



Message from UGC Chairman



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The COVID-19 pandemic has brought about shocking impacts and suffering across the globe and affected every aspect of our daily lives. This has brought about intense challenges to each and everyone of us, and the Higher Education sector is no exception. The UGC has worked hard together with our universities to maintain "Business as Usual" during this very challenging time.

With the imposition of social distancing, it has been most challenging for our faculty members, students and staff to interact, collaborate and conduct researches in the way they used to. I am impressed therefore by the smooth and speedy transition of academic activities from physical to online experiences. Our universities have embraced technologies into teaching and I am sure that they will become even more innovative and resilient as they get used to the new paradigm. Meanwhile, the UGC and universities have also worked tirelessly together on various fronts, including managing disruption to student admissions, putting in place quarantine arrangements for non-local students, as well as maintaining a hygienic environment on campus. In doing so, we put public health at the top of our agenda by making every endeavour to keep the risk of infection to the minimum.

The gruelling battle against COVID-19, however, could not and must not keep us from doing what is right and needed. The UGC and the Research Grants Council (RGC) announced in May the allocation of a one-off additional funding of \$150 million and \$100 million respectively under the Collaborative Research Fund and the Theme-based Research Scheme to support the UGC-funded sector in conducting research related to COVID-19 and other novel infectious diseases, especially projects and solutions that can help identify and / or address the wider health, social, economic or environmental impact of the epidemic. We expect that the

主席的話

2019冠狀病毒病疫情肆虐，為全球帶來了巨大影響和沉重打擊。疫情不僅影響我們每一個人的日常生活，亦帶來了前所未有的挑戰。雖然如此，大學教育資助委員會（教資會）一直與資助大學共同努力，以期在艱難當前維持正常運作。

在保持社交距離的情況下，大學教職員和學生難以沿用往常的模式進行交流、協作及研究活動。我樂見各大學已順暢並迅速地將實體的學術活動過渡至網上進行。大學亦致力將科技融入教學之中。我相信隨著對新常态更為適應，大學定可以更創新的方法應對未來挑戰。與此同時，教資會和大學一直通力合作，努力不懈地處理各方面的事宜，例如理順學生入學安排、制定非本地學生的檢疫安排，以及維持校園的衛生環境等。就此，我們一直將公共衛生放在首位，並盡一切努力將感染風險減到最低。

抗疫路途崎嶇，但無阻我們做好應做的事情。教資會及研究資助局（研資局）於5月宣佈，分別透過協作研究金及主題研究計劃撥款1.5億元及1億元，資助教資會資助界別進行與2019冠狀病毒病和其他新型傳染病相關的集體研究項目，特別是那些能找出及/或應對疫情對健康、社會、經濟或環境方面影響的研究項目。預計這次一筆過額外撥款



additional funding can support around 25 medium-size and two to three large-scale research projects. I am encouraged by the overwhelming support from universities and the community for this new initiative.

We have also been engaging with our committee members, stakeholders and the media through a series of virtual meetings. I am most thankful to our members and partners, in particular those from overseas, for their unfailing support under this difficult time. With their dedication, I am pleased to report that our Research Assessment Exercise (RAE) 2020 and the Planning Exercise for the 2022-25 Triennium are making good progress.

Notwithstanding the necessary shift to virtual experiences, I am sure many of you miss and cherish the personal touch in our face-to-face interactions, especially in education where personal contact is vital. As we yearn for the time when the world returns to normal, let us continue to stride ahead and navigate through these turbulent times together.

I would like to take this opportunity to offer my heartfelt appreciation to all those who have been involved in fighting COVID-19, particularly those in the higher education, medical and social sector, many of whom have made personal sacrifices and contributed their expertise to save lives. I am sure Hong Kong will emerge stronger as we have always done in times of adversities.

Last but not least, I would also like to take this opportunity to bid farewell to Professor Benjamin Wah wan-sang, who has just retired as the Chair of the RGC and thank him for his sterling leadership over this last seven years. Let me also welcome Professor Joseph Lee hun-wei, the incoming Chair, and look forward to working with him in supporting our research community.

Let me wish everyone good health, stay safe and that life in our campuses will soon return to normality. Have an enjoyable summer break and take care!

Carlson Tong

可分別資助25個中型及兩至三個大型研究項目。我們得悉大學和社會對這項新倡議表示大力支持，實在是令人鼓舞。

此外，教資會透過一系列的網上會議，與教資會委員、持份者，以至傳媒保持聯繫。我非常感謝委員和合作夥伴，特別是身處海外的人士，在這段充滿困難的時刻依然給予堅定支持。有賴各方貢獻，2020年研究評審工作（RAE）和2022-25三年期的規劃工作正取得良好進展。

雖然我們必須適應虛擬環境，但我相信您們仍懷念和珍惜人與人之間的互動和接觸。尤其是在教育這一環，人與人的交流至為重要。就在大家憧憬世界能恢復正常運作的同時，讓我們繼續昂首闊步，乘風破浪。

我藉此衷心感謝各界為抗疫作出貢獻。特別感謝高等教育、醫護及社福界別的人士。他們為抗疫作出個人犧牲，亦貢獻專業知識，竭力挽救生命。我相信香港將一如以往，在經歷困難後自強不息。

最後，我亦藉此話別剛卸任研資局主席的華雲生教授，感謝他在任七年間的英明領導。同時，讓我歡迎新接任研資局主席的李行偉教授。期待著與李教授一起共同努力，支持本港的科研發展。

祝願大家身體健康及平安，亦期望校園生活可早日恢復正常。祝大家有一個愉快的暑假。好好保重！

唐家成

One-off initiative to fund research projects related to COVID-19 and novel infectious diseases (NIDs) under the Collaborative Research Fund (CRF) and Theme-based Research Scheme (TRS)

In response to the COVID-19 epidemic and its evolving global impact, the UGC and the RGC have allocated a one-off additional funding of \$150 million and \$100 million respectively under the CRF and the TRS to support the UGC-funded sector in conducting research related to COVID-19 and other NIDs.

The UGC and the RGC have all always strived to encourage local universities to conduct high impact research, especially those that would benefit people's livelihood and our economic and social development. Through this additional funding, we are joining hands with the community in our combat against the epidemic. The initiative calls on innovative ideas to address the impact of COVID-19 and NIDs, including solutions that can help identify and/or address the wider health, social, economic, environmental and other impact of the epidemic. While priority will be given to COVID-19 research and those projects that may be completed early, NIDs research in all facets and disciplines are welcomed. It is expected that around 25 medium scale and 2 to 3 large scale projects could be funded under the initiative.

The initiative received good response. Apart from attracting positive media coverage, over 40 university representatives and researchers participated in an engagement session held on 1 June 2020. By the deadline of 17 July 2020, over 170 applications were received under CRF. The full proposals of these applicants will be assessed and considered by the CRF Committee in December 2020 for funding recommendation. Funding results

在協作研究金及主題研究計劃下設立與資助2019冠狀病毒病及其他新型傳染病相關研究項目的一次性計劃

因應2019冠狀病毒疫情及其帶來的全球性影響，教資會及研資局分別額外撥出1.5億元及1億元，透過協作研究金及主題研究計劃資助教資會資助界別進行與2019冠狀病毒病及其他新型傳染病相關的集體研究項目。

教資會及研資局一直致力鼓勵和推動本地大學進行更多具影響力，尤其是有利於民生以及經濟和社會發展的研究。我們期望透過這額外撥款，與社會一起應對疫情。我們特別希望資助那些能找出及/或應對這次疫情及新型傳染病對健康、社會、經濟、環境和其他方面影響的研究項目。所有與新型傳染病相關的研究項目，不論範疇或學科，均可申請是次一筆過額外撥款，與2019冠狀病毒病相關，以及可盡早完成的研究項目，更將獲優先考慮。預計是次一筆過額外撥款可分別資助約25個中型及兩至三個大型研究項目。

是次計劃獲得熱烈的反應，除了吸引傳媒採訪及報導外，超過四十位大學代表及研究人員出席於2020年6月1日舉行的互動會議。在2020年7月17日截止申請時，共收到超過170份協作研究金的申請。評審委員會將在2020年12月，評審項目團隊

are expected to be announced by late December 2020/early January 2021 and the successful project teams should commence the research very soon once the results are announced and in any case no later than 30 June 2021.

The TRS call for preliminary proposals for TRS 2021/22 will be issued in July/August 2020.

的具體計劃書，並作出資助建議。預計將於2020年12月下旬/ 2021年上旬公佈資助結果。成功申請的研究團隊需在審批結果公布後並於2021年6月30日或以前，盡快開展研究項目。

2021/22年度主題研究計劃將於2020年7月/ 8月開始接受申請。



During a press briefing, Mr Carlson Tong offered to join hands with the Hong Kong community in combating against the epidemic. Through the additional funding, the UGC would like to support the UGC-funded universities for research projects related to COVID-19 and novel infectious diseases in any facet and discipline.

在記者會上，唐家成先生提出透過額外撥款，鼓勵教資會資助界別進行任何層面和學科上與新型傳染病相關的研究項目，與香港社會一起應對疫情。

Mr Carlson Tong and Professor Benjamin Wah in a TV media interview. Mr Tong opined that the another pandemic might emerge again in a few years. Research projects on how could the government and the community respond to such pandemic were very meaningful and highly beneficial to the Hong Kong community.

唐家成先生與華雲生教授接受電視傳媒訪問。唐先生認為另一波疫情未來數年也可能重臨。如何控制疫情、政府與社會如何對策，這些都是值得研究，對香港民生亦有很大影響。





Planning Exercise for the 2022-25 Triennium

The UGC adopts a triennial planning cycle in determining the recurrent funding for the UGC-funded universities. For the 2022-25 triennium, the Sub-Group on Planning Exercise (SGPE), established in December 2019, is taking forward the Planning Exercise. The SGPE is once again led by Sir Howard Newby, former Vice-Chancellor of the University of Liverpool, and comprises local and overseas academics and experts with extensive experiences in the relevant fields without conflict of interest.

As a recommendation put forward in the Review of Planning Exercise in 2019, all universities were invited to conduct their manpower projections for the 2022-25 triennium and beyond for reference by the Government in the manpower planning exercise. The universities' manpower projections were shared with the Government in June 2020.

The SGPE has also considered other arrangements of the Planning Exercise for the 2022-25 triennium. To achieve better interface with the University Accountability Agreement (UAA), the performance measures and key performance indicators submitted by the universities as part of their UAA annual progress reports would directly inform the Planning Exercise, thereby streamlining the preparatory work for the Planning Exercise Proposals (PEPs) for the universities and also rendering the Planning Exercise more data-driven.

The UGC has discussed the proposed arrangements for the Planning Exercise with the universities in late June 2020. We look forward to formally inviting universities to submit their PEPs for the 2022-25 triennium later this year.

2022-25三年期規劃工作

教資會以三個學年為一周期，釐定教資會資助大學的經常撥款。教資會已於2019年12月成立規劃工作小組，負責2022-25三年期的規劃工作。規劃工作小組再次由利物浦大學前校長 Sir Howard Newby 領導，其他成員均為資深而沒有利益衝突的本地及海外學者和專家。

因應2019年就規劃工作進行檢討的其中一項建議，教資會已邀請各大學進行2022-25三年期及其後的人力需求估算，以供政府在進行人力規劃時參考。教資會已經於2020年6月向政府提交各大學的人力需求估算。

小組亦探討了2022-25三年期規劃工作的各項安排。為加強《大學問責協議》與規劃工作的相互銜接，大學根據《大學問責協議》提交的年度進度報告內所載的表現衡量標準及主要表現指標將會直接為規劃工作提供所需資料。此安排既可簡化大學擬備《規劃工作建議書》的工作，亦使規劃工作更加數據為本。

教資會已於2020年6月底與各大學會面，商討是次規劃工作的擬議安排。我們期望可於今年稍後時間，正式邀請各大學提交2022-25三年期的《規劃工作建議書》。



Follow Up Work on the Review Report on Research Policy and Funding

Recommendations from the Review of Research Policy and Funding are being implemented with marked progress.

\$20-billion REF Injection and Rationalisation of REF Pots

Following the official placement of the \$20 billion with the Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA) in September 2019, the increased investment income generated from the Research Endowment Fund (REF) will help boosting the REF budget for disbursement. More flexible and effective deployment of resources will also be feasible now that the fences of the different pots of REF have been lifted.

Research Matching Grant Scheme

Universities / Institutions continue to achieve encouraging results in securing new donations amid a most challenging social and economic environment. Since the launch of the Research Matching Grant Scheme on 1 August 2019, 18 out of 21 participating universities / institutions (including 8 UGC-funded universities and 10 local self-financing degree-awarding institutions) have submitted applications for matching grant under the Scheme. At the close of the third processing cycle on 31 March 2020, donation / sponsorship / research contract applied for matching had amounted to about \$1.13 billion in total. Matching grant at a total amount of \$768 million had been disbursed to participating universities / institutions accordingly, with a total of seven universities reaching the matching floor of \$50 million. The remaining balance available for matching stood at about \$2.23 billion after three processing cycles. The Scheme will continue to operate till 31 July 2022.

Three New RGC Fellowship Schemes

The three new RGC research fellowship schemes, namely the RGC Postdoctoral Fellowship Scheme (PDFS), RGC Research Fellow Scheme (RFS) and RGC Senior Research Fellow Scheme (SRFS) were introduced in the 2019/20 academic year as scheduled. The inaugural exercise was completed in the first half of 2020, and results of

《研究政策及資助檢討報告》的跟進工作

教資會在落實《研究政策及資助檢討報告》建議的工作上，取得良好進展。

向研究基金注資200億元及理順研究基金內不同款項的運用限制

隨着200億元的注資於2019年9月正式由香港金融管理局作投資安排，研究基金的投資收入將有所增加，有助上調撥款預算。研究基金內不同款項的運用限制亦已撤除，讓我們能更有彈性及成效地調配資源。

研究配對補助金計劃

在嚴峻的社會及經濟環境下，參與計劃的大學／院校在籌募新捐款方面，仍繼續取得令人鼓舞的成績。自研究配對補助金計劃於2019年8月1日開展以來，21所參與計劃的大學／院校中，有遞交申請的已有18所，當中包括八間教資會資助大學及十間本地自資學位頒授院校。截至第三個申請期於2020年3月31日結束，配對的申請已涉及共約11.3億元捐款／贊助／研究合約。經審批後，我們已發放共7.68億元配對補助金予有關大學／院校，並且已有七間大學獲取超過5,000萬元「最低款額」的配對補助金。首三個申請期過後，配對補助金的餘額約有22.3億元。計劃將繼續接受申請至2022年7月31日。

研資局三項全新傑出學者計劃

研資局三項全新的傑出學者計劃，即研資局博士後獎學金計劃(PDFS)、研資局研究學者計劃(RFS)、及研資局高級研究學者計劃(SRFS)，均如期於2019/20學年推行，首屆計劃的評選工作亦於2020年上半年完成，PDFS、RFS及SRFS的

the successful nominees for the respective awards have been announced in April (for PDFS) and July 2020 (for RFS and SRFS).

The three new fellowships schemes will become regular and be operated annually, with recurrent expenditure of \$190 million per year to benefit post-doctoral fellows as well as researchers at Associate Professor and Professor ranks.

Review of Collaborative Research Funding Schemes

Tasked to review the three RGC's collaborative research funding schemes, i.e. the Collaborative Research Fund, the Theme-based Research Scheme, and the Areas of Excellence Scheme, the Collaborative Research Review Working Group (CRWG) firmed up its interim recommendations at its third meeting held on 23 March 2020, to augment the Government's support for collaborative research.

The UGC-funded universities are being consulted on the CRWG's interim recommendations. The review is expected to be concluded by end-2020.

得獎結果已分別於2020年4月及7月公布。

三項新傑出學者計劃將會恒常每年推行，以惠及博士後、副教授級及教授級的研究人員。每年的經常開支為1.9億元。

協作研究撥款計劃檢討

為檢視三項由研資局推行的協作研究撥款計劃，即「協作研究金」、「主題研究計劃」及「卓越學科領域計劃」，協作研究檢討小組（下稱「檢討小組」）於2020年3月23日舉行第三次會議，並確立其中期建議，以加強政府對協作研究的支持。

檢討小組正就其中期建議諮詢院校。檢討工作預期於2020年完成。

Targeted Taught Postgraduate Programmes Fellowships Scheme

The UGC implements the "Targeted Taught Postgraduate Programmes Fellowships Scheme" on a pilot basis for five cohorts starting from the 2020/21 academic year to attract meritorious local students to pursue further studies in priority areas conducive to the development of Hong Kong. The Working Group, established in October 2019 and led by Sir Howard Newby, is taking forward the Fellowship Scheme. Other members of the Working Group comprised overseas academics and experts with extensive experience in the relevant fields without conflict of interest.

研究院修課課程獎學金計劃

教資會於2020/21學年起，以先導形式推行為期五屆的「指定研究院修課課程獎學金計畫」（獎學金計畫），為修讀配合香港發展需要的指定研究院修課課程的優秀本地學生提供獎學金。教資會已成立由Sir Howard Newby 領導的專責小組負責推行計劃，其他成員包括資深而沒有利益衝突的海外學者及專家。



In February 2020, the UGC announced the list of eligible taught postgraduate (TPg) programmes and their respective number of fellowship places under the first cohort. This comprised 43 TPg programmes for a total of 500 fellowship places. We are encouraged by the very positive feedback from many universities that the Fellowship Scheme is successful in attracting high-calibre local students to enroll in the targeted TPg programmes. The fellowship awardees will soon commence their studies in the 2020/21 academic year.

Starting from the second cohort (i.e. 2021/22 academic year), the number of fellowship places will double to 1 000 per cohort, which will benefit more meritorious local students who wish to pursue further studies in different targeted TPg programmes. Comparing with the first cohort, the scope of some priority areas under the second cohort will be fine-tuned to encompass a wider spectrum of academic disciplines. The universities have submitted their proposed TPg programmes for the second cohort in July. The Working Group is assessing these proposals, and we target to announce the list of programmes and their allocated fellowship places in the fourth quarter of 2020.

教資會已於2020年2月公佈首屆獎學金計劃的合資格課程名單和各課程的獎學金名額，當中共有43個合資格課程，總共提供500個獎學金名額。不少大學表示計劃成功吸引優秀本地學生修讀指定研究院修課課程，反應非常正面，著實令人鼓舞。獲頒發獎學金的學生即將於2020/21學年開始修業。

自第二屆起(即於2021/22學年入學)，每屆獎學金名額將倍增至1000名，可惠及更多有志修讀不同指定研究院修課課程的優秀本地學生。相比第一屆，第二屆獎學金計劃的研究院修課課程優先範疇將予優化，覆蓋更廣泛的學術範疇。各大學於7月提交建議納入第二屆獎學金計劃的研究院修課課程，專責小組正進行評審工作。我們的目標是在2020年第4季公佈課程名單及獲分配的獎學金名額。

Research Assessment Exercise 2020

The RAE 2020 is in progress. The eight UGC funded universities, with some 4 200 eligible academic staff, submitted over 15 700 research outputs, 340 impact case studies and 190 environment submissions to RAE 2020 in December 2019.

Trial assessment meetings were held in February and March 2020 to ensure consistent adherence to the guidelines and assessment criteria by the assessors. Panel members commenced formal assessment of the submissions immediately afterwards.

Formal panel assessment meetings have originally been scheduled to take place in August to September 2020. In view of the coronavirus situation, the UGC, after consulting

2020年研究評審工作

2020年研究評審工作正在進行中。八所教資會資助大學，當中包括了4 200多名教學人員，已在2019年12月底前提交超過15 700項研究成果、340項研究影響個案及190個研究環境項目。

試驗評審會議已於2020年1月至3月期間舉行，以確保各評審小組統一地根據指引及評審準則來進行評審。評審小組成員並隨即開始正式評審工作。

評審小組會議原定於2020年8月至9月舉行。因應冠狀病毒的情況，教資會於2020年4月至5月期間諮詢



the universities and RAE panels in April and May 2020, decided to allow the panels to conduct virtual meetings and extend the panel discussion period to ensure sufficient discussion time for the panels in order to maintain the robustness and credibility of the RAE 2020. Under the revised arrangement, the panel assessment meeting period will be extended from the original two months in August and September 2020 to last for six months from August 2020 to January 2021. The RAE 2020 results are expected to be announced in the second quarter in 2021. The eight UGC-funded universities have been informed of the revised arrangement in June 2020.

八所大學和各評審小組後，決定讓評審小組進行網上會議並延長評審小組討論時間，讓評審小組有足夠的時間討論，以確保完成一個具公信力和嚴謹的研究評審工作。在新安排下，評審小組的正式會議將由原來2020年8月至9月兩個月時間，延長至由2020年8月至2021年1月為止的六個月。2020年研究評審工作的結果預計會在2021年第二季公布。教資會已於2020年6月去信八所教資會大學，通知有關安排。

Research Grants Council Review

The RGC Review (Phase II), which covered operational issues such as the quality of assessment and monitoring processes, means of communication among members of the committees / panels, timeline of funding schemes and arrangement guarding against conflicts of interest in the assessment process, was completed in October 2019.

The RGC has formulated an implementation plan on the review recommendations. Major measures include reviewing the RGC website and its electronic system, enhancing communication and engagement activities with the research community and engaging a consultant to review the RGC documents and its database on external reviewers (ER).

With a view to improving consistency, operational effectiveness and transparency of documents of research funding schemes; and the procedures to add ERs to and remove poor performing ERs from the database, the Review of RGC Documents and ER Database commenced in May 2020. Our external consultant has commenced work and consultation with stakeholders, including RGC and its committee / panel members, researchers and research managers / administrators, will take place from July to September 2020. The review is expected to be completed by the end of 2020.

研資局檢討

研資局第二階段檢討涵蓋運作事宜，包括評審和監察程序的質素、委員會／小組成員之間的溝通方法、資助計劃的推行時間，以及防止利益衝突的安排。檢討已於2019年10月完成。

研資局已就檢討建議制定行動計劃，主要措施包括檢討研資局網站及其電子系統、加強與研究界別溝通和增加界別參與的活動，以及委聘顧問就研資局的文件和外部評審員資料庫進行檢討。

研資局文件和外部評審員資料庫檢討於2020年5月展開。檢討旨在提高研究資助計劃文件的一致性、運作效率和透明度；以及完善增加外部評審員及刪除表現欠佳評審員的相關程序。研資局委聘的外部顧問已展開工作，並將於2020年7月至9月諮詢持份者（包括研資局及其委員會／小組成員、研究人員、研究管理／行政人員）。檢討預計於2020年年底完成。

RGC Postdoctoral Fellowship Scheme (PDFS)

We are pleased to note the attractiveness of this newly introduced fellowship scheme with strong candidates from top universities internationally as well as UGC-funded universities. In addition to nominees from Hong Kong and the Mainland, we have nominees from Australia, France, India, Italy, Malaysia, Nigeria, Pakistan, The Netherlands, Turkey, the United Kingdom and the United States of America.

Despite the exceptional COVID-19 circumstances, assessment of the 83 PDFS nominations (33 from the Humanities, Social Sciences and Business Studies (H) disciplines, and 50 from the Science, Medicine, Engineering and Technology (S) disciplines) was smoothly completed in March 2020. Among the first cohort of 50 PDFS awardees, 22 are from H disciplines and 28 are from S disciplines. They should all start the 36-month fellowship appointment with their respective supporting university within the year of 2020. For each awardee, the supporting university would be provided with an annual stipend of \$396,600 to fund the awardee's basic salary as well as conference and research-related travel allowance. Subject to the relevant terms and conditions, the annual stipend for the subsequent years will be adjusted according to the Composite Consumer Price Index announced by the HKSAR Government.

PDFS aims to provide new opportunities for PhD graduates to pursue career in research in Hong Kong. We believe that the number of nominations will increase in future exercises when the universities have more experience with the nomination process of the scheme.

研資局博士後獎學金計劃

我們欣悉此項新計劃備受歡迎，吸引來自國際頂尖大學及本地教資會資助大學的優秀參選者。除了我們欣悉此項新計劃備受歡迎，吸引來自國際頂尖大學及本地教資會資助大學的優秀參選者。除了本港及內地的候選人，亦有來自澳洲、法國、印度、意大利、馬來西亞、尼日利亞、巴基斯坦、荷蘭、土耳其、英國及美國的參選者。

雖然適遇新冠肺炎疫情的特殊情況，遴選小組仍於2020年3月順利完成83宗PDFS提名的評選(當中33宗來自人文學、社會科學及商科範疇，50宗來自科學、醫學、工程及科技範疇)。首屆50名得獎者中，有22名屬人文學、社會科學及商科範疇，28名屬科學、醫學、工程及科技範疇。得獎者均須於2020年內於其所屬的資助大學開展為期36個月的博士後聘約；而相關的資助大學將就其每位得獎者獲發放首年396,600元的津貼，以資助得獎者的基本薪金與會議及研究活動交通費用。其後兩年的津貼額將根據相關條款，按香港特別行政區政府每年公布的綜合消費物價指數作出年度調整。

PDFS旨在為博士畢業生提供新機遇，在香港開展研究事業。隨著各大學就提名過程累積更多的經驗，我們相信提名數字於可見將來會更益上升。

研資局研究學者計劃 及研資局高級研究學 者計劃

RGC Research Fellow Scheme (RFS) and RGC Senior Research Fellow Scheme (SRFS)

In response to the call for nominations, the eight universities submitted 33 nominations for RFS and 32 for SRFS in this inaugural exercise. Among the 65 nominations competing for the ten RFS and ten SRFS awards, 17 are from Humanities, Social Sciences and Business Studies (HSSB) disciplines, and 48 from Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) disciplines. To facilitate the selection of the most meritorious candidates for the awards, nominations were assessed by external reviewers and readers. Upon the completion of the peer-review assessment, shortlisted nominees were invited for interviews by the respective selection panel via video-conferencing in May / June 2020.

Recommendations of the RFS awardees (two from HSSB and eight from STEM disciplines) and SRFS awardees (three from HSSB and seven from STEM disciplines) were endorsed by the RGC in June 2020. Respective supporting university has been advised of the result in July 2020 and all awardees are to start the research project on 1 January 2021. Each RFS and SRFS awardee would be supported with a fellowship grant covering a period of 60 months at around \$5.2 million and \$7.8 million respectively.

The selection panels commended highly on the quality of the nominees and the research proposals submitted, as well as the enthusiasm displayed by the finalists during their interviews. The inaugural RFS / SRFS exercise, with success rate of around 30% for both RFS and SRFS and also for both disciplines, has set a very high benchmark for future exercises.

八間教資會資助大學就第一屆研資局研究學者計劃(RFS)及研資局高級研究學者計劃(SRFS)，分別提交33宗及32宗提名，以競逐十個RFS及十個SRFS獎項。在合共65宗提名中，17宗屬人文學、社會科學及商科範疇，48宗屬科學、科技、工程及數學範疇。為了選拔出最優秀的得獎者，參選者均需經過外部評審員及遴選小組成員的評核。完成同儕評審後，進入RFS及SRFS最後入圍名單的參選者獲邀接受遴選小組的面試。面試透過視像會議方式，於2020年5月及6月進行。

遴選小組推薦的RFS得獎者(兩名屬人文學、社會科學及商科範疇，八名屬科學、科技、工程及數學範疇)，及SRFS得獎者(三名屬人文學、社會科學及商科範疇，七名屬科學、科技、工程及數學範疇)，已獲得研資局於2020年6月通過及確認，我們亦已於7月正式通知相關大學得獎結果。得獎者須於2021年1月1日開始計劃下的研究項目，而每名RFS及SRFS得獎者均將獲發放為期60個月的津貼，金額分別約為520萬元及780萬元。

遴選小組高度讚賞獲提名的候選人及其高水平的研究提案，並喜見最後入圍的候選人在面試中展現熱忱，為來屆定下高基準。首屆RFS及SRFS的成功率均約為30%(兩大學科範疇亦然)。



Review of Research Portion

The Research Portion (R-portion) of the UGC Block Grant is disbursed as infrastructure funding to enable universities to provide both the staffing and facilities necessary to carry out research, and to fund a certain level of research.

To enhance the sustainability of research in Hong Kong, underpin and promote world class research, the Working Group on the Review of Research Portion (WGRP) has been established in early 2019 with assistance from an independent consultant. The review considered the existing funding methodology of the R-portion, which is now driven by two engines: the results of the RAE (74%) and the universities' success in RGC Earmarked Research Grants (26%). A series of consultation sessions were conducted in 2019 and the views of the stakeholders have been carefully considered by the Working Group. The independent consultant is producing a final report on the rationale and likely effects of the proposed funding formula and recommendations, having conducted statistical modelling to simulate the effects on funding allocation to the universities under different scenarios, and conducted a review on international experiences. The UGC has conducted another round of consultation with the universities to explain the proposed amendments to the funding formula in July 2020. A final report prepared by the independent consultant will be submitted to the UGC in September 2020. Depending on the results of the RAE 2020, the UGC will finalise the revised funding formula.

研究用途撥款檢討

教資會整體補助金中的研究用途撥款是發放予大學的基建撥款，旨在資助大學聘請研究所需的職員、提供所需設施，以及資助一定程度的研究活動。

為加強香港研究工作的可持續發展、鞏固和推廣世界一流的 research，教資會於2019年初成立檢討研究用途撥款專責小組，並由獨立顧問提供協助。檢討工作審視現行研究用途撥款的計算方法，當中取決於兩大因素，即大學在研究評審工作的結果(74%)，以及在研資局資助計劃下成功獲得的撥款(26%)。專責小組已於2019年進行一系列的諮詢工作，並仔細考慮各持份者意見。獨立顧問亦根據數據模型分析，模擬不同情況下對撥款分配的影響，並檢視海外的經驗以擬備最終報告，並列出各項計算機制上變更建議的原因及所帶來的影響。教資會已於2020年7月與各大學進行另一輪的諮詢，以解釋計算機制上的建議改動。教資會會於2020年9月考慮由獨立顧問撰寫的最終報告。因應2020年研究評審工作結果，教資會會敲定研究用途撥款計算方式。



Support for Campus Development

The UGC supports universities in undertaking capital works projects for their evolving needs for teaching and research activities through non-recurrent grants. These include major projects funded under the Capital Programme as well as minor works under the Alterations, Additions, Repairs and Improvements (AA&I) Programme.

We are encouraged that the Legislative Council (LegCo) has approved a total of \$2,079 million in the 2019-20 legislative session for four capital projects, namely PolyU's Library Extension and Revitalisation project and three other projects involving provision of healthcare-related teaching facilities to cope with the substantial increase in healthcare-related training places in CUHK, PolyU and HKU. Besides, \$763 million was approved by the LegCo to meet the expenditure of 82 ongoing and new AA&I projects in 2020-21. The UGC will continue to render support for campus development, and ensure smooth implementation of these projects by the universities.

支持大學校園發展

因應大學在教學及研究活動方面不斷演變的需要，教資會以非經常補助金的形式，資助大學進行基本工程項目。這些項目包括「基本工程計劃」下的大型項目，以及在「改建、加建、維修及改善工程計劃」下的小型工程。

在2019-20立法年度，立法會共批准20億7,900萬元撥款，以供落實四項基本工程項目，即理大圖書館擴建及翻新工程，以及三項分別為中大、理大及港大提供醫療相關教學設施的項目，以應付大幅增加醫療培訓學額的需要，我們對此感到非常鼓舞。此外，立法會亦批准7億6,300萬元撥款，以應付82項現有及新增的「改建、加建、維修及改善」工程項目在2020-21年的開支。教資會將繼續支持大學校園發展，並確保大學順利推展這些工程項目。

PolyU's campus expansion at
Ho Man Tin slope
理大何文田斜坡校園擴展工程



PolyU's library extension and
revitalisation
理大圖書館擴建及翻新工程

University Accountability Agreement

The UAA is an important document that seeks to enhance accountability and transparency of the universities. Apart from setting out duties and responsibilities associated with public funding, the UAA also contains sector-wide performance measures and institution-specific key performance indicators in five key domains, namely (i) Quality of the student experience of teaching and learning; (ii) Quality of research performance and of research postgraduate experience; (iii) Knowledge transfer and wider engagement; (iv) Enhanced internationalisation; and (v) Financial health and institutional sustainability.

The UGC has recently considered the first set of UAA annual progress reports for the 2019-22 triennium submitted by the universities. The UGC is satisfied that universities have provided comprehensive accounts of their latest development in the reports. Noting the progress made by the universities on governance issues, such as strategic development, financial control as well as the monitoring and enhancement mechanisms that they have put in place, the UGC considers the progress reports highly informative and that they have served their intended purpose. The UGC has also analysed the quantitative information and identified aspects in which individual universities have progressed and excelled. With time, the accumulation of data may enable us to deepen our trend analysis, and gain further insights on the evolvement of individual universities over a longer time horizon. This will benefit the universities by facilitating their future planning and strategic development.

《大學問責協議》 (《協議》)

《協議》乃提升大學問責水平及透明度的重要文件。《協議》除列出大學各項與公帑資助有關的職責和責任外，亦載有各種表現指標，包括適用於衡量整個界別的標準和院校因應其個別情況自行制定的主要表現指標。兩者涵蓋五個主要範疇 - 1) 學生體驗教與學的質素; 2) 研究表現及研究生體驗的質素; 3) 知識轉移及公眾參與; 4) 加強國際化，以及5) 院校財務及可持續發展。

教資會近日已完成審閱大學就2019-22三年期《協議》提交的首份年度報告。教資會樂見報告全面地闡述了大學的最新發展，同時有助教資會了解大學在提升問責水平方面的工作進度，例如策略發展、財務管理，以及相關的監管及改善措施。教資會認為報告內容詳盡豐富，符合預期目的。另一方面，教資會就報告中的量化資料進行分析，以識別個別大學在不同方面取得的發展及卓越成就。隨著《協議》持續實施，我們可累積更多數據，以便進行深入的趨勢分析，從而更全面地了解各大學在一段長時間的變遷。有關分析將有利於大學的未來規劃及策略發展。