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Legislative Council of the HKSAR

Panel on Education

Meeting on 12 March 2012 at 4:30pm


in Conference Room 1 of the Legislative Council Complex

Academic freedom of universities

In view that the recent news report on academic freedom was being intervened in the issue of result release of HongCOMM Poll Survey on "Popularity of the 2012 Chief Executive Potential Candidates", HKBU Century Club would like to present the following views through the captioned meeting:

1. We consider Prof Zhao being hasty in releasing the poll results before the data collection of the full sample. That was inappropriate for an academic professor in doing research not according to the original research design.
2. We agree to HKBU Investigation Panel's findings that the Dean has made mistake but that the release of the survey has no political agenda, nor connection, nor financial interest with any political parties or persons. There is no evidence to indicate the questioning on the Dean's integrity.
3. We opine that HKBU has promptly handled the issue in an appropriate and fair manner. The Investigation Report has made a thorough understanding of the issue and was completed, and there is no evidence to suggest the need to continue the investigation.
4. We believe in HKBU's vision and mission of upholding the core values of higher education institutions, including academic freedom, independence in academic research, and institutional autonomy.

For and on behalf of Hong Kong Baptist University Century Club Limited

Submitted by : 
 Name : Marianna Tsang (President)
 Date : 28 February 2012