

Provisional Regulations for Institutions of Higher Learning

(Approved by 43rd Session of the Government  
Administration Council, July 28, 1950. Announced by  
Ministry of Education, August 14, 1950)

Chapter I

Art. 1. The purpose of institutions of higher learning in the People's Republic of China is to train high-level specialists for national reconstruction in accordance with the articles of Chapter 5 of the Common Program of the People's Political Consultative Conference, and with a method that combines theory and practice. These specialists will have advanced standards of culture, will master modern science and technology, and will have total dedication to serving the people.

Art. 2. The basic tasks of institutions of higher learning are:

1) in accordance with the Common Program of the People's Political Consultative Conference of China, to provide students with a revolutionary political ideological education; to eliminate feudal, comprador, and fascist thinking; and to establish

a correct world outlook and method, so as to develop in students the idea of wanting to work for the people;

2) to meet the needs of national reconstruction, to train specialists who not only master basic theories but also are able to apply them, such as engineers, teachers, medical doctors, agronomists, financial and economic cadres, linguists, and artists;

3) using correct viewpoints and methods, to study physical and social sciences, philosophy, literature, and arts in order to have inventions, writings, etc., that serve practical needs;

4) to disseminate scientific and technological knowledge and to popularize literary and art works.

Art. 3. Institutions of higher learning include universities and specialized colleges. To meet the urgent needs of national reconstruction, special schools at the junior college level may be established, regulations for which will be announced separately.

Art. 4. The Ministry of Education of the Central People's Government (abbreviated as the Central Ministry of Education) may create or close universities and specialized colleges, with the approval of the Government Administration Council of the Central People's Government.

Art. 5. Universities and Specialized colleges will establish various departments, but their creation or change are to be determined by the Central Ministry of Education.

Art. 6. When necessary, universities may create colleges, which in turn may have various departments; the creation of colleges and departments is to be determined by the Central Ministry of Education.

Art. 7. Depending upon the nature of curriculums of the different departments, the time for graduation from universities and colleges is, in general, from 3 to 5 years.

Art. 8. To train teachers and to strengthen research work, universities and colleges may establish graduate schools with the approval of the Central Ministry of Education, regulations of which will be announced separately.

Art. 9. To meet the urgent needs of national reconstruction,

universities and specialized colleges may establish special courses and training classes.

## Chapter II. Admissions

Art. 10. All healthy graduates of senior middle [senior middle school: 10th, 11th, and 12th grades of a twelve-year primary-secondary school cycle] or equivalent schools, or of equal educational attainment, who are 17 years old and have passed the entrance examination, will be admitted regardless of sex, race, or religion.

Art. 11. Universities and specialized colleges will give preference for admission, and provide special care while in residence, to the following groups of applicants with an equivalent of senior middle school education: (1) revolutionary cadres who have considerable length of service; (2) young industrial workers and peasants; (3) students of minority nationality; (4) overseas Chinese students. Regulations on the handling of these students will be announced separately.

## Chapter III. Curriculums, Examinations, and Graduations

Art. 12. Curriculums of all departments of a university or a specialized college should be formulated according to the needs of national reconstruction and the principle of combining theory and practice. Standards of these curriculums will be announced separately.

Art. 13. A university or a specialized college should submit its plans of instruction for all subjects and outlines of courses to the Central Ministry of Education for review.

Art. 14. During their final year, students of a university or a specialized college must choose, with the approval of the chairman of the department concerned, a topic for a graduation thesis or special report, which is to be written under the direction of the Chairman of the Teaching and Research Guidance Committee or of a professor whom he designates.

Art. 15. Examinations of a university or a specialized

college include entrance examinations, regular tests, semester finals, and graduation examinations.

Art. 16. Students of a university or a specialized college who have completed all required courses and passed all examinations, will receive their diplomas, after the Central Ministry of Education approves their names, which have been submitted by their schools for graduation.

#### Chapter IV. Organization of the Faculty and Its Duties

Art. 17. Teachers in a university or a specialized college have four grades: professor, associate professor, lecturer, and assistant. They are all appointed by the president of the university or the dean of the college, with the approval of the Central Ministry of Education.

Art. 18. The Teaching and Research Guidance Committee is the basic teaching unit, consisting of all teachers of one subject or several closely related subjects. Each such committee has a chairman who is selected by the president of the university or the dean of the college from among the teachers, with the approval of the Central Ministry of Education. The chairman of this committee has the following duties:

- 1) to lead all teachers in the committee in the discussion and formulation of plans of instruction and outlines of courses;
- 2) to lead and to check on the progress of classroom instruction and research work;
- 3) to lead and to organize the committee's students in carrying out their assignments, experiments, and internship duties.

#### Chapter V. Administrative Organization

Art. 19. A university or a specialized college adopts the "president (or dean) responsibility system"; every university has a president, and every independent college, a dean. The following are their responsibilities:

- 1) to represent their schools;

2) to lead their schools in matters of teaching, research, and administration;

3) to lead the teachers, students, office employees, general services employees, and campus police of their schools in political studies;

4) to appoint and to remove teachers, office employees, general services employees, and campus police;

5) to approve the resolutions of the Committee on University (or Specialized College) Affairs.

Art. 20. A university or a specialized college may appoint one or two vice-presidents (or associate deans) to assist the president (or dean) in administering university (or college) matters, and to act as president (or dean) during the latter's absence. Vice-presidents (or associate deans) may serve concurrently as deans for academic affairs.

Art. 21. A university or specialized college may appoint a dean for academic affairs, and an associate dean when necessary. Deans are professors appointed by the president of the university (or dean of the college), with the approval of the Central Ministry of Education, and they have the following duties:

1) to plan, organize, supervise, and inspect the work of all teaching and research committees, departments, and the university (or college) as a whole;

2) to plan, organize, supervise, and inspect scientific research of the university (or college) as a whole;

3) to act as president (or dean) when both president (or dean) and vice-president (or associate dean) are absent.

Art. 22. A university or a specialized college may appoint a dean for general affairs, who is responsible to the president (or dean) for administrative matters. He is appointed by the president (or dean) with the approval of the Central Ministry of Education.

Art. 23. A university or a specialized college may appoint one director of the university or college library, who reports to the dean for academic affairs on matters concerning the library, and is appointed by the president (or dean) with the

approval of the Central Ministry of Education.

Art. 24. Departments of a university or a specialized college are the basic units for educational administration. Every department has a chairman who performs his duties under the direction of the dean for academic affairs (in the case of a university that consists of individual colleges, the chairman of a department works under the dual leadership of the dean for academic affairs and the dean of the college), and is a professor appointed by the president of the university (or dean of the independent college), with the approval of the Central Ministry of Education. The chairman of a department has the following duties:

- 1) to plan and to direct the administration of the department;
- 2) to supervise the implementation of plans of instruction of the department;
- 3) to lead and to inspect the work assignments, experiments, and intern programs of students in the department;
- 4) to inspect the performance of students in the department;
- 5) to summarize the experiences in instruction of the department;
- 6) to recommend the appointment and removal of teachers and employees in the department.

Art. 25. A university that has individual colleges may have a dean for every one of its colleges, who is selected from the professors and appointed by the president, with the approval of the Central Ministry of Education. The dean of a college has the following duties:

- 1) to plan and to direct the administration of the college;
- 2) to supervise the implementation of plans of instruction of all departments in the college;
- 3) to recommend appointment or removal of chairmen of departments.

Art. 26. Under the direction of the president of a university (or dean of a specialized college), a university (or specialized college) may establish a committee on university (or college) affairs. The committee consists of the president of the university (or the dean of the college), vice-president (or

associate dean), dean for academic affairs, associate dean for academic affairs, dean for general affairs, director of the university (or college) library, deans of colleges of the university, chairmen of departments, four to six representatives of trade union organizations, and two representatives of the student government, with the president of the university (or dean of the college) as the chairman. The committee has the following functions:

- 1) to review plans of instruction, plans of research, and work reports of all departments and all teaching and research committees;
- 2) to approve budgets;
- 3) to approve the adoption of all important systems and regulations;
- 4) to discuss and to determine all matters related to awards and punishments of students;
- 5) to discuss and to determine all important matters related to innovations and improvements in the university (or specialized college).

Art. 27. Under the direction of the dean for academic affairs, a university (or a specialized college) may hold meetings concerning teaching, joint meetings of chairmen of departments, and joint meetings of chairmen of several teaching and research committees; under the direction of the dean for general affairs, meetings concerning matters of general services; under the direction of chairmen of departments, meetings concerning departmental matters. A university with individual colleges may hold meetings on college matters, under the direction of the dean, in lieu of the joint meetings of chairmen of departments.

#### Chapter VI. Social Organizations

Art. 28. Trade union, student, and all other social organizations of a university (or specialized college) should unite all teachers, employees, and students of the university (or college) to assist their school: (1) in carrying out its plans of instruction and plans of administration; (2) in mobilizing teachers,

employees, and students to carry out political, cultural, and occupational studies; and (3) in improving the welfare of teachers, employees, and students.

Art. 29. Universities and colleges should set up various scholarly organizations to promote the elevation and popularization of science and culture.

#### Chapter VII. Miscellaneous

Art. 30. Because of their difficult circumstances, existing universities or specialized colleges that find it impossible to fully implement the provisions on administrative organization of these regulations, may adopt these regulations with modifications, with the approval of the Ministry of Education of the Large Administrative District and the Central Ministry of Education.

Art. 31. In addition to these regulations, all private universities and specialized colleges must also comply with the "Provisional Methods for the Control of Private Institutions of Higher Learning."

Art. 32. These provisional regulations, including revisions if any, will become effective as soon as the Central Ministry of Education receives approval from the Government Administration Council.