NATIONAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGISTER · OCTOBER 25, 1993

PRC BOARD OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERING

PRC RESOLUTION NO. 20, s. 1993, October 25, 1993

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WHEREAS, the Board of Mechanical Engineering is empowered by Sec. 3, Art. I of C.A. No. 294, as amended: "The Mechanical Engineering Law" and Sec. 6, (a) of P.D. No. 223, as amended, to adopt measures or policies that will preserve and improve technical, ethical, and moral standards of the profession of mechanical engineering;

WHEREAS, the full computerization of the Mechanical Engineering Examination is a policy that has three (3) beneficial effects to the effective supervision, regulation, and control of the licensure and practice of the profession: (1) it will bring about the confidentiality, integrity, credibility, and quality of the examination which the Board and Commission are sworn to uphold and preserve so as to win the public trust and faith therein; (2) it will ensure the immediate release of the examination henceforth, paving the way for the successful examinees to work or practice at once; (3) it will accord the Board more time for the supervision, regulation, and control of the practice of the profession;

WHEREAS, under Res. 265, Series of 1993, the Commission directed that the examination of all the professions under the jurisdiction and supervision thereof "shall be fully computerized in 1993 except those professions with examinees below 1,000 which shall be programmed in 1994";

WHEREAS, the process of full computerization of the licensure examination does not only involve the correction and rating of test papers, but it does also utilize test bank from which questions are extracted and randomly arranged by and through the computer.

NOW, THEREFORE, by virtue of the quasi-legislative power thereof under Sec. 9, Art. I, of C.A. No. 294, the Board hereby RESOLVES, as it so RESOLVED, to fully computerize the Mechanical Engineer Licensure Examination starting with the October 28, 29 and 30, 1993 schedule under these guidelines and procedures, viz.;

1. The Board Member shall input into the test bank at least five hundred (500) questions for each subject as the starting point which must be built up by a minimum of three hundred (300) every examination to reach the ideal optimum three thousand (3,000) questions or more. The questions deposited in the test bank shall be withdrawable and replenishable with new ones so as to keep abreast with the latest scientific trend of the profession.

2. The inputted questions may come from those which the Board Member had personally prescribed or formulated from those which he/she had adopted from the questions supplied by the academe.

3. No questions shall be fed into the testbank unless it has been appraised as of its objectivity, validity, materiality, reliability, and efficaciousness. An expert on test construction may be consulted to assist the Board Member fine-tune every question to discern if the foregoing constraints or parameters have been met, to determine if every question is unambiguous, and to find out if it is definite and only answerable with one definite correct answer and not with the "best" answer.

4. The questions to be fed into the testbank shall be classifieds as to their degree of comprehensibility: easy, average/moderate, and difficult: as to their level of knowledge (sound, adequate, and fair) and proficiency

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(competent, adequate, and fair) and as to their nature: easy, problem-solving, and objective (Multiple choice). Questions for each category must be equitably comprehensive and representative of the mass.

5. Subjects shall have these proportional weights: 55% for objective-type questions which must be selected by and corrected through the computer and 45% for problem solving, essay type or similar nature of question which must be chosen by the computer and corrected manually.

6. Security measures shall be implemented to ensure that the computer programs and files are tamper-free. Multiple passwords shall be adopted so that no one has complete control of, or access to, the computer programs and files. Three (3) responsible key officials shall be designated for this purpose.

7. The number of questions to be given in the examination for each subject shall be extracted from the testbank and randomized so as to produce at least two (2) sets, e.g. "A" and "B" containing the same number of questions but having different chronological arrangements for printing and distribution to the examinees, accordingly precluding the examinees from copying the answers of their seatmates.

8. The correction and rating of test papers as well as the other stages/processess involved in the release of the results of the examination shall be computerized.

FURTHER, RESOLVED, that the herein resolution, upon its approval by the Commission, shall be effective after fifteen (15) days following its publication in the Official Gazette or newspapers of general circulation.

FINALLY, RESOLVED, that this resolution shall be circularized to the schools/colleges offering the course of Mechanical Engineering for the guidance and information of all concerned.

Adopted: 25 Oct. 1993

(Sgd.) JULIO F. ABARQUEZ
Chairman

(Sgd.) JESUS M. REDELOSA
Member

(Sgd.) ALFREDO Y. PO
Member

APPROVED:

(Sgd.) HERMOGENES P. POBRE
Commissioner

(Sgd.) MARIANO A. MENDIETA

(Sgd.) ARMANDO C. PASCUAL

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