

# Highlights of Work and Activities 工作重點





## 2022-25 Triennium Planning Exercise

To take forward the Planning Exercise for the 2022-25 triennium, the UGC established the Sub-Group on Planning Exercise in December 2019, which is once again led by Sir Howard Newby, the former Vice-Chancellor of the University of Liverpool in the United Kingdom. The UGC will formally invite the submission of Planning Exercise Proposals from the universities for the 2022-25 triennium in 2020-21.

## Targeted Taught Postgraduate Programmes Fellowships Scheme

The Targeted Taught Postgraduate Programmes Fellowships Scheme was introduced on a pilot basis for five cohorts from the 2020/21 academic year by providing fellowships to meritorious local students to pursue targeted taught postgraduate programmes that meet Hong Kong's development needs. The UGC has formed a Working Group chaired by Sir Howard Newby to assess proposals from universities for the 500 fellowship places under the first cohort, and announced a list of 43 eligible programmes for the first cohort in February 2020.

## Quality Assurance

In 2019-20, the sub-degree audit cycle was concluded with the completion of the quality audits on the sub-degree operations of three universities, namely The Hong Kong Polytechnic University, The Education University of Hong Kong and Lingnan University. Meanwhile, the QAC is gearing up for the next round of quality audits that will cover all levels of studies.

## 2022-25三年期規劃工作

教資會已於2019年12月成立「規劃工作專責小組」，並再次由英國利物浦大學前校長Howard Newby爵士領導，處理2022-25三年期的規劃工作。教資會將於2020-21年正式邀請大學就2022-25三年期規劃工作提交《規劃工作建議書》。

## 指定研究院修課課程獎學金計劃

「指定研究院修課課程獎學金計劃」(獎學金計劃)於2020/21學年以先導形式推行，為期五屆，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。為此，教資會成立由Howard Newby爵士領導的專責小組，以審視大學就首屆獎學金計劃下500個獎學金名額所提交的建議書，並於2020年2月公佈獲納入首屆獎學金計劃的43個研究院修課課程名單。

## 質素保證

隨著三間大學(包括香港理工大學、香港教育大學及嶺南大學)的副學位部門質素核證工作已於2019-20年度完成，副學位質素核證週期亦隨之結束。與此同時，質保局正籌備進行下一輪的質素核證工作，並將涵蓋所有教學程度的課程。



## Teaching and Learning

The Teaching Development and Language Enhancement Grant provides a total of \$781.2 million in the 2019-22 triennium for universities to take forward worthwhile initiatives that seek to enhance teaching quality and language proficiency of students. We continue to honour those who excel in teaching through the annual UGC Teaching Award. The Hong Kong Teaching Excellence Alliance was established in October 2019, providing a new platform for our UGC Teaching Award Fellows to promote excellence in teaching and learning, thereby propagating best practices and deepen the impact of the UGC Teaching Award.

## Research Assessment Exercise 2020

The Research Assessment Exercise (RAE) 2020 progresses smoothly with contingency measures implemented in response to the social unrest in Hong Kong during the latter half of 2019 and the COVID-19 outbreak in 2020. Universities made submissions by the deadline of 30 December 2019 (extended from 16 December 2019). The thirteen RAE Panels conducted trial assessments from January to March 2020 to ensure consistent adherence to the published guidelines and assessment criteria. The formal assessment phase was commenced in March 2020 online and appropriate contingency measures have been put in place for the announcement of the RAE results in the first half of 2021.

## 教與學

在2019-22的三年期，教資會向大學提供教學發展及語文培訓補助金共7.812億元，讓大學推行具意義的措施，以提升教學質素及學生的語文能力。我們繼續透過每年舉辦的教資會傑出教學獎嘉許教學表現卓越的教師。香港高等教育卓越教學聯盟亦於2019年10月成立，為教資會傑出教學獎同仁提供一個新平台以推廣卓越教學，傳揚優良教學方法，並深化教資會傑出教學獎的影響力。

## 研究評審工作 2020

2020年研究評審工作正按計劃推行，教資會亦因應2019下旬香港的社會狀況以及2020年發生的新型冠狀病毒感染情況，不時檢視及制訂應對方案。大學已於2019年12月30日(由12月16日延期至12月30日)完成遞交所有研究。13個評審小組在2020年1月至3月期間已完成試驗評審，以確保各評審小組根據已公布的指引及準則進行評審。正式的評審工作已於2020年3月展開，並以網上會議形式進行。因應全球新型冠狀病毒感染的情況，教資會已制訂應對方案，務求於2021年上旬完成評審工作及公布研究評審工作結果。



## Research Endowment Fund Injection and Rationalisation of Different Pots of the Research Endowment Fund

The \$20-billion injection into the Research Endowment Fund (REF) was placed with the Hong Kong Monetary Authority in September 2019, increasing its size to \$46 billion to generate additional investment income. Rationalisation of different pots of endowment has also been introduced to allow more flexibility for transferring funds between the pots to facilitate greater efficiency and enhanced effectiveness in channeling resources strategically to meet the higher education sector's research requirement.

## Research Matching Grant Scheme

The novel Research Matching Grant Scheme commenced accepting applications from 1 August 2019 for a period of three years. Response from participating universities / institutions was favourable in the first two processing cycles with the submission of applications covering private donations / research contracts of around \$743 million. Corresponding matching grant amounting to about \$554 million has been allocated to the universities / institutions concerned.

## Three New RGC Fellowship Schemes

With the funding approval by the Legislative Council on the recurrent annual funding of \$190 million, the RGC has introduced in the 2019/20 academic year three new fellowship schemes to recognise research excellence and strengthen research capacity in our research community. They are RGC Postdoctoral Fellowship Scheme, RGC Research Fellow Scheme and RGC Senior Research Fellow Scheme.

## 向研究基金注資及理順研究基金內不同款項的運用限制

向研究基金注資的200億元，令基金總注資額增加至460億元，並已由香港金融管理局於2019年9月正式作出安排，以增加投資收益。理順研究基金內不同款項的運用亦同時生效，以容許研究基金轄下各筆款項的投資收入自由調配，從而有助研資局以更具效率和成效的方式，策略性地調配資源，以應付高等教育界的研究需要。

## 研究配對補助金計劃

開創性的研究配對補助金計劃已於2019年8月1日開始接受申請，為期三年。計劃得到參與大學／院校積極回應，於首兩季度遞交的申請涉及私營界別捐助／研究合約金額達7.43億元，已發放予有關大學／院校的配對補助金約為5.54億元。

## 研資局三項全新傑出學者計劃

繼立法會批准推展三項新計劃所需的每年約1.9億元經常開支後，研資局已於2019/20學年推行此三項新計劃，分別名為研資局博士後獎學金計劃、研資局研究學者計劃及研資局高級研究學者計劃，以期嘉獎卓越研究及加強研究界的研發能力。



## Review of Collaborative Research Funding Schemes

The RGC established the Collaborative Research Review Working Group in June 2019 to review its three collaborative research funding schemes, namely the Collaborative Research Fund, the Theme-based Research Scheme, and the Areas of Excellence Scheme, with a view to incentivising UGC-funded universities to conduct more collaborative research across disciplines and / or institutions.

## Liaison Group on Research

With the objective of strengthening coordination among government research funding agencies, the Liaison Group on Research (the Liaison Group), an interdepartmental platform, was set up in May 2019. The Liaison Group meets twice a year and as required to discuss issues of common interests regarding research policy and funding as well as any forms of collaboration among the research funding agencies, for the benefit of the research sector.

## Review of Research Grants Council (Phase II)

Phase II of the Review of the RGC, which focused on operational matters, commenced in 2018 and was completed in 2019. The RGC released the final review report in October 2019. The RGC formulated a plan on the implementation of the review recommendations in December 2019 which identified a number of key tasks including reviewing the RGC website, enhancing communication and engagement activities with the research community and appointing a consultant to undertake a review of RGC documents and external reviewer database.

## 協作研究檢討小組

研資局於2019年6月成立協作研究檢討小組，旨在檢視三項由研資局推行的協作研究撥款計劃，包括「協作研究金」、「主題研究計劃」及「卓越學科領域計劃」。研資局期望透過是次檢討，鼓勵教資會資助大學從事更多跨學科及／或跨院校的協作研究。

## 研究聯絡小組

為加強政府研究資助機構之間的協調，政府於2019年5月成立研究聯絡小組（聯絡小組）。聯絡小組每年召開兩次或按需要而舉行會議，在增進研究業界得益的前提下，於研究政策和資助的範疇內，討論各研究資助機構共同關心的議題，以及探討各種合作可能性。

## 研資局第二階段檢討

研資局第二階段檢討主要檢討運作事宜。檢討於2018年展開，並於2019年完成。研資局於2019年10月發表最終報告，其後於2019年12月制訂計劃落實建議。計劃的主要措施包括檢討研資局網頁、加強研究界別諮詢及參與工作，及委聘顧問檢討研資局文件和外部評審員資料庫。



## Review of Research Portion

To enhance the sustainability of the research in Hong Kong, the UGC has established the Working Group on the Review of Research Portion in early 2019. Its first phase of the review would consider the purposes of R-portion funding, coverage of various drivers and their weighting in the calculation methodology.

## 研究用途撥款檢討

為加強香港研究工作的可持續發展，教資會於2019年初成立檢討研究用途撥款專責小組。小組的第一階段檢討工作將會檢視研究用途撥款的目的、計算機制中涵蓋的研究資助項目及個別項目的比重等。