

THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

COUNCIL

The following is a list of non-restricted matters discussed at the Council meeting held on January 26, 2021:

1. The Council CONGRATULATED the President & Vice-Chancellor on his being presented the 2021 International Society for Optics and Photonics (SPIE) Mozi Award.
2. The Council RECEIVED a report from the President & Vice-Chancellor on the recent activities of the University including
 - (a) the assumption of office of Professor Z.M. SHEN, Vice-President & Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research) in January; and his heartfelt thanks to Professor A.H.W. NGAN, Acting Vice-President & Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research), who had now taken on the role of Senior Advisor for a transitional period;
 - (b) his plan for a second round of Faculty visits, to be joined by some Senior Management Team members on each of these visits, as soon as the pandemic situation permitted;
 - (c) the smooth start for the second semester of teaching from January 2021, with most teaching delivered in hybrid or online mode, similar to the arrangements adopted in the first semester; and the robust campus infection control protocols in place to ensure a safe and healthy campus for all students and staff;
 - (d) the virtual Congregation held for graduands of Class of 2020 on December 3, 2020;
 - (e) the plaque unveiling ceremony for the opening of the Tam Wing Fan Innovation Wing of the Faculty of Engineering on December 1, 2020;
 - (f) the groundbreaking ceremony of the Pokfield Campus on January 26, 2021; and the progress of other capital development projects, including the Sassoon Road project for the Medical Faculty expansion and the Tech Landmark project;
 - (g) the awards obtained in a number of Research Grants Council's competitive grant exercises, including the One-Off Coronavirus and Novel Infectious Diseases Research in the latest round of Collaborative Research Fund allocations, and the Areas of Excellence Scheme; and
 - (h) the University's efforts to identify and compete for top talent and step up professoriate recruitment in all disciplines.

3. The Council
 - (a) RECEIVED a paper on the mid-year budget review for 2020-21;
 - (b) APPROVED the revisions to the 2020-21 budget related to the block grant activities; and
 - (c) THANKED the Treasurer, the Finance Committee and the Director of Finance for apprising the Council of the budgetary position of the University.
4. The Council
 - (a) RECEIVED from the Audit Committee its annual report for the year 2019-20; and
 - (b) THANKED Dr. Peter K.K. WONG, Chairman of the Audit Committee, and members of the Audit Committee for their work.
5. The Council
 - (a) RECEIVED from the Campus Development and Planning Committee its annual report for the year 2019-20, which also enclosed the report of its sub-committee, the Accommodation Committee; and
 - (b) THANKED Professor Edward K.Y. CHEN, Chairman of the Campus Development and Planning Committee, and members of the Campus Development and Planning Committee and its sub-committee for their work.
6. The Council
 - (a) RECEIVED from the Finance Committee its annual report for the year 2019-20, which also enclosed the reports of its two sub-committees, the Investments Sub-Committee and the Tenders Board; and
 - (b) THANKED Mrs. Margaret M.Y. LEUNG KO, Treasurer and Chairman of the Finance Committee, and members of the Finance Committee and its sub-committees for their work.
7. The Council RECEIVED an annual report on the outside practice activities of professoriate staff of the University for the year 2019-20.
8. The Council APPROVED, on the recommendation of the Nominations Committee,
 - (a) that Mr. Johnson KONG and Ir. Edmund LEUNG Kwong Ho be re-appointed as members of the Audit Committee under the category “Five members, appointed by the Council, who are not members of the Finance Committee (or any of its sub-committees) or responsible for the day-to-day management of the University” for a period of three years from January 31, 2021;

- (b) that Ir. Dr. the Hon. LO Wai-kwok be appointed as a member of the Campus Development and Planning Committee under the category “Five members who are not employees or students of the University, appointed by the Council” for a period of three years from March 1, 2021;
 - (c) that the Hon. Abraham L.H. SHEK and Professor the Hon. Rosie T.T. YOUNG be re-appointed as members of the panel for the Election Complaint Committee for a period of three years from January 31, 2021;
 - (d) that Mr. Andrew H.C. FUNG be appointed as a member of the Finance Committee under the category “Four members who are not employees or students of the University, of whom at least one shall be a member of the Council, appointed by the Council” for a period of three years from February 4, 2021;
 - (e) that the following be re-appointed as members of the Committee on Health, Safety and Well-Being for a period of three years from January 31, 2021:
 - (i) Mr. Stephen P.Y. CHEUNG and Ms. Rebecca P.W. POON under the category “One member each from the Academic Staff Association (ASA), the University of Hong Kong Staff Association (HKUSA) and University of Hong Kong Employees Union (HKUEU), nominated by the respective staff associations and appointed by the Council”; and
 - (ii) Dr. LAU Ho Lim, under the category “A general practitioner from outside the University who is a member of the Hong Kong College of Family Physicians, appointed by the Council”; and
 - (f) that the Hon. Abraham L.H. SHEK be re-appointed as the Vice-Chairman of the Staff Grievances Panel under the category “A Vice-Chairman, appointed by the Council, who shall be member of the Council but who is not appointee of the University” for a period of three years from April 29, 2021.
9. The Council NOTED, consequent upon the disestablishment of the Graduate House Committee of Management by the Council in March 2019 and on the recommendation of the Senior Management Team, that the following arrangements be adopted for the administration of the Graduate House with effect from December 1, 2020 with a view to enhancing accountability and efficiency:
- (a) the Dean of Student Affairs, for the administration of the residential component for graduate students; and
 - (b) the Estates Office, for the administration of the non-residential facilities.