Briefing Note

Summary of matters considered on 27 April 2015 by the Senate Committee on Teaching and Learning

Brief Report on Progress of Professional Development Activities and Setting up of Communities of Practice 2012-15

1. The University’s brief report on progress of professional development activities and setting up of communities of practice (CoPs) 2012-15 had been submitted to the University Grants Committee (UGC) on 6 March 2015. The UGC had allocated a sum of HK$2 million as start-up funds for the establishment of CoPs and HK$2.542 million for meeting the extra teaching and professional needs in the 2012-15 triennium. A series of professional development activities had been carried out as planned, including workshops, retreats, conferences and seminars. A “Teaching Excellence Ambassador” (TEA) Programme website had been launched and the establishment of the CoPs with ambassadors recruited had facilitated the dissemination of good practices.

Academic Advisory System

2. The Committee noted the progress update of the implementation of the Academic Advisory System and the launch of the website on the System. A sharing session was held on 17 October 2014 and the Chairman and/or representative(s) from each Faculty Committee on Academic Advising reported and exchanged views on their implementation of the advisory system in the past year. To facilitate the reporting of the System for postgraduate students by each faculty, a revised checklist designed in consultation with the Office of Student Affairs (OSA) was used. The website on the System had also housed an updated version of the Handbook on the Implementation of the Academic Advisory System as well as a Q&A page.

Teaching and Learning Related Initiatives 2012-15

3. The Committee noted the results of the UGC additional funding on teaching and learning related initiatives for the 2012-15 triennium. The UGC had allocated an additional funding on teaching and learning related initiatives for the 2012-15 triennium totaling HK$82 million, comprising HK$57 million from the Government and HK$25 million matching from UGC-funded institutions taking part in the scheme. Two CUHK-led projects and ten projects led by sister institutions with CUHK’s participation amounting to HK$25 million and HK$51.7 million respectively were supported by the UGC. CUHK’s funding share in these 12 projects was HK$30.6 million and the University was required to contribute HK$9.2 million matching fund. Apart from these 12 projects, faculty members of the University also collaborated in five other projects led by sister institutions in which funding support from the University was not required.

Annual Report 2013-14 of the Senate Committee on Teaching and Learning

4. The Committee noted the annual report 2013-14 of the Committee for submission to the Senate at its Fourth Meeting (2014-15).
Teaching Development Grants for 2015-16 Roll-over Year

5. An amount of HK$7.794 million would be allocated to the University as Teaching Development Grants (TDGs) for the 2015-16 roll-over year to continue to encourage and promote innovative and improved methods of teaching. The Committee agreed to adopt the lines of TDGs allocation for the 2008-09 roll-over year for the allocation of the TDGs as well as the allocations of funds for professional development activities and Communities of Practice for the 2015-16 roll-over year. Faculties and the respective units would be requested to submit proposals for further consideration and approval by the Committee.