

中華人民共和國香港特別行政區政府總部教育局

Education Bureau

Government Secretariat, The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region
The People's Republic of China

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24 July 2019

Clerk to Finance Committee Legislative Council Legislative Council Complex 1 Legislative Council Road Central, Hong Kong (Attn.: Ms Anita Sit)

Dear Ms Sit,

Follow-up to meeting of the Legislative Council Finance Committee held on 28 June 2019

The items of "Injection into the Research Endowment Fund" and "Research Matching Grant Scheme" were discussed at the meeting of the Legislative Council Finance Committee held on 28 June 2019. At the said meeting, members requested the Government to provide supplementary information. The relevant information is set out in the ensuing paragraphs for Members' reference.

Statistics on research projects funded by the Research Grants Council (RGC) relating to social movements and wealth gap in the past decade

Tabulated below are the number of research projects funded by the RGC that were related to social movements and wealth gap in the past decade, the amount of funding approved, and the percentage out of the total number of funded research projects and of the total approved funding amount. It should be noted that the initiation of research proposals is a matter of institutional autonomy under which the universities and their staff have the authority to decide on their research disciplines and projects.

Research topic	No. of Projects (% total)	Amount of Funding Approved (\$m) (% total)
Social movements	21 (0.24%)	10.8 (0.20%)
Wealth gap	14 (0.19%)	8.9 (0.18%)

Note: The RGC does not define "social movement" and "wealth gap". The above figures only include projects with a title that mentions social movements or wealth gap.

The composition of the Panels under the RGC being responsible for reviewing research grant applications

The RGC aims to appoint the best available persons to meet the specific needs of the individual Panels / Committees. Each appointment is made on the basis of the merit of the candidate concerned, taking into account his/her ability, expertise, experience, integrity and commitment. The RGC would review regularly the composition of the Panels / Committees to ensure these Panels / Committees have the right balance and level of expertise. The membership lists (including overseas experts) of Panels / Committees under the RGC being responsible for reviewing research grant applications are set out on the RGC website (https://www.ugc.edu.hk/eng/rgc/about/membership.html) for public information.

Yours sincerely,

(Derek Lai)

for Secretary for Education

c.c. Secretary-General, University Grants Committee (Attn.: Mr David Leung)