



中華人民共和國香港特別行政區政府總部教育局
Education Bureau
Government Secretariat, The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region
The People's Republic of China

本局檔號 Our Ref. : EMB (MPE)CR 4/2041/07
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10 August 2007

The Honourable Mrs Laura M CHA, SBS, JP
Chairman
University Grants Committee
7/F Shui On Centre
6-8 Harbour Road, Wan Chai
Hong Kong

By Fax & By Post
(No. 2845 1596)

Dear *Laura,*

Development Blueprint : Becoming a University of Education

On 28 June 2007, the Hong Kong Institute of Education (HKIEd) submitted to my office a document entitled "Development Blueprint : Becoming a University of Education" ("the Development Blueprint"). In this document, HKIEd put forward a number of proposals regarding its future development, covering areas such as the possibilities for it to diversify its programme offerings and to become a university specialized in education.

HKIEd is one of the institutions under the aegis of the University Grants Committee (UGC), and the Development Blueprint touches upon areas that fall within UGC's terms of reference. I am thus writing to invite UGC to consider the Development Blueprint in detail, and to let the Government have UGC's expert views on the proposals therein before the end of 2008.

HKIEd is a major teacher education institution in Hong Kong. We believe that, in examining the proposals in the Development Blueprint, it is important to give careful consideration to factors such as their impact on the strategic development of the UGC-funded sector as a whole and on teacher education provision in particular, the readiness and capability of HKIEd to offer the new academic programmes in question, as well as their financial implications. We have accordingly formulated the terms of reference for this vital exercise, as set out at the **Annex** to this letter.

We understand that, in taking forward this exercise, UGC may find a need to engage relevant key stakeholders on some of the major issues involved. Please let us know if we can be of assistance in any such process that UGC may decide to initiate as the exercise unfolds.

We very much hope that you and your Committee will agree to take on this important and most meaningful exercise, and look forward to receiving your favourable response soon.

With best regards,

Yours sincerely,



(Michael M.Y. Suen)
Secretary for Education

Terms of Reference

To advise the Government, in the light of the community's needs and the promotion of excellence in the higher education sector : –

- (a) on the impact of the proposals set out in the document entitled “Development Blueprint : Becoming a University of Education” (“the Development Blueprint”), submitted by the Hong Kong Institute of Education (HKIED) to the Government on 28 June 2007, on the strategic development of the UGC sector as a whole and on teacher education provision in particular, having regard to HKIED's existing role as a teacher education institution;
- (b) on the readiness and capability of HKIED to diversify its programme offerings and provide the new academic programmes as referred to in the Development Blueprint, and the quality assurance mechanism that may need to be put in place for such programmes, having regard to the fact that HKIED's expertise so far has mainly been confined to teacher education programmes;
- (c) on the financial implications arising from the implementation of the proposals in the Development Blueprint, whether in full or in part, and how such requirements may be funded; and
- (d) on whether HKIED should become a university of education as proposed in the Development Blueprint.

University Grants Committee

Review Group on HKIEd (RGIEd)

Terms of Reference

To advise the University Grants Committee (UGC) on how it should respond to the Government's request for expert views on the proposals as set out in the Development Blueprint published by the Hong Kong Institute of Education (HKIEd), having regard to –

- (a) the terms of reference at the appendix received by the UGC from the Government in seeking the UGC's advice on the proposals as set out in the Development Blueprint; and
- (b) the terms of reference of the UGC,

and to do so within a timeframe which will allow the UGC to provide advice within the Government requested timeframe of : before the end of 2008.

Terms of Reference Formulated by the Government for the UGC

In the light of the community's needs and the promotion of excellence in the higher education sector, to advise :-

- (a) on the impact of the proposals set out in the document entitled "Development Blueprint: Becoming a University of Education" ("the Development Blueprint"), submitted by the Hong Kong Institute of Education (HKIEd) to the Government on 28 June 2007, on the strategic development of the UGC sector as a whole and on teacher education provision in particular, having regard to HKIEd's existing role as a teacher education institution;
- (b) on the readiness and capability of HKIEd to diversify its programme offerings and provide the new academic programmes as referred to in the Development Blueprint, and the quality assurance mechanism that may need to be put in place for such programmes, having regard to the fact that HKIEd's expertise so far has mainly been confined to teacher education programmes;
- (c) on the financial implications arising from the implementation of the proposals in the Development Blueprint, whether in full or in part, and how such requirements may be funded; and
- (d) on whether HKIEd should become a university of education as proposed in the Development Blueprint.

University Grants Committee

Review Group on HKIED (RGIED)

Membership List

Convenor

Professor John Niland* Former Vice-Chancellor and President,
University of New South Wales Australia
Chairman, Campus Living Funds Management
Limited
President, National Trust Australia (New South
Wales)

Deputy Convenor

Mr Irving Koo Yee-yin, Managing Director, Trion Pacific Limited, HK
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Mrs Lau Kun Lai Kuen, Headmistress, Diocesan Girls' School
Stella, JP

Professor Wong Vice-President for Administration and Business,
Yuk-shan, PhD, FIBiol, Professor of Biology, The Hong Kong
BBS, JP University of Science and Technology, HK

Co-opted Member

Dr Cheung Man-biu, Principal, Tsung Tsin College, Hong Kong
Robin, M.H.

Secretary

Mr David Leung/
Mr Victor Lau Assistant Secretary-General (Policy), UGC

* Member outside Hong Kong

University Grants Committee

Terms of Reference

The University Grants Committee (UGC) is appointed by the Chief Executive of the SAR with the following terms of reference:

- a. To keep under review in the light of the community's needs :
 - (i) the facilities in Hong Kong for education in universities and such other institutions as may from time to time be designated by the Chief Executive of the SAR;
 - (ii) such plans for development of such institutions as may be required from time to time;
 - (iii) the financial needs of education in such institutions; and

- b. To advise the government :
 - (i) on the application of such funds as may be approved by the Legislature for education in such institutions; and
 - (ii) on such aspects of higher education which the Chief Executive of the SAR may from time to time refer to the Committee.