

**For discussion on  
10 January 2011**

**Legislative Council Panel on Education**

**Development of a new Research and Academic Building  
by The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology**

**PURPOSE**

This paper briefs Members on the proposed capital works project for The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST) to develop a new research and academic building within its campus in Clear Water Bay.

**PROJECT SCOPE AND NATURE**

2. The project involves the construction of an 8-storey academic building, providing approximately 10 000 square metres (m<sup>2</sup>) in net operational floor area (NOFA).
3. The following facilities will be provided by the project –
  - (a) classrooms (NOFA of 1 000 m<sup>2</sup>);
  - (b) teaching laboratories (NOFA of 2 622 m<sup>2</sup>);
  - (c) research laboratories (NOFA of 4 700 m<sup>2</sup>);
  - (d) office facilities (NOFA of 1 000 m<sup>2</sup>); and
  - (e) support facilities such as meeting rooms and storage (NOFA of 678 m<sup>2</sup>).
4. The project also involves the construction of an access road leading from the existing road outside the project site to the future research and academic building, two link-bridges to an adjoining building, and landscaping works. The site plan and the view of the building (artist's impression) are at Enclosures 1 and 2.

## JUSTIFICATION

5. According to the results of the Review of Space Requirements Formula and Standards of the University Grants Committee (UGC)-funded institutions carried out by the UGC in 2006 and taking into account projects under construction, HKUST will have an estimated space shortfall of some 7 600 m<sup>2</sup> in NOFA by the 2012/13 academic year. The space shortfall lies mainly in teaching and research laboratories.

6. Currently, the teaching and research laboratories in HKUST are very congested. The project will address HKUST's requirement for both teaching space and research facilities. New facilities provided by the project will allow HKUST to pursue new research and educational initiatives, and facilitate research-based teaching, the search for new discoveries, the application as well as transfer of knowledge. To HKUST, the project is also a valuable opportunity to update its research and teaching environment.

7. Against the above background, HKUST proposes to construct a new research and academic building to provide some 10 000 m<sup>2</sup> of modern teaching and research facilities. HKUST will contribute from its own private funds 25% of the project cost to provide additional space above its space shortfall<sup>1</sup> to accommodate an increasing population of non-local students and privately-funded activities, e.g. self-financed academic programmes.

## FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

8. The latest estimated cost of the project is around \$484.9 million in money-of-the-day (MOD) prices. The Government will fund \$363.7 million, i.e. 75% of the construction cost. HKUST will contribute some \$121.2 million through its private sources of funding for the remaining 25% of the construction cost.

9. The project will have no impact on tuition fees. As the additional recurrent costs associated with this project will be absorbed by HKUST, the proposal will have no additional recurrent financial implications on the Government.

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<sup>1</sup> The project will provide about 7500 m<sup>2</sup> in NOFA for addressing HKUST's space shortfall. As such, the Government will fund 75% of the construction cost, and HKUST will be responsible for the remaining 25%.

## **IMPLEMENTATION TIMETABLE**

10. We plan to seek the approval of the Public Works Subcommittee and the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council for the proposed project on 9 February 2011 and 6 May 2011 respectively. Subject to funding approval by the Finance Committee, HKUST plans to start the construction works in the third quarter of 2011 for completion in the third quarter of 2013.

## **PUBLIC CONSULTATION**

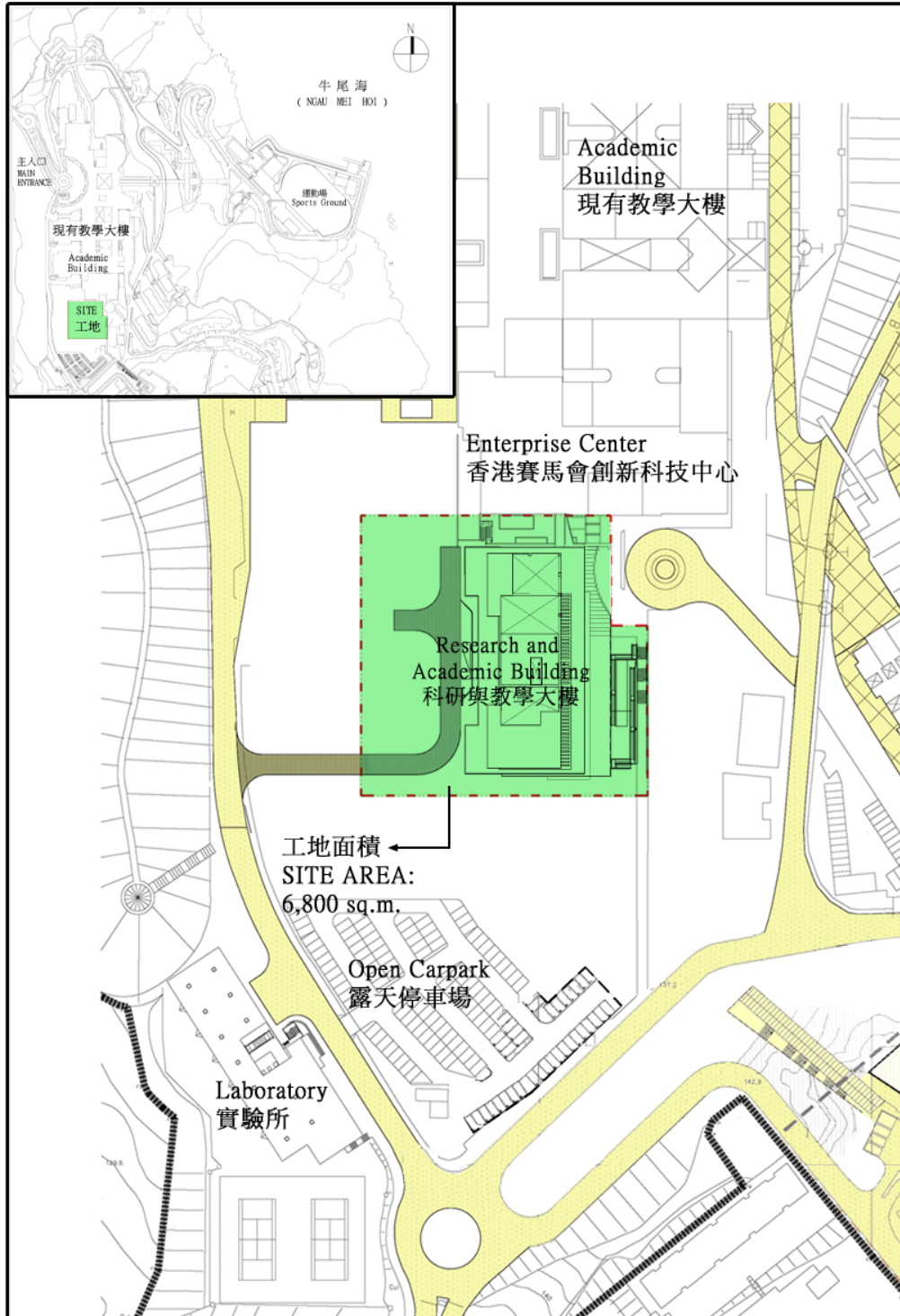
11. The project is located within the HKUST campus. There are no residential developments nearby, and the project will not affect residents in the vicinity. HKUST has consulted its staff and students, who expressed support to the project. On 17 September 2010, Members of the Sai Kung District Council attended a briefing on the progress of HKUST's Campus Development Plan and were briefed on the construction of the new research and academic building.

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Education Bureau  
January 2011

香港科技大學科研與教學大樓  
The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology  
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Site Plan 工地平面圖



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**View of the building (artist's impression) 外觀構思圖**

