RGC Ref. No.:
UGC / IDS 16 / 14
(please insert ref. above)

RESEARCH GRANTS COUNCIL
COMPETITIVE RESEARCH FUNDING SCHEMES FOR THE LOCAL SELF-FINANCING DEGREE SECTOR

INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME (IDS)

Completion Report
(for completed projects only)

Submission Deadlines:
1. *Auditor's report with unspent balance, if any: within **six** months of the approved project completion date.*
2. *Completion report: within **12** months of the approved project completion date.*

Important Note:
In completing the report, please use the following format:

Page limit:	Items 1 to 5 and Summary of Completion Report: no page limit Items 6 to 9: maximum **20 A4 pages** (excluding any appendices and attachments)
Font:	Times New Roman
Font Size:	**Not smaller** than Point 12
Margin:	Two centimeters margin all around
Spacing:	Single-line spacing

1. Project Title

First Phase of Institutional Research Capacity Development

2. Investigator(s) And Academic Department(s) / Unit(s) Involved[#]

Project Team	Name / Post	Department / Unit	Average Percentage of Work Hours Spent on this Project
Project holder[*] (i.e. Head of Institution)	WONG Yuk-Shan / President	President's Office	2%
Team leader	LI Kam-Cheong / Director	Research Office	10%
Team member	TSO Wing-Bo[^] / Associate Professor	School of Arts and Social Sciences	5%

[#] *Please state the **key** staff and department/unit involved in the project. Please add row(s) as necessary. Please also highlight the approved changes in project team composition and quote the date of the RGC approval for such changes.*

[*] *Refer to "Principal Investigator" for 2014/15 exercise, "Applicant" for 2015/16 exercise and "Project holder" for 2017/18 exercise onwards.*

[^] *RGC approved the change of team member on 20 November 2017.*

3. Project Duration

	Original	Revised	Date of RGC / Institution Approval *(must be quoted)*
Project Start Date	1 December 2014	Not applicable	Not applicable
Project Completion Date	30 November 2017	31 May 2018	16 February 2017
Duration *(in month)*	36 months	42 months	16 February 2017
Deadline for Submission of Completion Report	30 November 2018	31 May 2019	16 February 2017

4. Project Objectives

Summary of objectives addressed / achieved:

Objectives*	Percentage Achieved	Remarks**
Institutional Research Capacity Building:		
1. To enrich the research resources of the institution;	1. 100%	
2. To develop and strengthen the research culture of the institution;	2. 100%	
3. To extend academic staff's research knowledge and skills;	3. 100%	
4. To facilitate research collaboration between OUHK and other institutions; and,	4. 100%	
5. To enhance academic staff's capability to write research reports and publish research papers.	5. 100%	
Research Institute for Digital Culture and Humanities (RIDCH):		
1. To examine how the use of digital technology has impacted on the production of artifacts recreated from the humanities, and on new ways of studying and researching humanities;	1. 100%	
2. To investigate how the use of digital technology has created new forms of culture;	2. 100%	
3. To reveal how human behaviour, particularly perception, has been changed by the wide adoption of digital technology in communication and entertainment;	3. 100%	

Objectives*	Percentage Achieved	Remarks**
4. To explore how the development of creative industries has contributed to the rise of digital culture;	4. 100%	
5. To uncover the educational opportunities as well as challenges created as a result of the wide adoption of digital technology in daily life;	5. 100%	
6. To disentangle the cultural policies that have led to the rise of digital culture in the world in the last 50 years, and the cultural politics manifested; and,	6. 100%	
7. To identify the business opportunities created by the rise of digital culture.	7. 100%	
Institute for Research in Innovative Technology and Sustainability (IRITS):		
1. To consolidate the areas of research of the Environmental Science Team in water quality and algal research;	1. 100%	
2. To identify common areas of research in advanced network technologies under the theme of computer networks;	2. 100%	
3. To formulate research projects for the academics in the Computer Networks Team;	3. 100%	
4. To develop the research capability in computer networks; and,	4. 100%	
5. To develop OUHK into a centre of research in water quality and algae.	5. 100%	

* *Please refer to the originally approved objectives. If there are changes in objectives, please highlight the changes and quote the date of RGC approval for such changes.*

** *Please provide reasons for significant slower rate of progress when compared with the approved implementation timetable.*

6. Research Outputs

6.1 What are the accomplishments of the project?

(i) Please provide reports on conference, seminar, workshop, exchange programmes or other activities held (if applicable).
(Please provide details of the activities organized, including the theme / objectives of the activities, targeted participants, attendance, analysis of participants, e.g. country of origin, research background, etc., evaluation forms of the activities and a summary of the participants' evaluation. Photos of the activities are preferred.)

This project consists of three parts, including institutional research capacity building, Research Institute for Digital Culture and Humanities (RIDCH) and Institute for Research in Innovative Technology and Sustainability (IRITS). In pursuing the project objectives, various academic activities were organized and research resources were provided to academic staff to cultivate a productive research environment in the University. Detailed information is presented as follows:

Institutional Research Capacity Building:

1. *Research roundtable meetings:* eighty-four research roundtable meetings with academic staff were held, covering a wide range of topics such as generation of research ideas, preparation of research proposals, introduction of resources for research work, use of research software tools, funding opportunities, research ethics and safety, qualitative and quantitative research design, and journal evaluation (see Appendices I.1 for a summary of the meetings, I.5.2 for a sample of evaluation form, I.6.3 for statistics of evaluation, and I.7 for selected photos).
2. *Research consultation sessions:* twenty-four research consultation sessions were conducted to provide academic staff with professional advice on preparation of research proposals, publication of research work, research design and research methods (see Appendices I.2 for a summary of the sessions, I.5.3 for a sample of evaluation form, and I.6.4 for statistics of evaluation).
3. *Research e-newsletter:* thirteen issues of the e-newsletter, with a total of 347 pages, were published for sharing research news, upcoming activities, research resources and academics' research experience (see Appendix I.3 for samples of the e-newsletter).
4. *Seminars:* forty-three seminars were organized with topics on preparation of research proposals, application of research funding, use of research database and software tools, research methods, sharing of research findings, journal evaluation, academic publishing tips, and dissemination of research results (see Appendices I.4 for details of the seminars, I.5.1 for a sample of evaluation form, I.6.1 for statistics of evaluation, and I.7 for selected photos).
5. *Workshops:* eleven workshops on the use of research tools and databases were conducted (see Appendices I.4 for details of the workshops, I.5.1 for a sample of evaluation form, I.6.2 for statistics of evaluation, and I.7 for selected photos).
6. *Meetings for research collaboration:* seventeen meetings were held to foster potential research collaborations and sharing of research practices at inter-institutional level (see Appendix I.10 for details).

Research Institute for Digital Culture and Humanities (RIDCH):

1. *Seminars:* thirty-eight seminars on digital culture and humanities were conducted in the project period (see Appendices II.1.1 for a summary of the seminars, II.1.3 for a sample of evaluation form and statistics of evaluation, and II.1.2 for selected photos).
2. *Public lectures and exhibitions:* eight public lectures by four Distinguished Professors were conducted in the project period (see Appendices II.2.1 for details of the Distinguished Professors, II.2.2 for a summary of the public lecture series, II.2.3 for a sample of evaluation form and consolidated statistics). Two exhibitions on 'Visualizing Vernacular Images in Korea' and 'Sino-French Cross-cultural Encounters in Fine Art and Literature' were organized in the third year of the project (see Appendices II.8.1 and II.8.2 for details).
3. *Conferences:* six international academic conferences were held in the project period. They included two academic conferences held from 17 to 18 December 2015 (see Appendices II.4.1 for a brief summary of the conferences, II.4.2 for the conferences' programmes, II.4.3 for attendance of the conferences, II.4.4 for evaluation of the conferences and II.4.5 for selected photos), two from 4 to 6 July 2016 (see Appendices II.5.1 for a brief summary of the conferences, II.5.2 for the conferences' programmes, II.5.3 for the conferences' website, II.5.4 for the participant list, II.5.5 for evaluation of the conferences and II.5.6 for selected photos), and two from 1 to 3 June in 2017 (see Appendices II.6.1 for a brief summary of the conferences, II.6.2 for the conferences' programmes, II.6.3 for attendance of the conferences, II.6.4 for evaluation of the conferences and II.6.5 for selected photos).
4. *Symposia:* an international academic symposium was organized from 12 to 13 January 2017 (see Appendices II.7.1.1 for a brief summary of the symposium, II.7.1.2 for the symposium programme, II.7.1.3 for a list of participants, II.7.1.4 for evaluation of the symposium and II.7.1.5 for selected photos). A symposium on 'Sustaining the Ocean in the Asia Pacific' was jointly organized with IRITS on 15 December 2017 (see Appendices II.7.2 and III.7.7 for details).

Institute for Research in Innovative Technology and Sustainability (IRITS):

1. *Seminars:* thirty-four seminars were held in the project period (see Appendices III.4.1 for a sample of evaluation form, III.4.2 for a summary of the seminars, III.4.3 for statistics of evaluation and III.4.4 for selected photos). Three Distinguished Professor seminars were held in the project period, including one by Prof. Paul Shin during his visit to the institute from 2 to 8 March 2017 (see Appendices III.5.1 for a schedule of Prof. Shin's visit, III.5.2 for reports of meetings, III.5.3 for statistics of evaluation and selected photos); one by Prof. Peter Hills on 1 June 2017 (see Appendix III.5.4 for a summary of the seminar, statistics of evaluation and selected photos); and one by Prof. Hoe Chang on 24 August 2017 (see Appendix III.5.5 for a summary of the seminar, statistics of evaluation and selected photo).
2. *Public lecture:* a public lecture was given by Fields Medal Winner Professor Efim Zelmanov on 27 August 2017 (see Appendix III.6 for a summary of the lecture, statistics of evaluation and selected photos).
3. *Conferences, congress and symposium:* Six international conferences / congresses / symposium were held in the project period. The International Conference on Prevention and Management of Harmful Algal Blooms in the

South China Sea 2015 was held from 20 to 23 November 2015 (see Appendix III.7.1 for information of the conference). The International Conference on Innovation for Connected World and Smart Living was held from 27 to 29 October 2016 (see Appendix III.7.2 for details). The 3rd International Congress in Algebras and Combinatorics was held from 25 to 28 August 2017 (see Appendix III.7.3 for an introduction of the congress, statistics of evaluation and selected photos). The first Annual Scientific Conference of IRITS was held from 24 to 27 August 2016 (see Appendices III.7.4 and III.7.5 for details). The Second Conference of the Institute for Research in Innovative Technology and Sustainability was held on 24 August 2017 (see Appendix III.7.6 for a schedule of the conference, statistics of evaluation and selected photo). The Symposium on Sustaining the Ocean in the Asia Pacific was jointly organized with RIDCH on 15 December 2017 (see Appendix III.7.7 for details).

4. *Research visits:* three research visits to mainland China (see Appendix III.8.1 for details) and five local visits were made in the first year of the project (see Appendix III.8.2 for details). A visit to Jinan University, Guangzhou, China, was organized on 11 August 2016 (see Appendix III.8.3 for details).

5. *Forums:* two forums were held for arousing public interest in issues related to scientific research in the first year of the project (see Appendices III.9.1 and III.9.2 for details). A forum on the Paris COP21 Climate Change Summit was organized on 23 January 2016 (see Appendix III.9.3 for details). An Environmental Forum on Green and Healthy Buildings was held on 26 March 2018 (see Appendix III.9.4 for details). Another forum entitled "臺港環境論壇" was held on 27 April 2018 (see Appendix III.9.5 for details.)

(ii) Please provide reports on asset purchase such as acquisition of research facilities, communal equipment, software licence, dataset and / or status of infrastructure / physical research structure building such as research centre, research supporting unit (if applicable).
(Please provide supporting documents and / or photos, and provide the utilization rate.)

Details of the establishment of research infrastructure are summarized as follows:

Institutional Research Capacity Building:

1. *Research software tools:* research software tools including iThenticate, EndNote and NVivo were purchased and distributed to academic staff in the first year of the project. Support for the use of these tools was provided throughout the project period.

2. *Online platform:* an online platform to assemble useful information on research funding and resources on research tactics and skills was established (see Appendix I.8 for details). A total of 559 items were uploaded to the platform (see Appendix I.8 for details). It was regularly updated and continuously in use in the project period.

Research Institute for Digital Culture and Humanities (RIDCH):

1. *Research centres:* the Digital Culture Research Centre and the Digital Humanities Research Centre were established in the first year of the project (see Appendix II.3 for details on Launch Ceremony).

2. *Audio-visual facilities:* six items of audio-visual facilities were purchased to support research in the first year of the project, including (a) four SanDisk Extreme Pro 64GB SDCX (95MB/S); (b) two sets of CANON EOS 70D 18/135 KIT APS-C DSLR camera; (c) one camera carrying bag; (d) two sets of video tripod; (e) one camera carrying backpack; and (f) four handy recorders (ZOOM H6). The audio-visual facilities were used for photo taking and/or video recording during the course of fieldwork trips, and other academic and research activities (see Appendices II.9, 10 and 11 for details).
3. *Digital archive:* an archive on digital culture and humanities was established to support the two research centres in the first year of the project (see Appendix II.15 for contents of the archive). It was regularly updated and available to the public on the website of the institute.
4. *Website:* the institute website to promote research activities was established in the first year of the project. It was regularly updated to provide information of different events, as well as photos of seminars, conferences and other activities (see Appendix II.15 for details).

Institute for Research in Innovative Technology and Sustainability (IRITS):

1. *Research centres*: two research centres were established. The Centre of Research for Environmental Science was established at the same time as IRITS in 2015 (see Appendix III.13 for details). The Centre of Research for Advanced Network Technologies was established in 2016 (see Appendix III.11 for details).
2. *System on laboratory space allocation:* IRITS worked together with the Subcommittee on Management of Research Activities in the School of Science and Technology to develop a system on laboratory space allocation for researchers in order to manage and utilize the University laboratory space efficiently (see Appendix III.12.2 for details).
3. *Website:* the institute website to promote research activities was established in the first year of the project. It was regularly updated for promoting the research activities as well as archiving research papers and reports (see Appendix III.14 for details).

(iii) Please provide reports on research activities carried out (if applicable).

Various research activities were carried out within the contexts of digital culture and humanities, and innovative technology and sustainability throughout the project period. Details are summarized below:

Research Institute for Digital Culture and Humanities (RIDCH):

1. *Fieldwork trips:* Four fieldwork trips were held in the project period: One fieldwork trip to Tokyo was conducted in August 2015 for data collection of both research centres (see Appendix II.9 for details). One fieldwork trip to Shanghai and Hangzhou was conducted in May 2016 (see Appendix II.10 for details). Two fieldwork trips were held in 2017, one in Beijing from 6 to 14 May 2017 and another one in Tokyo from 22 to 27 October 2017 (see Appendix II.11 for details).
2. *Projects under the Digital Culture Research Centre:* five projects under the research centre commenced in 2015 were completed in the project period (see Appendix II.12 for details).
3. *Projects under the Digital Humanities Research Centre:* three projects under the research centre commenced in 2015 were completed in the project period

(see Appendix II.13 for details).

Institute for Research in Innovative Technology and Sustainability (IRITS):

1. *Research proposals:* twenty-three research proposals were generated in the project period and nine of them were granted (see Appendix III.2 for details).
2. *Consultancy projects:* two consultancy projects were completed in the project period (see Appendix III.10 for details). The first project entitled 'The Use of Ultrasonic Sonication for the Control of Algal Blooms in Plover Cove Reservoir' was funded by the Water Supplies Department of Hong Kong. The second project named '深圳湾海域深港共治机制研究' was funded by '深圳市规划和国土资源委员会（市海洋局)'.

6.2 Please describe where and how the IDS project assisted in building up the research capacity of the institution in its strategic areas (e.g. has the IDS project facilitated the academics in formulating their research proposals under the Faculty Development Scheme, etc.).

Institutional Research Capacity Building:

Various academic activities were organized and research resources were provided within the project period for promoting the institutional research capacity building in four strategic directions in line with the project objectives. Details are presented below:

1. *Enrich research resources of the institution:* an online platform that provided resources covering various aspects in the research process was established in the project period (see Appendix I.8 for details). Thirteen issues of research e-newsletter, that presented information on research resources, scholarly events, research and development updates, and staff research publications, were published for updating academics of the latest University research development and keeping them aware of research-related issues (see Appendix I.3 for details).
2. *Enhance academics' research knowledge and skills:* various academic activities were organized and research resources were provided to facilitate professional development of academic staff in research. These activities equipped academic staff with the knowledge and skills for preparing research proposals, conducting research and yielding research outputs. Seminars, workshops, roundtable meetings and consultation sessions provided academic staff with useful information for preparation of RGC proposals and production of research papers. The online platform that provided research resources, such as checklists for preparing RGC proposals, Gantt chart templates and on-site electronic resources for preparing proposals, served as a comprehensive and handy reference for academic staff.
3. *Facilitate research collaboration with other institutions:* meetings with other institutions were conducted for exploring potential research collaborations (see Appendix I.10 for details). The meetings facilitated academic staff's communication with academics of other institutions as well as interdisciplinary research at the inter-institutional level. In addition, the research e-newsletter provided a venue for enhancing synergy and collaboration among academic staff (see Appendix I.3 for details). As the convener of Research Collaboration Alliance among local self-financing higher education institutions, our University promoted collaboration among local self-financing institutions through disseminating information of scholarly activities such as conferences, workshops and lectures on the Alliance website to help develop collaborative networks on research projects. To assist academic staff in identifying suitable partners for research collaboration,

a research collaboration request service is available for academic staff.

4. *Promote a research culture of the institution:* the seminars, workshops, and roundtable meetings served as effective channels for sharing of views on research-related issues, facilitating discussions among academic staff, exploring collaborative partnership, and generating research ideas. The research e-newsletter that reported research news and events facilitated research exchange among academics from different disciplines in the University (see Appendix I.3 for details). These activities and research resources helped the development of research culture of the institution.

Research Institute for Digital Culture and Humanities (RIDCH):

In the project period, various academic and research activities were organized under the Digital Culture Research Centre and the Digital Humanities Research Centre of RIDCH to enhance academic staff's capacity to conduct research. Details are presented as follows:

1. *Examine how the use of digital technology has created new forms of culture and humanities*: the Research Institute for Digital Culture and Humanities (RIDCH) was established which serves as a base for scholarly activities within OUHK to promote research on digital culture and humanities (see Appendix II.3 for more details). Two research centres, namely the Digital Culture Research Centre and the Digital Humanities Research Centre, were established and various research projects were carried out within the two research centres to study current changes in culture, new forms of digital communication, art, entertainment and teaching (see Appendices II.12 and II.13 for details). Efforts were devoted to project themes related to 'Surrealism in 4D', 'Digitalization of Chinese Paintings', 'Digital Natives and New Media Culture in China', 'Digital Culture, the Humanities and New Possibilities for Teaching and Research', and 'Digital Chinese Literature'. These projects enabled academic staff to examine how the use of digital technology has impacted the production of artifacts and generated new ways of researching humanities. Publications and research proposals were arisen from these research projects (see Appendices II.14 for publications generated and II.13 for details on the new research proposals).
2. *Uncover educational and business opportunities and challenges created by the rise of digital culture:* effort was devoted to research project themes, such as reflections on blended learning, new media analysis and education, digital game-based learning, digital and multimodal literacy, storytelling and children's literature in the digital era, to uncover educational opportunities and potential challenges from the emergence of digital culture (see Appendix II.13 for details). Scholarly activities, such as conferences, symposia and fieldwork trips, were organized to study opportunities and challenges for cultural and humanities education under various aspects in the digital age (see Appendices II.4, II.5, II.6, II.9, II.10 and II.11 for details). Through engagement to scholarly activities, academic staff explored and examined how the modes of human thoughts have been changed by digitalization under different perspectives such as communication, education, literature, art, musicology etc.
3. *Explore how the development of creative industries has contributed to the rise of digital culture:* scholarly activities, such as conferences, symposia, exhibitions, fieldwork trips, seminars were organized to give academic staff insights on the interplay between the new development of creative industries and digital culture.

Conferences, symposia and exhibitions were organized which serve as a platform to facilitate research collaboration and knowledge exchange on various sectors, including music, visual arts, film, theatre, museums, galleries, cinemas, and advertising (see Appendices II.4, II.5, II.6, II.7 and II.8 for details). Fieldwork trips were organized to explore the new developments of digital media and creative industries and their digital impacts in other regions or countries (see Appendices II.9, II.10 and II.11 for details). These activities also enabled academic staff to disentangle cultural policies that have led to the rise of digital culture, and understand the digital impacts on people and society.

Institute for Research in Innovative Technology and Sustainability (IRITS):

Research centres were established and activities were organized within the institute to facilitate researchers to conduct research. Details are presented as follows:

1. *Consolidate the areas of water quality and algal research:* the Centre of Excellence in Water Quality and Algal Research was established in the project period. Various academic activities, including seminars, research visits, forums, conferences, congress, and symposia, were organized to enhance academic staff's capacity to conduct research in relevant areas (see Appendices III.4, III.5, III.6, III.7, III.8 and III.9 for details). The seminars and research visits provided academic staff with research knowledge and skills in environmental science in water quality and algal research. Through participating in the activities, academic staff could build up their research networks and explore potential research collaborations. Distinguished Professor Seminars were also organized to provide novice researchers with knowledge and skills for research (see Appendix III.5 for details). Research interest group meetings were held to facilitate experience sharing and generate research ideas (see Appendix III.1 for details).
2. *Identify potential research topics in advanced network technologies and formulate research projects under the theme of computer networks:* the Centre for Research in Advanced Network Technologies was established to promote research in advanced network technologies (see Appendix III.11 for details). In the project period, the centre organized various academic activities to explore potential research topics, seek collaborations with external parties and generate new research ideas for formulation of research projects in advanced network technologies (see Appendices III.4.2 and III.11 for details). Efforts were devoted to research themes related to 'Cloud Security System', 'Processes Optimization', 'Geographic Information System' and 'Tele-biotechnology and Network Research'. Memorandums of Understanding were signed within different institutes and organizations to promote innovative technology and sustainability research in the abovementioned areas (see Appendix III.7.5 for details). Research proposals related to wireless information monitoring, encryption security system, cloud computing were generated (see Appendix III.2 for details) and publications were generated in the project period (see Appendix III.3 for details).
3. *Develop OUHK into a centre of research in water quality and algae:* the establishment of the Centre of Excellence in Water Quality and Algal Research marked a milestone on developing research capability in the University for related areas (see Appendix III.13 for details). It facilitated research under four main areas, namely 'Wastewater Treatment and Water Quality', 'Plankton and Algal Biomass-Biofuel', 'Red Tide, Eutrophication, and Harmful Algal Blooms' and 'Energy and Environmental Management'. It also developed a network to collaborate with academics, industries, governmental and non-governmental

organizations to advance research on algae, water quality management and wastewater treatment (see Appendix III.7.5 for details). Research proposals related to management of algal toxin, sewage treatment, portable water treatment, and aquaculture were generated (see Appendix III.2 for details) and publications were generated in the project period (see Appendix III.3 for details).

6.3 If the project has not met its original objectives, why?

All the project objectives have been fully met in the project period. For details, please refer to the information presented in the above section (see item 6.2).

6.4 (a) Please provide details e.g., title, authorship, publication dates, etc. and attach an abstract of each publication reported. Please place asterisks on publications involving inter-institutional collaborations.

All publications in association with the project are summarized as follows:

Institutional Research Capacity Building:

A Research Handbook 'A guide to applying for research funding and good practices' was generated from this project (see Appendix I.13 for details). The handbook aims to support the professional development of academic staff, covering research strategies; points to note in preparing research proposals; an overview of the research funding schemes available for application; the proper conduct of research; and relevant policies and guidelines.

Research Institute for Digital Culture and Humanities (RIDCH):

Two books, two edited books, fifteen book chapters, seven peer-reviewed journal papers, fifty-six conference papers and seven symposium papers were generated from the project in the project period (see Appendices II.14.1, II.14.2, II.14.3, II.14.4, II.14.5, II.14.6 and II.14.7 for details). Extended papers from conference keynote speeches and presentations for RIDCH Conferences 2015, 2016 and 2017, RIDCH Symposium 2017 and those generated from other events were collected to produce the two edited books on Digital Culture and Humanities (see Appendices II.14.1 and II.14.2 for details).

Institute for Research in Innovative Technology and Sustainability (IRITS):

Twelve published journal papers, one journal paper under review, five book chapters and twenty-six conference/symposium/congress papers were generated directly from the project in the project period (see Appendix III.3 for details). They covered various research areas, such as biological treatment of saline sewage, marpol oil waste recovery, biodiesel production, mechanical modelling of landslide, and dispersion of air pollutants and application of mobile phone in food ordering systems, etc.

(b) RGC funding should have been acknowledged in all activity(ies) / publication(s) / conference(s) papers listed in (a) above. If no acknowledgement has been made in any of the event / publication / paper, please indicate and provide explanations.

The funding support has been acknowledged in relevant activities, conferences and publications.

6.5 Research staff trained

(Please provide names and capacities of research staff trained and elaborate on what training has been provided.)

The activities organized and research resources provided helped to advance academic staff's research knowledge and skills, drive their research motivation, and enhance their research productivity. For details, please refer to the information summarized below:

Institutional Research Capacity Building:

Various activities for professional development including seminars, workshops, roundtable meetings and consultation sessions were organised for academic staff (see Appendices I.1, I.2, I.4, I.5, and I.6 for details). They covered different aspects of research knowledge and skills such as funding application, proposal/paper writing, research collaboration, research tools, and journal evaluation. There were a total of 1,441 attendances in all academic activities held during the project period. Participants expressed a high satisfactory level in terms of the coverage and quality of contents as well as speakers' knowledge (see Appendix I.6 for statistics of evaluation). Positive feedback was collected from participants for activities on topics related to preparation of research proposals, data analysis, research software tools, search engine optimization and use of social media (see Appendix I.6.1 for details on feedback collected from participants).

Research Institute for Digital Culture and Humanities (RIDCH):

The conferences, symposia, exhibitions, seminars and public lectures organized by the institute served to inspire faculty members of the School of Arts and Social Sciences on the latest research aspects on digital culture and digital humanities and casted light on the new ways of studying and researching in the creative industries and the humanities. The faculty members also consulted the Distinguished Professors for research projects (see Appendices II.2.4 and II.2.5 for details). Fieldwork trips were carried out to enhance academics' explosure in their research areas (see Appendices II.9, II.10 and II.11 for details).

Institute for Research in Innovative Technology and Sustainability (IRITS):

The seminars, conferences, congress and symposia organized by the institute helped inspire faculty members of the School of Science and Technology on the latest research aspects on scientific research. Brainstorming meetings were held regularly to facilitate exchange of ideas (see Appendices III.1 and III.11 for details). The faculty members were inspired to carry out different research projects (see Appendix III.2 for details). Research visits and forums were conducted to enrich academic staff's research knowledge and skills in related disciplines (see Appendices III.8 and III.9 for details).

6.6 Specific products

(e.g. patents, software or netware, instruments or equipment, infrastructure developed)

Specific products including the online platform, research e-newsletter, user guides on research software tools, digital archive and websites were generated in the project period. For details, please see the information summarized below:

Institutional Research Capacity Building:

1. *Online platform:* the online platform to assemble useful information on research funding and resources on research tactics and skills was established in the first year of the project (see Appendix I.8 for details). A total of 559 items were uploaded to the platform (see Appendix I.8 for selected screen shots of the platform). It was continuously maintained and in use in the project period.

2. *Research e-newsletter:* the e-newsletter was published since the first year of the project. A total of thirteen issues of e-newsletter were published in the project period.
3. *Software tool user guides:* a series of quick user guides on research software tools purchased under this project, including iThenticate and EndNote, were developed and made accessible to all academic staff (see Appendix I.14 for details).

Research Institute for Digital Culture and Humanities (RIDCH):

1. *Digital archive:* the online archive on digital culture and humanities was established to support the two research centres in the first year of the project (see Appendix II.15 for contents of the archive). It was available to the public on the website of the institute and was constantly updated in the project period.
2. *Website:* the institute website was established in the first year of the project to promote scholarly activities on digital culture and humanities. It was regularly updated and provided information of different events, such as conferences, symposia, exhibitions, seminars, public lectures and other activities, organized by the institute (see Appendix II.15 for details).

Institute for Research in Innovative Technology and Sustainability (IRITS):

Website: the institute website was set up for maintaining all useful information of activities organized by the institute. It was constantly updated for promoting research activities and archiving the research papers and reports (see Appendix III.14 for details).

6.7 Other education activities and / or training and development

All the academic activities and/or training and development conducted in the project period were summarized in the above sections (see items 6.1(i) and 6.5).

6.8 Please highlight any deliverables indicated in the project implementation timetable endorsed by RGC, which have not been covered or achieved as per sections 6.1 to 6.7 above, and explain / elaborate.

All the deliverables, including academic activities (see item 6.1(i)), provision of research software tools, online archives and websites (see item 6.1(ii)) as well as research activities and publications (see items 6.1(iii) and 6.4(a)), as indicated in the approved implementation timetable were fully covered in the project period.

6.9 Please elaborate the role of the managing team in coordinating and managing the project.

The project management involves three levels, including the institutional level, implementation level and project part level:

Institutional level

Members, comprising the President, Vice President (Academic) and Associate Vice President of the University, Deans of all Schools of the University, Director of Research Office, and Directors of Research Institutes, served to oversee the IDS project (see Appendix I.12 for minutes of meetings.

Implementation level

Members comprised the Dean of the School of Arts and Social Sciences, Dean of the School of Science and Technology, Director of Research Office, Directors of Research Institutes, and relevant staff of the project parts. Their roles are described as follows:

1. Formulate and endorse final decisions on the implementation plan of the project;
2. Provide ongoing direction, strategic guidance and support to the resources

allocation and operation of the project;
3. Oversee and ascertain the use of funding, project progress, and deliverables in line with the project's implementation plan;
4. Provide advice on the problems and difficulties encountered relevant to the progress of the project;
5. Address issues and challenges relating to the operation of the project;
6. Prepare and deliver reports and documents to be submitted to the RGC and the University for the project; and,
7. Handle any other major issues related to development and operation of the project.

Implementation meetings were held on a regular basis to discuss and report the progress and performance of all activities under the project (see Appendix I.11 for minutes of implementation meetings for coordinating the project).

Project part level

Institutional Research Capacity Building:

The Director of Research Office and other relevant staff oversaw the project activities for institutional research capacity building (see Appendix I.9 for notes of meetings for implementation of institutional research capacity building).

Research Institute for Digital Culture and Humanities (RIDCH):

The Institute Director and the Centre Directors, with the help of the institute's manager and other members of the institute, oversaw the Digital Humanities Research Programme and the Digital Culture Research Programme, all research activities and research support activities (see Appendix II.16 for details).

Institute for Research in Innovative Technology and Sustainability (IRITS):

The Institute Director and the Centre Directors, as assisted by the institute's manager, oversaw the research activities and research support activities of the project undertaken by the institute (see Appendices III.1 and III.11 for details).

7. Awards And Recognition

7.1 Have any research grants been awarded that are **directly** attributable to the results obtained on this IDS project? *(Please provide details)*

Details of research proposals generated from the project are summarized as follows:

Research Institute for Digital Culture and Humanities (RIDCH):

Various research projects were carried out in the project period on digital culture and humanities. Through participating in the research projects, academic staff framed new research ideas and three research funding proposals were generated on topics related to Chinese literature, digital literacy practices and digital language learning (see Appendix II.13 for details).

Institute for Research in Innovative Technology and Sustainability (IRITS):

Scholarly activities organized by the institute facilitated exchange of research ideas and inspired academic staff to carry out different research projects. Twenty-three research proposals were generated on topics related to management of algal toxin, sewage treatment, portable water treatment, aquaculture, wireless information monitoring, encryption security system, cloud computing (see Appendix III.2 for details). Nine out of the twenty-three research proposals were granted.

7.2 Other awards and recognitions as a result of this IDS project *(Please specify)*

Details of other awards and recognitions as a result of the project are summarized as follows:

Institutional Research Capacity Building:

Submission of research proposals: since the implementation of the project, there is a sharp increase (about 79%) in the number of research proposals submitted by OUHK academics under the Faculty Development Scheme (FDS) from 2015-16 (24 proposals) to 2017-18 (43 proposals) as details in item 9.2 below. The academic activities provided academic staff with professional development opportunities and facilitated vibrant research communication among academic staff, which helped to increase academics' research productivity as reflected by the sharp increase in the number of research proposals generated.

Positive feedback from academic staff: according to the evaluation results of the academic activities, the majority of feedback from academic staff was positive (see Appendix I.6 for details). For seminars on proposal preparation, comments from academics participants showed that the seminars were useful, informative and applicable which facilitated preparation of research proposals (see Appendix I.6.1 for details). Roundtable meetings were also considered by participants as an effective channel in generating new research ideas through open group discussion.

Research Institute for Digital Culture and Humanities (RIDCH):

Launch of RIDCH: a launch ceremony of RIDCH was held on 17 December 2015 (see Appendix II.3 for a press release and media coverage of the launch ceremony). The institute was set up as a forward-looking initiative in addressing the latest developments and new possibilities of research in digital culture and humanities as well as informing teaching in related areas.

Establishment of research centres: two research centres, namely the Digital Humanities Research Centre and the Digital Culture Research Centre, were established under the institute. Various research projects were carried out under the Digital Humanities Programme and the Digital Culture Programme initiated by the research centres to probe the increasing role that digital-based environments play in the contemporary world (see Appendix II.3 for details).

Institute for Research in Innovative Technology and Sustainability (IRITS):

Launch of IRITS: an inauguration ceremony was held on 9 July 2015 for the establishment of IRITS, which was recognized to have signified contributions to the economic transformation of Hong Kong from a service-based to a knowledge-based economy. A press release was issued on the same day for that event (see Appendix III.13 for details).

Establishment of research centres: under IRITS, the Centre of Excellence in Water Quality and Algal Research, the Centre for Research in Environmental Science,and the Centre for Research in Advanced Network Technologies were established in the project period to consolidate the environmental science research conducted by the School of Science and Technology and develop research capacity in other relevant areas.

Donations obtained from IRITS: the institute received donations to support large-scale scholarly activities, such as scientific conferences for research in innovative technology and sustainability.

8. Other Impacts

8.1 What are the current and expected impacts of the project in terms of its contribution to the local and regional economic and societal well-being? *(e.g., technology transfer, collaboration with external organizations, etc.)*

This project provided a variety of tactics to promote the research culture of the institution; catalyze the formation of vibrant and substantive research networks; and increase academic staff's research productivity. For details, please refer to the information presented below:

Institutional Research Capacity Building:

The academic activities, online platform and research e-newsletter served to advance academic staff's professional development. They offered multiple forms of communication that fostered the development of a research network among academic staff and enhanced their research knowledge and skills. They also facilitated interaction and discussion among academic staff and promoted their devotion to research activities. The research e-newsletter also helped to promote the University's latest research development to the public. Towards the end of the project, an impact evaluation survey was conducted to collect the views of academic staff on the overall project performance (see Appendices I.15.1 for a brief summary of the survey and I.15.2 for a sample of the survey form). A total of 39 academic staff (i.e. 20% of the target population of about 200 full-time academic staff at the lecturer rank or above who participated in the academic activities of this project) were interviewed. Ninety-five percent of participants reported "strongly agree" or "agree" that the project enhanced academics' competence in writing research proposals. Over 80% of participants reported "strongly agree" or "agree" that the project helped academic staff to conduct research. Ninety-five percent of participants reported "strongly agree" or "agree" that the project enhanced the research culture of the institution. The results revealed that the academic activities organized and research resources provided could facilitate academic staff's development of research knowledge and skills, and enhance the research culture of the institution (see Appendix I.15.3 for a summary of the scores collected from participants).

Research Institute for Digital Culture and Humanities (RIDCH):

The institute served as a base for promoting interest, research and interaction among academics and industrial practitioners in disciplines relevant to digital culture and humanities. The institute has been building an international network of researchers, educators, creative arts practitioners, cultural administrators, media professionals and curators through a series of scholarly activities. Conferences, symposia, exhibitions, public lectures and seminars were organized to promote research and publication of research findings, and facilitate close links between the industry and tertiary education (see Appendices II.1, II.2, II.4, II.5, II.6, II.7 and II.8 for details). Various research projects on digital culture and humanities were conducted, which informed new educational and business opportunities, and further research studies in humanities. Fieldwork trips provided academic staff with opportunities to study human behavioural changes in digital culture, the impact of digitalization on various aspects of humanities and its influences to the society (see Appendices II.9, II.10 and II.11 for details). Publications generated from this project provided readers with the emerging trend and significant influence of digital culture and digital humanities in our social life (see Appendix II.14 for details).

Institute for Research in Innovative Technology and Sustainability (IRITS):

The institute has been building a network with international and mainland researchers. Over 20 collaborators from different sectors gathered and signed memoranda of understanding with the University to promote innovative technology and sustainability (see Appendix III.7.5 for details). Various academic activities, such as conferences, exhibitions and forums, were organized to promote research capacity of the institution and advance research in science and technology that constitute advantageous impacts on the society in addressing issues related to climate change, water and air pollution, energy consumption, drinking water management, waste management, green and healthy buildings, aquaculture production, digitized health monitoring, mobile computing technology, etc. (see Appendices III.7, III.9 and III.10 for details). In addition to the academic and research staff, teaching staff and research postgraduate students also participated in the scholarly activities and assisted in strengthening the institutional research culture.

8.2 Others *(Please specify)*

All current and expected impacts of the projects were covered in the above section (see section 8.1).

9. Sustainability Of The IDS

9.1 Whether there are new ideas evolved **directly** from the project?

The academic activities organized and research resources provided in this project covered a wide range of research aspects that facilitated generation of new research ideas and research proposals (see item 9.2 for details). For the part of institutional research capacity building, roundtable meetings as a new academic activity introduced from the project will continue to be provided for new academic staff on a regular basis. Apart from promoting research capacity of the institution, this project laid a good foundation to support collaborative research across disciplines and/or across institutions. The research activities carried out by RIDCH, such as fieldwork trips and research visits, not only inspired academic staff on the latest research trends but also enabled building of research networks with internal and external bodies to frame new research ideas. Alongside the eight projects under RIDCH, on-going research regarding the impact of social media on English language learning has been conducted starting from 2017. Studies on transmedia, digital literacy and museum studies have also commenced. For IRITS, brainstorming meetings and research interest group meetings were held regularly to facilitate incubation of new research ideas (see Appendices III.1, III.4.2 and III.11 for details). The research visits facilitated sharing of research insights and uncovered opportunities for effective synergism among participating researchers, research groups and institutions (see Appendix III.8 for details). This project has also contributed to the OUHK's preparation for the new IDS Collaborative Research Grant. Research collaborations would be explored with other research institutes within OUHK or other universities to generate new research proposals for this grant.

9.2 Whether there are new projects evolved **directly** from the project?

The project enhanced academic staff's capacity to generate new research proposals. The total number of FDS research proposal submissions from OUHK academics increased sharply by 79% from 2015-16 (24 proposals) to 2017-18 (43 proposals).

The establishment of IRITS, as well as its Centre of Excellence in Water Quality and Algal Research, Centre for Research in Environmental Science and Centre for Research in Advanced Network Technologies, strengthened the strategic research development of the University in environmental science and advanced network technologies. A total of 23 research projects evolved directly from this project, which were related to management of algal toxin, harmful algal blooms, phytoplankton diversity, drinking water system, and fish cultivation (see Appendix III.2 for details).

Various research projects were conducted by the Digital Humanities Research Centre and the Digital Culture Research Centre under RIDCH. Three research proposals were generated from these research projects on topics related to Chinese literature, digital literacy practices and digital language learning (see Appendix II.13 for details).

9.3 Whether there are new collaborations developed **directly** from the project?

The academic activities organized in this project provided academic staff with a venue for development of research networks within and outside the University (see Appendices I.10, II.4, II.5, II.6, II.7, III.1 and III.7 for details). The number of research proposal submissions which involved collaboration with other institutions increased substantially from 15 proposals in 2015 to 29 proposals in 2018, demonstrating the new collaborations of academic staff.

For IRITS, new collaborations were established with the Water Supplies Department and a consultancy project was commenced to assess the effectiveness and efficiency of using ultrasound in disrupting algal cells and control cyanobacterial blooms in the Plover Cove Reservoir (see Appendix III.10 for details). IRITS also collaborated with the Shenzhen Government to conduct a project on the Shenzhen-Hong Kong joint treatment of Shenzhen Bay. For RIDCH, new collaborations were established with the OUHK Tin Ka Ping Chinese Culture Centre to explore new possibilities for studying Chinese Culture with digital tools. RIDCH also collaborated with Le French May to open up dialogues for Sino-French cross-cultural interactions in the digital era.

10. Public Access Of Completion Report

(Please specify the information, if any, that cannot be provided for public access and give the reasons.)

Information that Cannot Be Provided for Public Access	**Reasons**
Appendices I, II and III	The Appendices contain restricted information (such as names, photos, affiliation of event participants, evaluation records, the results which may disclose personal identity and sensitive information) and internal documents (for example, notes and minutes of meetings). They should not be disclosed to the public.

RGC Ref. No.: UGC/IDS16/14
(please insert ref. above)

INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME (IDS)

Summary of Completion Report

(Please list all the stages since project inception)

Project Title: First Phase of Institutional Research Capacity Development

Stage Completed	Period	[redacted]	Milestones	
	(Month / Year) to (Month / Year)		Deliverables to be Achieved[2] (Please summarize in three bullet points where details should be left to the report proper)	% of Each Deliverable Achieved[3]
1	12/2014 to 11/2015		• **Institutional Research Capacity Building** Enhance research resources of institution; build a research culture; and provide research assistance with e-newsletter, seminars, workshops, and an online platform	100%
			• **Research Institute for Digital Culture and Humanities** Organize seminars, fieldwork, and conferences to promote research in digital culture and humanities	100%
			• **Institute for Research in Innovative Technology and Sustainability** Organize seminars, conferences, and undertake projects to promote research in innovative technology and sustainability	100%

Stage Completed	Period	[redacted]	Milestones	
	(Month / Year) to (Month / Year)		Deliverables to be Achieved[2] (Please summarize in <u>three</u> bullet points where details should be left to the report proper)	% of Each Deliverable Achieved[3]
2	12/2015 to 11/2016		• **Institutional Research Capacity Building** Build a research culture of the institution, enhance research knowledge of academics and provide research assistance, through organization of seminars, workshops, roundtable meetings and consultation sessions, publication of e-newsletter on research and provision of research resources on the online platform	100%
			• **Research Institute for Digital Culture and Humanities** Organize seminars, fieldwork, and conferences to promote research in digital culture and humanities; implement research programmes; and support publication of research findings	100%
			• **Institute for Research in Innovative Technology and Sustainability** Organize seminars, conferences, and undertake projects to promote research in innovative technology and sustainability; set up the Centre for Research in Environmental Science and launch the Centre for Research in Advanced Network Technologies	100%

Stage Completed	Period		Milestones	
	(Month / Year) to (Month / Year)		Deliverables to be Achieved[2] (Please summarize in <u>three</u> bullet points where details should be left to the report proper)	% of Each Deliverable Achieved[3]
3	12/2016 to 5/2018*	[redacted]	• **Institutional Research Capacity Building** Build a research culture of the institution, enhance the research capability of academic staff and provide research support through organization of seminars, workshops, roundtable meetings and consultation sessions, publication of e-newsletter on research and provision of research resources on an online platform	100%
			• **Research Institute for Digital Culture and Humanities** Organize seminars, fieldwork, and conferences to promote research in digital culture and humanities; implement research programmes; and edit research findings for publication in the form of books and papers	100%
			• **Institute for Research in Innovative Technology and Sustainability** Organize seminars, forums, symposia, and undertake projects to promote research in innovative technology and sustainability; launch the Centre of Excellence in Water Quality and Algal Research under the Centre for Research in Environmental Science; and implement research programmes of the research centres	100%
	Total to-date:			

Note: [1] Justifications for significant under-spending or over-spending (≥ ±10%) should be given in **section 5.1** of the completion report.

[2] The key milestones to be achieved by the project within the respective stage as indicated in the approved implementation timetable.

[3] Justifications for significant slower rate of progress compared with the approved implementation timetable should be provided in detail in **section 4** of the completion report.

Remark:* Project extension was approved by RGC on 16 February 2017 for six months. The revised project end date is 31 May 2018.

RESEARCH GRANTS COUNCIL
COMPETITIVE RESEARCH FUNDING SCHEMES FOR THE LOCAL SELF-FINANCING DEGREE SECTOR

INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME (IDS)

Completion Report - Attachment
(for completed projects only)

RGC Ref. No.:	UGC / IDS 16 / 14
Institution:	The Open University of Hong Kong
Project Title:	First Phase of Institutional Research Capacity Development

Statistics on Research Outputs

	Peer-reviewed Journal Publications	Conference Papers	Scholarly Books, Monographs and Chapters	Patents Awarded	Other Research Outputs (Please specify)
No. of outputs arising directly from this research project [or conference]	18 published papers; 2 papers under review.	89 papers presented.	2 edited books in press, including 1 English volume & 1 Chinese volume; 2 published books, including 1 English book and 1 Chinese book; 15 book chapters, including 9 published chapters & 6 chapters in press.	Nil	27 research proposals (of which 12 proposals were granted); 4 fieldwork trip reports; 1 research handbook.