



Press Release
August 29, 2019

PH, China strengthen academic cooperation in higher education

Beijing, China - The Commission on Higher Education (CHED) of the Philippines and the Ministry of Education (MOE) of the People's Republic of China on Thursday, August 29, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to fast track bilateral cooperation in higher education.

CHED Chairman J. Prospero E. De Vera III and China's State Councilor and Foreign Minister His Excellency Wang Yi signed the MoU that signifies the mutual commitment of the two countries to push for the internationalization of universities in both countries. The educational cooperation agreement was one of the key documents signed during President Rodrigo Duterte's state visit to China.

The MoU will fast track collaboration between higher education agencies and institutions in the two countries specifically in the areas of:

1. Mutual recognition of degrees to promote lifelong learning and the practices of profession in both countries;
2. Increasing the number of universities recognized by both countries in their registry;
3. Faculty and student exchanges through scholarships, training programs and country visits;
4. Information sharing on the structure of higher education, academic quality, performance standards, evaluation of results, methodology development, student affairs, and qualifications frameworks;
5. Establishment of a credit transfer arrangements;
6. Strengthen cooperation in the study of languages and the establishment of additional Confucius Institutes in the Philippines; and
7. Promotion of participation in educational congresses, conferences, workshops, symposiums, training courses, and exhibits.

"President Duterte's signing of RA 10931 or the Universal Access to Quality Tertiary Education is now providing access to more than 1.2 million students all over the country. This educational agreement will improve the quality of education available to our students," De Vera said.

"This academic cooperation manifests our collaborative efforts to deepen and expand support and opportunities to develop future-ready graduates and contribute to innovation and technology for economic growth and national competitiveness for both countries," De Vera added.

The CHED and MOE will establish a joint working group (JWG) to develop programs and projects between HEIs of Philippines and China starting this year. The JWG will be co-chaired by a representative from the CHED and MOE. Other relevant government agencies of the two countries or other relevant institutions which are authorized by the two governments may participate in the JWG.



J. PROSPERO E. DE VERA III, DPA
Chairman
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