

# THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

## COUNCIL

The following is a list of non-restricted matters discussed at the Council meeting held on October 25, 2016.

1. The Council RECEIVED a report from the President & Vice-Chancellor on the recent activities of the University including
  - (a) the retirement of Professor G.W.K. TANG, the inaugural Hospital Chief Executive of the HKU-Shenzhen Hospital, upon completion of her term on November 13, 2016; and his thanks to Professor TANG for her dedication and contributions to the HKU-Shenzhen Hospital as well as the University;
  - (b) his condolences to a former HKU employee who died during the recent cross-harbour swim;
  - (c) the progress of work of the Working Party set up to advise the Council on the necessary policies, processes and arrangements for the implementation of Recommendations 1, 3, 4 and 5 of the Newby Report;
  - (d) the involvement of the University in the HeForShe campaign of the United Nations, and his attendance at the launch of the report on gender parity during the United Nations General Assembly in New York on September 20, 2016;
  - (e) his engagement with the Council for Advancement and Support of Education as Chairman/member of its Boards and Executive Committee;
  - (f) the recent signing of high level strategic agreement of HKU with the University of Sydney and the University of Chicago;
  - (g) the latest development of the Centennial College;
  - (h) the visit to the University from the Ministry of Education in Beijing, led by Mr. XU Tao, Director-General of International Cooperation and Exchanges;
  - (i) his attendance with other HKU representatives at the Shaw Prize ceremony on September 27, 2016 and the Lui Che Woo Prize ceremony on October 3, 2016; and his introducing lectures at HKU for the Shaw Prize for Astronomy and the Lui Che Woo Prize for World Civilisation;
  - (j) the ceremony for the award of the Honorary University Fellowships on September 28, 2016; and his congratulations to the recipients of Honorary University Fellowships;

- (k) his attendance at the inauguration of the Ming Wai Lau Centre for Reporative Medicine at the Science Park, a joint venture with the Karolinska Institutet of Stockholm, Sweden on October 7, 2016; and
- (l) his participation in the talk hosted by the postgraduate students' Global Forum on Brexit and its aftermath on October 13, 2016.

2. The Council

- (a) HEARD a presentation from Professor E.C. CHANG, Dean of Business and Economics, on the development in the Faculty, and NOTED in particular
  - (i) an overview of the Faculty including its vision, student composition, international and Mainland collaboration, international rankings and performance in the Research Assessment Exercise (RAE) 2014;
  - (ii) the challenges faced in the areas of research performance, UGC quota for undergraduate student admissions, facilities, and competition from other local institutions; and
  - (iii) the key strategies of the Faculty in academic ranking, faculty recruitment, offering of interdisciplinary programmes with finance as a catalyst, and enhancement in the areas of financial resources, Mainland presence, international collaboration, collaboration with the Asia Global Institute, and governance efficiency;
- (b) NOTED Professor CHANG's response to members' comments on exploring different means of funding support, ranking of the Faculty, and the new programmes offered; and
- (c) THANKED Professor CHANG for the presentation.

3. The Council

- (a) HEARD a presentation from Professor M.R. EVANS, Dean of Science, on the development in the Faculty, and NOTED in particular
  - (i) an overview of the seven RAE Cost Centres in the Faculty, including the number of staff, the top ranking of four units in Hong Kong (including Environmental Biology, Food Science, Chemistry and Earth Sciences), the diversified research output and grant income, and the critical mass evaluation of the Faculty against the Median Russell Group Size;
  - (ii) the programmes offered by the Faculty and the accreditation obtained;
  - (iii) the QS World University Rankings 2016-2017 in which all Departments of the Faculty, save one, were ranked within global top 50 and Asian top 10;

- (iv) the timeframe of his various plans, such as town hall meetings in all units, RAE dry run, strategy planning and consultation in and around Faculty; and
  - (v) the areas which required attention, covering the growth and administration of units, teaching and research, leadership, staff recruitment and retention, and gender balance of professoriate staff;
- (b) NOTED response from Professor EVANS on members' comments in the areas of research;
  - (c) NOTED from Professor T.S.A. HOR, Vice-President & Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research), in response to comment from a member, that the University was actively enhancing its development in the area of intellectual property rights for its research output; and
  - (d) THANKED Professor EVANS for the presentation.
6. The Council
- (a) RECEIVED the University's audited financial statements for the year ended June 30, 2016; and a document, tabled at the meeting, providing detailed breakdown about the University reserves and provisions;
  - (b) HEARD Mrs. Margaret M.Y. LEUNG KO, Treasurer and Chairman of the Finance Committee, take members through the audited financial statements;
  - (c) NOTED from Dr. Peter K.K. WONG, who was a member of the Audit Committee, that the Audit Committee did not find anything out of ordinary of the financial statements; and
  - (d) APPROVED the University's audited financial statements for the year ended June 30, 2016.
7. The Council
- (a) RECEIVED a paper from the Director of Finance on the Letter of Representation in respect of the 2015-16 audit of the University's financial statements; and
  - (b) APPROVED the Letter of Representation, noting that the Director of Finance, with delegated authority from the Council, would sign the Letter accordingly.
8. The Council
- (a) RECEIVED a report on the review of the Faculty of Architecture;

- (b) NOTED that the Faculty had been following up the recommendations and that the Provost & Deputy Vice-Chancellor had already met with the Dean of Architecture and the accreditation body to address the concerns raised; and
  - (c) THANKED all members of the Review Panel, the Provost & Deputy Vice-Chancellor, and the Dean of Architecture, for undertaking the review and for drawing up the report, noting that the recommendations would be taken forward by the relevant parties of the University.
9. The Council
- (a) RECEIVED a paper on the proposed revised procedures for professoriate appointments and the proposed amendments to the terms of reference and the membership of the Faculty Human Resource Committee;
  - (b) HEARD Professor P.K.H. TAM, Provost & Deputy Vice-Chancellor, speak to the paper, including
    - (i) the revised approving procedures for new professoriate appointments and re-appointments beyond retirement age, which were proposed with a view to implementing a more robust system; and
    - (ii) the consequential amendments to the powers and duties of the Faculty Human Resource Committee, which would be tasked in future with the role to advise the Deans of Faculties on matter relating to professoriate appointments/re-appointments, thereby aligning with the purpose of empowering the Deans; and
  - (c) APPROVED the proposed revised appointment procedures for professoriate appointments and the revisions to the powers and duties and the membership of the Faculty Human Resource Committee.
10. The Council RECEIVED a report from the Registrar on a complaint received in relation to the election of one postgraduate student to the Council; and RESOLVED that the complaint be dismissed.
11. The Council RECEIVED a paper on the update on the HKU-Shenzhen Hospital project.
12. The Council APPROVED a recommendation of the President & Vice-Chancellor that, in recognition of a generous gift of HK\$35 million from The Tam Yik Fong Charitable Foundation in support of University developments and scholarships, a teaching facility on the G/F of the Central Podium in Centennial Campus be named “Robert Tam Conference Chamber (譚益芳會議廳)”, which included a seminar room “Tam Wun-Tsun Seminar Room (譚蘊真研修室)”.
13. The Council APPROVED, on the recommendation of the Advisory Committee to the President & Vice-Chancellor on Endowed Professorships,

- (a) that the following Endowed Professorships be established:

Chi-Li Pao Foundation Professorship in Psychiatry  
The University of Hong Kong  
香港大學 包玉星基金教授席 (精神醫學)

in appreciation of a generous donation of HK\$10 million from Chi-Li Pao Foundation and with a matching fund from the University to fulfill the University's commitment; and

L & T Charitable Foundation Professorship in Biomedical Sciences  
The University of Hong Kong  
香港大學 慧賢慈善基金教授席 (生物醫學)

in appreciation of a generous donation of HK\$10 million from L & T Charitable Foundation Limited and with a matching fund from the University to fulfill the University's commitment; and

- (b) that the Chinese name of the "Isaac R. Souede Professorship in Economic History", which was established in August 2016, be as follows:

香港大學 蘇威基金教授席 (經濟史)

December 2016