provided*, That in no case shall the total amount received by each exceed Two Hundred Pesos for any one month. Besides the per diem, they, together with the *ex-officio* members, shall be reimbursed for actual but necessary expenses incurred in attendance upon meetings of the Board or upon performing other official business authorized by resolution of the Board.

(b) Quorum—A quorum of the Board of Regents shall consists of a majority of all the members holding office at the time the meeting of the Board is called. All processes against the Board of Regents shall be served on the Chairman or secretary thereof.

(c) Powers and Duties of the Board. The Board of Regents shall have the following powers and duties in addition to its general powers of administration and the exercise of the powers of the corporation:

1. To determine and fix the dates and time of their regular meetings, as well as special meetings as the need for same may arise: *Provided*, That all such meetings shall not be more than once in any month, no less than once in any one quarter.
2. To recommend the President of the University for appointment by the President of the Philippines, and who shall serve for a period of six years, subject to reappointment provided that his term of office shall not extend beyond age 65.
3. To fix the compensation of the President of the University subject to pertinent budget and compensation laws, rules and regulations.
4. To provide and appropriate to the ends specified by law such sums as may be provided by law for the support of the University.
5. To provide for the establishment of colleges and schools as it may deem necessary.
6. To receive in trust legacies, gifts, and donations of real estate and personal property of all kinds and to administer the same for the benefit of the University or of a department thereof, or for and to any student or students in accordance with the direction or instruction of the donor, and or in default thereof, in such manner as the Board may in its discretion determine.
7. To appoint, on the recommendation of the President of the University, vice presidents, directors, deans, secretary of the University, professors, lecturers, instructors, registrars, department heads, division chiefs, and other employees of the University; to fix their compensation, hours of service, and such other duties and conditions as it may deem proper, subject to pertinent budget and compensation laws, rules and regulations; to grant to them, in its discretion, leave of absence under such regulations as it may promulgate; and to remove them for cause after an investigation and hearing shall have been had.
8. To approve the courses of study and rules of discipline drawn by the University Council; to fix the required tuition fees, matriculation fees, fees for laboratory courses, graduation fees, and all special fees; to reappropriate and utilize the same for the operation of the University and to utilize annual appropriations and other incomes for the maintenance of the University.
9. To provide fellowships to qualified faculty members and scholarships to deserving students.
10. To establish chairs in the colleges of the University, and to provide for the maintenance and endowment of such chairs, as well as to provide for such other professors, assistant professors, instructors, tutors, and lecturers as the progress of instruction may make necessary, and to fix the compensation pertaining to such positions.
11. To confer the usual honorary degrees upon persons other than graduates of the University in recognition of learning, statesmanship or eminence in literature, science, or arts: *Provided*, That such degrees shall not be conferred in consideration of the payment of money or other valuable consideration; and
12. To file with the President of the Philippines a detailed report, setting forth the progress, conditions, and needs of the University on or before the fifteenth day