

## **DBM's Diokno to receive honorary doctorate degree from UP**

JUN. 19–The University of the Philippines Diliman (UPD) will confer an honorary Doctor of Laws degree on Secretary of Budget and Management Benjamin E. Diokno, PhD, at its 106<sup>th</sup> General Commencement Exercises to be held on June 25 at the University Amphitheater.

A Professor Emeritus at UPD's School of Economics, Diokno has taught courses such as Public Sector Economics, Microeconomics, Macroeconomics and special topics for over 40 years.

Diokno previously served the national government in the same capacity from 1998 to 2001 and as Budget Undersecretary from 1986 to 1991 where he implemented reforms in the public sector. Some of these included providing technical assistance to the 1986 Tax Reform Program to simplify the income tax system and introduce the value-added tax, helping design the 1991 Local Government Code of the Philippines and sponsoring the internationally-lauded Government Procurement Reform Act to standardize government procurement activities in the country.

He served as adviser and consultant to the World Bank, Asian Development Bank, European Commission and the USAID for work in the Philippines, China and transitioning economies like Vietnam, Cambodia and Mongolia.

From UP, he finished his BA in Public Administration in 1968, a Master of Public Administration (1970) and an MA in Economics (1974). He also earned an MA in Political Economy from the Johns Hopkins University in the United States in 1976 and a PhD (Economics) from the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs of the Syracuse University in New York in 1981.

Diokno will address some 4,000 candidates for graduation, led by 36 summa cum laude, led by Williard Joshua D. Jose, BS in Electronics and Communications Engineering, with a weighted average grade of 1.058.

