

香港專業進修學校校長陳卓禧博士在
立法會教育事務委員會會議上
就 2010 年高等教育檢討報告的發言
二〇一一年三月十四日

尊敬的主席女士：

香港專業進修學校(港專)就大學教育資助委員會(教資會)的 2010 年高等教育檢討報告書(檢討報告)擬就了一份詳盡意見書，將會呈交教育事務委員會，在此僅就以下重點發言。

- (1) 本校支持教資會檢討報告的原則和背後精神，即要締造一個公平環境予院校辦學，以及促進院校間的良性競爭，以期整體提升自資專上教育界別的質素和水平，而不是以拉低水平來達至彼此平等。
- (2) 發展香港成為地區教育樞紐時應清楚界定本地院校的角色，以確保在引進海外院校及課程時能促進本地專上院校的發展和成長。
- (3) 支持檢討報告有關將三個質素保證機構整合的建議，而作為第一步，應盡快統一三個機構的質素保證的標準、機制和程序，以利學生實行學分累積和轉移，增加學生的流動性。當質素保證的標準、機制和程序統一後，院校應有自由選擇不同的質素保證機構，以促進這些機構的發展和進步。
- (4) 特區政府於 2001 年實施擴展專上教育政策以來，法例上十年未有作出任何配合，以致問題叢生。法例第 320 章應盡快作出修訂，以方便私立大學和副學位院校的成立和運作。
- (5) 本校十分欣賞特區政府在今年財政算成立 25 億的自資專上教育基金，希望政府為基金增加注資，以支持自資專上教育界別的發展。

謝謝！

(完)

31 March 2011

Ms. Michelle LI, JP
Deputy Secretary for Education
Education Bureau
Government Secretariat
The Government of HKSAR

Dear Ms. Li,

**Report of the UGC: "Aspirations for the Higher Education System
in Hong Kong" (December 2010)**

The Hong Kong College of Technology is grateful for being invited to giving views on the captioned Report which sets forth considerable and inspiring recommendations on the higher education system in Hong Kong. We appreciate the deliberations in the Report and would like to express our views on particular 5 areas as delineated below.

1. Funding Methodology, Institutions' Relationships with their Self-financing Operations and Efficiency (*Chapter 7*)

1.1 We, in general, support that **"public funds should not be used by UGC-funded institutions as cross-subsidies for self-financing educational activities" (*Recommendation 33*)** and that **"the community college operations of UGC-funded institutions should be completely separated from their parent institutions" (*Recommendation 34*)**. Such moves should bear an aim that a fair playing field is created and healthy competition promoted, and ultimately, the standard and quality of the whole higher education sector is raised.

1.2 Furthermore, for the best interest of Hong Kong, we would suggest that **the Government should clearly define the role of local institutions in**

making Hong Kong as a regional education hub. The bringing in of overseas institutions and programmes should serve to promote knowledge transfer, enhancing local academic capacity and supplementing local provisions.

2. Quality Matters (*Chapter 8*)

- 2.1 We support establishing **"a single quality assurance body for the whole post-secondary system"** (*Recommendation 35*) which is expected to build up an integrated, fair, reasonable, open and transparent system of quality assurance and accreditation. The establishment of new system should involve a thorough review of the existing procedures and practices of various quality assurance bodies, making up an improved and standardized set of policy and criteria. The definitions, procedures, lead time, charge and selection of panelists for accreditation services should also be made transparent and fair as built in the system and code of practice.
- 2.2 The single quality assurance body should be **accountable to the higher education sector including the stakeholders**. Therefore, users of quality assurance body, who are actually the stakeholders of the sector, should be involved in the governing structure of the body. This would better ensure a fair and comparable standard of quality assurance and accreditation policy.
- 2.3 As a start, **the existing standards, systems and practices of various quality assurance bodies should be aligned as soon as possible** in order to derive a standard practice fair to the stakeholders of the sector as a whole. This would also help to lay a solid foundation facilitating credit transfer and student mobility.
- 2.4 With the unified quality assurance standards and system, the higher education institutions should also have **choices of quality assurance**

bodies so as to promote the interaction with users and to raise the service standards.

3. Post-secondary Education System (*Chapter 3*)

3.1 We also support to have **“a single oversight body for the non-publicly funded part of the post-secondary education system” (*Recommendation 2*)** in a way that systems of student financial assistance can be revamped, like, some kind of “tertiary education voucher”. This would in turn help to support the non-publicly funded institutions in providing quality education.

3.2 Besides, “a single oversight body” would also facilitate efficient and effective use of resources in building up **sector-wide platforms**, like, library resources, scholarship and student development scheme, etc., the ultimate beneficiaries of which are the students.

3.3 **“A transparent and trustworthy Credit Accumulation and Transfer System... for the whole post-secondary system” (*Recommendation 6*)** is also beneficial to students and the sector as a whole. By this, students would be encouraged to make a coherent and lifelong learning plan with common currency of credits and greater flexibility in academic endeavours, strengthening Hong Kong’s position as a regional education hub. With an integrated system, articulation from lower to higher levels of studies among institutions and universities would be facilitated. The ultimate goal is to provide encouraging opportunities and ambiance for progressive learners.

4. Relationship with Mainland China (Chapter 5)

- 4.1 We share with the Report that **“the Government should initiate negotiations with relevant authorities on the Mainland with a view to easing regulatory requirements in teaching and research collaboration with Mainland institutions” (Recommendation 20)**. Increasing collaborations with the Mainland in teaching and research is a sector-wide demand. Both Mainland and Hong Kong students are pursuing opportunities for cross-border exposure and exchange, in academic learning and informal curriculum as well as internship. Easing the regulatory requirements and establishing related policies in aspects, like, accreditation procedures and credit recognition, would certainly facilitate closer collaborations, satisfying the demand of students, various professions and industries, and the society as a whole.

5. Cap. 320 and Private Universities

- 5.1 We appreciate that the goal of registration with Cap. 320 is to enhance education provision, contributing to the building up of education hub of Hong Kong. We also support the Education Bureau in reviewing and revising the procedures of Cap. 320 registration. We would suggest that a **timetable** is to be open to the sector so that institutions can make planning in a clearer term, and that **substantial funding support and resources** (eg., land) are provided for facilitating education contributions.
- 5.2 On the other hand, development of private universities is also contributive to Hong Kong as a whole. **Clear policy and government support** are also highly needed and should be appreciated.
- 5.3 In connection with the above, Cap. 320 should be revised to **accommodate both sub-degree offering and degree granting institutions**. This would also serve to foster a thriving and robust higher education sector in Hong Kong.

Conclusion

The College is very pleased to see the new insights generated by the Higher Education Review 2010. We envisage that the Report would usher Hong Kong's higher education sector in a new era of prosperity. We would be delighted to support the future development and actions for Hong Kong's higher education arising from the Report.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Chan Cheuk Hay'.

CHAN Cheuk Hay (Dr.)
President & Principal
Hong Kong College of Technology