The following is a list of matters discussed at the Council meeting held on July 30, 2013:

1. The Council CONGRATULATED the Hon. Abraham L.H. SHEK on his being awarded the Gold Bauhinia Star, and all other members of the University family for their respective awards on the 2013 Honours List of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region.

2. The Council RECORDED a vote of thanks to Professor S.P. LEE, Dean of Medicine, who would retire from his Deanship on July 31, 2013, for his contributions in the past five years.

3. The Council RECEIVED a report from the Vice-Chancellor on the recent activities of the University including

   (a) the admission exercise of students from Mainland China to the University’s undergraduate programmes; and

   (b) his attendance at the following meetings:

       (i) the 17th Annual Presidents Meeting of the Association of Pacific Rim Universities hosted by the Far Eastern Federal University in Vladivostok, Russia, from June 27 to 29, 2013;

       (ii) the international Council on Global Competitiveness Enhancement of Russian Universities meeting held in Moscow from July 5 to 6, 2013; and

       (iii) the 9th Chinese Universities Presidents’ Forum, an annual networking meeting of university Presidents from Mainland China, Taiwan, Hong Kong and Macau, held in Taiwan from July 20 to 25, 2013.

4. The Council

   (a) RESOLVED that Mr. K.L. TAM, Senior Assistant Director of Estates, be appointed as the Director of Estates from August 1, 2013 under the provisions of Statute X4.(a);

   (b) THANKED all members of the Committee for the Selection of Professional and Administrative Staff for their efforts over the search and the selection exercise;

   (c) RECORDED a vote of thanks to Mr. Kenneth P.K. WONG, the former Director of Estates who had retired on June 30, 2013, for his 24 years of dedicated service and valuable contributions to the University; and
(d) NOTED, in this connection, some general comments on the Centennial Campus, and facilities management and security of the University.

5. The Council

(a) RECEIVED a paper setting out the necessary amendments to the Statutes of the University following the creation of the post of Executive Vice-President (Administration and Finance) (the “EVP”);

(b) NOTED from the Chairman

(i) that the creation of the office of EVP required amendments to be made to the University Statutes, mainly to accord the incumbent of the post status of an officer of the University, alongside other members of the Senior Management Team; and

(ii) that it was appropriate and necessary for the EVP to be a member of the Senate, as under the provisions of Statute XXIII.1(c), the Senate was charged with the power “to advise the Council on the provision of facilities for educational and other academic matters”, which was under the portfolio of the EVP; and

(c) APPROVED, for submission to the Court, the amendments to the Statutes of the University as set out in paragraph 4 of document 137/713.

6. The Council APPROVED that a pay adjustment of 2.55% and 3.92% for eligible staff in the respective categories be implemented with retrospective effect from April 1, 2013.

7. The Council

(a) ACCEPTED the resignation of Professor K.H. LOUIE from the Deanship of Arts from January 1, 2014;

(b) NOTED that the search and selection process for the next Dean of Arts would be initiated; and

(c) RECORDED a vote of thanks to Professor LOUIE for his contributions to the Faculty of Arts during his term of Deanship in the past eight years.

8. The Council APPROVED, on the recommendation of the Policy Board of Postgraduate Education, that the composition fees for part-time self-funded Research Postgraduate programmes be increased from $53,000 to $57,000 per annum, and that the new rate be applicable to new students who register on September 1, 2013 and thereafter.

9. The Council APPROVED, on the recommendation of the Nominations Committee, that Professor LO King Man, a member of the University Court, be re-appointed as a member of the University Press Committee under the category “Two persons appointed by the Council of whom at least one shall be a non-academic member” for the period September 1, 2013 to August 31, 2016.
10. The Council

(a) HEARD a presentation by Professor J.P. BURNS, Dean of Social Sciences, on the development of the Faculty; and

(b) COMMENDED colleagues of the Faculty of Social Sciences for their effort in the development of the Faculty; and THANKED Professor BURNS for the presentation.

August 2013