



28 January 2020

ADVISORY OPINION

Reference No. DPO 20-03

FOR :



SUBJECT : **Release of Information for Research Purposes**

Dear [REDACTED]:

We respond to your query on the permissibility of releasing information for research purposes. Yes, the [REDACTED] may provide the inclusive semesters attended and the degree program taken by [REDACTED] strictly for research purposes. The reason for this is that subject to the conditions discussed below, the processing of information for research purposes is outside the scope of the Data Privacy Act of 2012 (*Data Privacy Act, Section 4(d)*).

However, the following conditions must be present:

- *First*, the research should be “intended for a public benefit” (*Implementing Rules and Regulations of the Data Privacy Act, Section 5(c)*); and
- *Second*, the information is processed “only to the minimum extent necessary to achieve the specific purpose” of the research (*Implementing Rules of the DPA, Sec. 5, last paragraph*).

Hence, to comply with privacy regulations, the following are suggested:

1. The research explicitly states in its research objectives the *public benefit* of the research;
2. The research establishes that the use or mention of [REDACTED]'s information is related to the research objectives; and
3. The conduct of the research is in line with the [UP Diliman Privacy Policy for Researchers and Research Subjects](http://upd.edu.ph/privacy) found at upd.edu.ph/privacy.

Please feel free to reach out for clarifications or further concerns.

Yours,

(Sgd.) Elson B. Manahan
Data Protection Officer
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