

THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

Briefing Note

Summary of matters considered at the Second Meeting (2021-22) of the Senate Committee on Teaching and Learning held on 31 May 2022

Task Force on Upholding Academic Honesty

1. The Committee noted the work done by the Task Force on Upholding Academic Honesty and the concerted efforts of the relevant committees and units of the University in upholding academic honesty.

Task Force on eLearning for SEN Students

2. The Committee noted the work done by the Task Force on eLearning for SEN students and the concerted efforts of the relevant committees and units of the University in enhancing the support to students with special education needs (SEN). The Committee also noted that apart from SEN students, support had also been provided to teachers to facilitate their teaching, and that there would be sharing by members of the Hong Kong Teaching Excellence Alliance, who were University Grants Committee (UGC) Teaching Awardees or Finalists, on addressing concerns of SEN students.

Teaching Development and Language Enhancement Grants 2019-22 and 2022-25

3. The Committee noted the updates of the Teaching Development and Language Enhancement Grant (TDLEG) 2019-22 and the letter of 18 February 2022 from the UGC on “Teaching Development and Language Enhancement Grant in 2022-25 Triennium”. The Committee also approved the proposed funding allocation of the TDLEG 2022-25, noting that an Overall Plan for the TDLEG for 2022-25 would be prepared for submission to the UGC by the end of June 2022.

New Grading Basis for Credit-bearing Courses

4. The Committee noted the background on the proposed new Distinction/Pass/Failure (DPF) grading for credit-bearing courses and the implementation details. The Committee also noted that the Senate Committee on Physical Education and the Physical Education Unit would discuss about the adoption of DPF grading by Physical Education courses, and, where appropriate, consider conducting a pilot for some courses to switch to the new grading. A different grading, namely PP (satisfactory attendance)/FF (unsatisfactory attendance) currently adopted for the College Assemblies, would not be affected. The Centre for Learning Enhancement And Research could provide examples on grade descriptors and rubrics for courses adopting DPF grading for inclusion in the University’s Policy on Assessment of Student Learning in Taught Programmes. The Committee endorsed the introduction of the new grading basis, which would be submitted to the Senate for approval.

Proposed Revisions to the University’s Policy on Assessment of Student Learning in Taught Programmes

5. The Committee noted the rationale for the revisions to the University’s Assessment Policy, including implementation of virtual teaching and learning, formulation of remedial as well as

precautionary measures at the University level to uphold academic honesty, and cultivation of an inclusive teaching and learning environment. Regarding the approval of online/blended courses by Faculty Boards, the Committee noted that a set of guidelines would be formulated. The Committee also agreed that the paragraph about information on diversity and inclusion should be revised for further consideration, and that all the proposed revisions would be submitted to the Committee at its next meeting.

Progress in Implementation of the CUHK Strategic Plan (Education) 2021-2025

6. The Committee noted the progress in implementation of the CUHK Strategic Plan (Education) 2021-2025, noting that an Action Plan (Education) with a proposed timeline was formulated to facilitate the implementation of CUHK Strategic Plan (Education) 2021-2025, and that all action items of the Action Plan (Education) were in good progress.

Summary Reports of Student Surveys

7. The Committee noted the Summary Reports of the following surveys:

- (a) Parts II and III of the Student Experience Questionnaire 2021; and
- (b) First Year Experience Questionnaire 2021.

Reports from the Faculties of Law and Science upon their Self-reflection on Programme Offering

8. The Committee heard the reports from the Associate Deans (Education) of the Faculties of Law and Science.

Pass/Failure Grading Option for Courses

9. The Committee heard about the response of students in a survey on Pass/Failure grading conducted by students, which was to request that Pass/Failure grading option for courses be given as their studies had been affected by the pandemic, noting that a summary report of the survey had been received and the student senators had been requested to submit a paper on the issue for consideration by the Senate Staff-Student Consultative Committee.

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