

Panel on Administration of Justice and Legal Services
“Establishment of a Third Law School”

Supplementary Information

Purpose

Further to the meeting on 23 May 2005, this note provides supplementary information on the following items –

- (a) Number of LLB and PCLL places offered by the two existing law schools since 2000/01, and to be offered by the new law school;
- (b) overall estimated government funding required for the establishment of the new law school at the Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK), including the costs for the physical accommodation and other facilities and the staff costs, and the basis for determining such funding;
- (c) the levels of funding for the two existing law schools since 2000/01, and the basis for determining such funding, and whether and how the establishment of a new law school at CUHK might affect the allocation of resources for the other law schools.

Number of LLB and PCLL Places

2. The number of LLB and PCLL places offered by the university proper of City University of Hong Kong (CityU) and University of Hong Kong (HKU) since the 2000/01 academic year and to be offered by the new law school at CUHK is set out at Annex A. HKU itself does not offer any self-financing LLB programmes and therefore only data regarding the self-financing PCLL programmes offered by the university proper are provided.

Estimated Funding Requirement for the New Law School

Recurrent Funding

General Principles

3. The funding methodology adopted by the University Grants Committee (UGC) gives a reasonably rigorous and precise assessment of the resources required to meet the teaching and research targets of each institution, and includes an element of funding specifically related to performance of

institutions in research. The intention is that once allocations are approved, institutions should have a high degree of freedom and responsibility for determining the best use of the resources vested in them.

4. The basis of the funding methodology is a formula. However, the UGC recognises that even the most sophisticated formula is unlikely to capture fully the subtleties of needs within a complex educational system. The UGC therefore takes into account other issues, including the institutions' own requests for what we term as "extra formulaic adjustments".

5. The amount of recurrent grants that an institution receives under the formula depends heavily on its teaching and research activities, which are subject to numerous parameters such as the number of students, their areas of study, their level of study and the number of research-active staff.

Situation at CUHK

6. The number of publicly-funded places for law is one of the areas where the Administration gives the UGC advice on the requirements of Hong Kong. For 2005-08 period, the Administration advised that a modest increase would be appropriate. The increase at undergraduate level (LLB) was to come within the agreed 14 500 First-year-first-degree (FYFD) places. The increase at the taught postgraduate level (PCLL) would receive additional funding. Thus, all the institutions were well aware that if they wished to bid for the additional LLB places, the resources would need to be found from within their existing FYFD numbers. It was therefore up to CUHK to reallocate some of their FYFD numbers out of existing programmes into law to accommodate the new places. This they were prepared to do. The funding requirement for those LLB (50 in 2006/07 and 65 in 2007/08) has been met from the UGC recurrent grants as calculated using the formula detailed above. CUHK will receive additional funding for the PCLL places.

7. Since the law school at CUHK is an important and major new initiative, the UGC has agreed to provide an extra-formulaic earmarked grant of some \$52 million on top of the normal formulaic funding requirement to help CUHK to "start up" the law school (e.g. setting up of the law library, advance recruitment of staff for curriculum planning etc.) during 2005-08.

Capital Funding

8. CUHK plans to construct a new teaching building and part of it will be used to accommodate its law school. Detailed design is in progress and the schedule of accommodation is yet to be finalised. Therefore, we are not able to provide the estimated expenditure required for this building at this stage.

We will consult the Public Works Subcommittee and Finance Committee of this Council at an appropriate time in future when we seek funding approval.

Funding at the Law Schools at CityU and HKU

9. As mentioned in paragraph 3 above, institutions are autonomous in deciding their internal allocation of the recurrent funding received from the UGC, except on funding earmarked for specific purposes. CityU and HKU are being provided with financial resources calculated according to the established funding formula. And the establishment of the new law school in CUHK has had no impact on our assessment of the funding requirement at CityU and HKU.

10. Regarding the level of funding at the two existing law schools since 2000-01, Members are advised that it has been calculated according to the same funding formula, which has been in use since 1995-98 triennium. As shown in Annex A, the number of approved student intake to the UGC-funded LLB and PCLL programmes has remained essentially unchanged since 2001/02, save a small increase in the number of UGC-funded PCLL programmes at CityU in 2004/05.

11. As pointed out during the Panel meeting in May 2005, the UGC has not reduced the number of UGC-funded places for the LLB and PCLL programmes at CityU and HKU during the 2005-08 triennium and we are also funding all four years of their LLB programmes.

12. For Members' reference, the total amount of recurrent grants provided to CityU and HKU from 2001/02 to 2004/05 is set out at Annex B.

**Secretariat,
The University Grants Committee
September 2005**

Annex A

Number of Full-time and Part-time LLB and PCLL Places Offered by the Two Existing Law Schools since 2000-01, and to be Offered by the New Law School

UGC-funded Students

1. Number of Student Intake to UGC-funded LLB Programmes (2000/01 to 2007/08 Academic Years)

Headcount

Approved Student Intake

Institution	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08
CityU	75	48	48	48	48	48	48	48
CUHK	-	-	-	-	-	-	50	65
HKU	149	85	85	86	86	86	86	86

2. Number of Student Intake to UGC-funded PCLL Programmes (2000/01 to 2007/08 Academic Years)

Headcount

Approved Student Intake

Institution	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08
CityU	90	40	40	40	52.5	53	53	53
CUHK	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	36
HKU	155	133	123	117	117	117	117	117

Self-financing Students

3. Number of Self-financing Student Intake to LLB Programmes (2000/01 to 2007/08 Academic Years)

<i>Headcount</i>								
Institution	Actual ¹					Planned		
	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08
CityU	-	-	9	44	11	27 ²	Note 3	
CUHK	-	-	-	-	-	-		
HKU	-	-	-	-	-	-		

4. Number of Self-financing Student Intake to PCLL Programmes (2000/01 to 2007/08 Academic Years)

<i>Headcount</i>								
Institution	Actual ¹					Planned		
	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08
CityU	11	20	43	73	80	97 ²	Note 3	
CUHK	-	-	-	-	-	-		
HKU	-	173	112	99	165	130 ²		

Note :

1. As at 31 December of the relevant academic year.
2. Planned figures from institutions as at 30 June 2005 and subject to change.
3. Under planning. Finalised estimate not yet available.

Annex B

Total Recurrent Grants to CityU and HKU

(\$, million)

Institution	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05
CityU	1,615	1,552.4	1,527.5	1,500.1	1,326.9
HKU	2,697.4	2,568.4	2,544.5	2,519.1	2,247.4