

LETTERHEAD OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

March 29, 2001

Mrs Sharon Tong
Clerk to Panel
LegCo Panel on Manpower
Legislative Council Building
8 Jackson Road
Central, Hong Kong

Dear Mrs Tong,

LegCo Panel on Manpower
Admission of Mainland Professionals Scheme

Thank you for your letter of March 16, 2001 and the enclosed information paper concerning the Admission of Mainland Professionals Scheme.

At this stage, the University of Hong Kong would like to offer two broad observations, as follows:

- (a) The Admission of Mainland Professionals Scheme should be regarded as an interim measure and must not be taken as a long-term solution to any manpower shortage situation. For the longer term, it is important for Hong Kong to train its own professionals. We are of the strong belief that the Government should give full support to the local tertiary institutions to enable each to play a leading role in providing the necessary education programmes in fulfillment of the local needs.
- (b) It is important for the Government to make sure its mechanism can properly and effectively identify areas where there is a shortage of talents or professionals, and establish whether its manpower requirement prediction is indeed reliable, so as to ensure that the Scheme will not adversely affect the job opportunities of local graduates.

I look forward to hearing further from you of the deliberations of your Panel.

Yours sincerely,

Professor W.I.R. Davies
Vice-Chancellor