



“Aspirations for the Higher Education System in Hong Kong”

Report of the University Grants Committee

Briefing for the LegCo Panel on Education
on 10 January 2011



“Aspirations for the Higher Education System in Hong Kong”

- ✓ UGC submitted its report to the Secretary for Education in early December 2010.
- ✓ The review was taken forward by the UGC’s Higher Education Review Group under the convenorship of Sir Colin Lucas.
- ✓ The Group consulted widely for the review.



Current Position in Post-secondary System

- ✓ Post-secondary sector is in good health, with real advances over the last 10 years.
- ✓ The report is not premised upon any identified need for a major system reform.
- ✓ Facing many challenges and opportunities, Hong Kong should move ahead.



Main Themes of the Report

- ✓ Need for an improved system level structure with clearer progression pathways.
- ✓ Need to press ahead with ensuring the UGC-funded institutions have excellent teaching, research and community engagement for the benefit of Hong Kong.
- ✓ Need for the higher education sector to help Hong Kong retain its uniqueness as an international city, and at the same time maintain a close relationship with the Mainland system.

UGC Sector

- ✓ UGC Sector institutions have unique roles to play and should strive for excellence
- ✓ Recent reforms within the UGC sector:
 - encourage institutions to put greater focus on teaching
 - a focus on outputs and outcomes (rather than inputs)
 - a move to a more competitive research funding regime

Internationalisation and Collaboration with Mainland China (1)

- ✓ The higher education sector has a crucial role to help Hong Kong retain its uniqueness as an international city, and maintain close relationship with the Mainland system.
- ✓ Institutions should enhance the international character of their faculty, students and curricula.



Internationalisation and Collaboration with Mainland China (2)

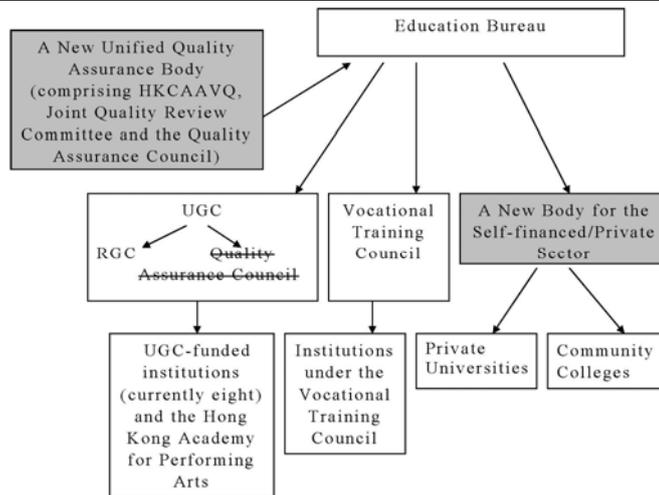
- ✓ Should strengthen local students' biliterate and trilingual abilities, provide them with more overseas exchange opportunities and enhance their competitiveness in a globalised world.
- ✓ Institutions should develop more research and graduate programmes combining Asian and Western perspectives, and deepen collaboration with the Mainland (in particular the Pearl River Delta).



Improved System-level Structure

- ✓ Expansion over a period of time has resulted in a fragmented and complex post-secondary education system. Need to treat the whole of the post-secondary provision as one system.
- ✓ The improved structure should have a comprehensive Credit Accumulation and Transfer System (CATS) and a single quality assurance body.

Proposed Structure of Various Bodies Regulating the Post-secondary Sector



(Shaded boxes denote those new bodies recommended to be established)

Thank You!