

# THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

## COUNCIL

The following is a list of matters\* discussed at the Council meeting held on July 31, 2012:

1. The Council CONGRATULATED Mrs. Margaret LEUNG KO and Pro-Vice-Chancellor Professor S.P. CHOW on their being awarded the Silver Bauhinia Star and all other members of the University family who were on the 2012 Honours List of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region.
2. The Council
  - (a) RECEIVED a report from the Vice-Chancellor on the recent activities of the University including
    - (i) the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on July 11, 2012 which set out the participation of the University over the next five years in the research and activities of the China Council for International Cooperation on Environment and Development (CCICED) to help develop policies on energy strategy and related environmental issues;
    - (ii) the result of the second round of the Theme-based Research Scheme of the Research Grants Council in which HKU researchers played a significant role in all five theme-based projects awarded and coordinated three of them;
    - (iii) the undergraduate recruitments for Mainland, Hong Kong Advanced Level Examination and Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education students;
    - (iv) the subject rankings announced by the Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) in early July in which HKU had been ranked first in Hong Kong in a number of subjects, including Biological Sciences, Civil Engineering, Chemistry, Communication and Media Studies, Earth and Marine Sciences, Economics and Econometrics, Education, English Language and Literature, Law, Medicine, Modern Languages, Pharmacy, Politics and International Studies, Psychology, and Sociology;
    - (v) the annual Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) Summit held from July 15 to 17 in Washington, D.C. in which the Vice-Chancellor took the opportunity to share HKU's perspectives on curriculum design and student learning experience; and

(vi) the Eighth Chinese University Presidents' Meeting held in Nanjing which was attended by over 40 past and present heads of institutions from the Mainland, Taiwan, Hong Kong and Macau; and the signing of a MOU by the heads of institutions to signify the general agreement on several principles on how to promote and promulgate the virtues of Chinese Culture; and

(b) CONGRATULATED all colleagues concerned who had contributed towards the success in the Theme-based Research Scheme, the ranking results, and the undergraduate recruitment exercises.

3. The Council

(a) RESOLVED that Professor Christopher J. WEBSTER, Professor of Urban Planning and Development, and Head of the School of City and Regional Planning at Cardiff University, be appointed as the next Dean of Architecture for a fixed term of five years, with his start date to be worked out as soon as possible, subject to the requisite medical clearance process;

(b) THANKED all members of the Search Committee for the Dean of the Faculty of Architecture for their efforts over the search and the selection exercise; and

(c) RECORDED a vote of thanks to Professor D.P.Y. LUNG, Dean of Architecture, for his contributions to the Faculty of Architecture during his term of Deanship.

4. The Council

(a) RECEIVED a proposal, supported by the Human Resource Policy Committee (HRPC), on the establishment of Associate Vice-President (AVP) positions; and

(b) APPROVED the establishment of the position of AVP, on the understanding that, as recommended by the HRPC, there would be no more than one AVP for the Deputy Vice-Chancellor and each Pro-Vice-Chancellor unless justifications supported with good reasons existed and that all the AVP appointments would be reported to the Council *via* the HRPC.

5. The Council APPROVED that a pay adjustment of 5.26% and 5.8% for eligible staff in the respective categories be implemented with retrospective effect from April 1, 2012.

6. The Council

(a) RECEIVED a report on the progress of work of the Steering Committee on 818 Review Panel Recommendations;

(b) HEARD the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, who was the Convenor of the Steering Committee, speak to the salient points of the report; and

(c) THANKED the Steering Committee for the report.

7. The Council APPROVED a recommendation of the Board of the Faculty of Medicine, supported by the Senate, that the Eye Institute, a sub-division of studies and learning allocated to the Li Ka Shing Faculty of Medicine, be disestablished with immediate effect under the provisions of Section 8(3) of the Ordinance consequent upon its transformation into the Department of Ophthalmology.
8. The Council APPROVED a recommendation of the Board of the Faculty of Medicine, supported by the Senate, that the Medical Ethics Unit, a sub-division of studies and learning in the Li Ka Shing Faculty of Medicine, be renamed as “Medical Ethics and Humanities Unit” to reflect its function in developing, integrating and coordinating teaching and learning in ethics and humanities in the medical curriculum.
9. The Council APPROVED a recommendation of the Board of the Faculty of Science, supported by the Senate, that the Centre for Research in Fungal Diversity, a sub-division of studies and learning allocated to the Faculty of Science, be disestablished with immediate effect under the provisions of Section 8(3) of the Ordinance.
10. The Council APPROVED, for submission to the Court, a recommendation of the Senate that Statute III “Degrees and Other Academic Distinctions” be amended by the inclusion of the title “Bachelor of Arts in Urban Studies [文學士(城市研究)]” in paragraph 1(a) thereof.
11. The Council APPROVED, on the recommendation of the Nominations Committee, the following membership appointments/re-appointments:
  - (a) the membership appointments/re-appointments to the Grievances Panel for Students;
  - (b) Dr. P.A. CUNICH, Associate Professor in the School of Humanities, as a member of the Campus Development and Planning Committee under the category “2 teachers appointed by the Council on the nomination of the Vice-Chancellor” for the period August 1, 2012 to July 31, 2015; and
  - (c) Professor J.M. NICHOLLS, Clinical Professor in the Department of Pathology, as a member of the Staff Grievances Panel under the category “Other members appointed by the Council, at least one of them shall be a member of the Council” for the period August 1, 2012 to July 31, 2015.

*\* Excluding personnel matters relating to individuals.*