

THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

COUNCIL

The following is a list of non-restricted matters discussed at the Council meeting held on January 29, 2019.

1. The Council CONGRATULATED Professor P.K.H. TAM, Provost & Deputy Vice-Chancellor, on his being awarded the Rehbein Medal for the year 2020 by the European Paediatric Surgeons' Association.
2. The Council RECORDED receipt in circulation of notice of resignation of Professor W.J. KAO from the Vice-President & Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Global) position with effect from January 14, 2019; and a vote of thanks to Professor KAO for his contributions in the past years.
3. The Council
 - (a) RECEIVED a report from the President & Vice-Chancellor on the recent activities of the University including
 - (i) the visits by distinguished members from overseas institutions to the University;
 - (ii) the signing of an MoU between the Faculty of Engineering and the Harvard John A. Paulson School of Engineering and Applied Sciences, which laid the foundation for the setting up of a joint Laboratory for Instrumentation for Precision Medicine at HKU;
 - (iii) the planned visit of the Financial Secretary of HKSAR Government to the University to understand more about the University's vision on innovation and technology;
 - (iv) the workshop of the Senior Management Team and the Deans to discuss about the China initiatives, and the formation of a China Initiative Task Force headed by Professor R.Y.C. WONG;
 - (v) the start of a new round of search for the next Dean of Law and his plan to appoint an interim Dean to allow more time to identify the best suited candidate; and
 - (vi) the establishment of an Institute of the Mind with a generous donation from the Lee Shau Kee Foundation; and
 - (b) NOTED, with regard to the search of the next Dean of Law, comment from a member that it was most disappointing that confidentiality of the search process had been breached and that information was leaked to the press; and that such leakage was unfair to the candidates and had damaged the reputation of the University.

4. The Council

- (a) HEARD a presentation from Professor H.B. CAI, Dean of Business and Economics, on the development in the Faculty, and NOTED in particular
 - (i) an overview of the Faculty including its history, structure, vision and mission, staff and students composition, academic programmes, international rankings, research accomplishments, and partnerships in the academia;
 - (ii) the SWOT analysis, setting out the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats the Faculty had in different aspects of development; and
 - (iii) the aspiration for the Faculty to grow bigger, better and stronger, to build a world-class and leading business school at HKU, and the progress/efforts in this regard including the growth in size of staff and students, improvement in education quality, enhancement of learning experiences, vigorous professoriate recruitment, professoriate development, efforts in addressing inadequate space provision, and development of stronger links and impact with business community;
- (b) NOTED comments and views, as well as responses on the curriculum offered *vis-à-vis* the academic plan of the Faculty, quality of teaching, branding of the Faculty, staff hiring, entrepreneurship training and the physical facilities of the Faculty; and
- (c) THANKED Professor CAI for the presentation.

5. The Council

- (a) RECEIVED a paper from the Finance Committee on the mid-year budget review for 2018-19;
- (b) APPROVED the revisions to the 2018-19 budget related to the block grant activities; and
- (c) THANKED the Finance Committee and the Director of Finance for apprising the Council of the budgetary position of the University.

6. The Council

- (a) RECEIVED a paper in relation to the Provost & Deputy Vice-Chancellor position;
- (b) NOTED notification from Professor P.K.H. TAM of his resignation from the Interim Provost & Deputy Vice-Chancellor position from April 1, 2019; and RECORDED a vote of thanks to Professor TAM for his invaluable contributions in his role as a Pro-Vice-Chancellor, and for taking on the Provost & Deputy Vice-Chancellor position in the past years;

- (c) HEARD from the President & Vice-Chancellor
- (i) his thanks to Professor TAM for his contribution to the University over the past years, during which he worked tirelessly to uphold and elevate the academic profile of the University; and
 - (ii) his recommendation on appointing Professor R.Y.C. WONG, Chair of Economics in the Faculty of Business and Economics, and Philip Wong Kennedy Wong Professor in Political Economy, as the Interim Provost & Deputy Vice-Chancellor from April 1, 2019; and that the Senate had been invited to consider the recommendation for the interim appointment in accordance with the provisions of Statute VIA and no adverse comment had been received; and
- (d) APPROVED the appointment of Professor R.Y.C. WONG as the Interim Provost & Deputy Vice-Chancellor from April 1, 2019 until the new Provost & Deputy Vice-Chancellor officially assumed office.
7. The Council RECEIVED from the Medical Faculty a progress report on implementation of the recommendations of the Review Panel on the HKU-Shenzhen Hospital project.
8. The Council RECEIVED from the Director of Finance an annual report on the outside practice activities of professoriate staff of the University for the year 2017-18.
9. The Council APPROVED, on the recommendation of the Advisory Committee to the President & Vice-Chancellor on Endowed Professorships, that the following Endowed Professorship be established in appreciation of a generous donation of HK\$10 million from Professor Norman KO Wah-Man and with a matching fund from the University to fulfill the University's commitment:
- Ko Wong Wai Ching Wendy Professorship in Fluid Dynamics
The University of Hong Kong
香港大學 高黃慧貞基金教授席 (流體動力學)
10. The Council APPROVED, on the recommendation of the Finance Committee, the proposed amendments to tender threshold for procurement of goods/services.
11. The Council APPROVED, on the recommendation of the Graduate House Committee of Management, that the Graduate House residents' lodging fees be \$3,724 for a single room and \$6,823 for a double room in 2019-20.
12. The Council RECEIVED for information the annual report for 2017-18 submitted to the University Grants Committee (UGC) by the Senior Management Team in accordance with the *Statement of Recommended Practice for the UGC-Funded Institutions*.