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Miss Odelia LEUNG
Clerk to LegCo Panel on Education
Legislative Council Secretariat
Legislative Council
3/F, Citibank Tower
3 Garden Road
Hong Kong

Dear Miss Leung,

Response to the Motion Passed by the Panel on Education on 17 July 2008

Thank you for your letter dated 16 October 2008 and addressed to our Council Chairman. With reference to the Panel's motion urging the councils and administrative arms of all UGC-funded institutions to enhance the transparency of their governance by, *inter alia*, making public the minutes of and papers for their meetings, as well as establishing an elected independent inter-institutional complaints committee, the HKUST Council's bilingual response is attached.

Thank you for your attention.

Yours sincerely,


Catherine Lai
Secretary of the Council

Encl.

c.c. Secretary for Education
Secretary-General, University Grants Committee
Dr the Hon Marvin K T Cheung, GBS, JP
Chairman of the Council
Dr Michael H H Mak, JP
Vice-Chairman of the Council
Professor Paul C W Chu, President

就立法會教育事務委員會通過要求各教資會資助院校的校董會和行政部門提高管治透明度，包括公開會議紀錄及文件，以及設立跨院校的民選獨立申訴委員會的議案，香港科技大學（下稱「科大」）校董會作出以下回應

一直以來，科大透過各種途徑，如會晤商談、公開諮詢、發放電子郵件、通訊刊物及新聞稿等，積極與校內及校外人士保持緊密聯繫。校董會方面，對提升大學管治的透明度，更是不遺餘力。早前校董會採取主動，成功修改了大學條例，使職員及學生代表能以校董會委員身份，直接參予討論及議決各項關乎大學管治的事宜。

校董會將繼續尋求其他方法，積極擴闊目前的溝通渠道，以進一步提高大學管治的透明度。並已計劃把校董會會議的決議事項，除卻某些須予以保障的項目（如人事安排及敏感資料），安排於每次會議後通過大學內聯網發放。對外方面，大學亦會繼續將有關決議透過新聞稿發佈予各界人士。校董會深信以上措施，較諸公開校董會文件的做法，實際上更為可行。

至於議案中建議設立跨院校民選獨立申訴委員會的部分，校董會得悉大學校長會召集人已於二零零八年十月十六日以書面形式，透過教資會向立法會教育事務委員會作出回應。科大校董會對大學校長會的立場及意見，均表贊同。

Council's response to the motion of the Panel on Education of the Legislative Council in which the councils and administrative arms of all University Grants Committee-funded institutions are urged to enhance the transparency of their governance by, inter alia, making public the minutes of and papers for their meetings, as well as establishing an elected independent inter-institutional complaints committee

The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST) maintains active and effective communication channels within and outside of the University community, such as face-to-face discussions, open consultation forums, email broadcasts, newsletters, and press releases. The Council of HKUST is keen to enhance the transparency of governance. Recently, the Council has taken the initiative and succeeded in securing amendments to the University Ordinance, as a result of which staff and student representatives will participate directly in decision-making at Council meetings as full members.

The Council will further enhance the transparency of governance and reinforce the existing communication channels, by announcing through the intranet after each Council meeting the decisions taken, except where it relates to personnel or other sensitive matters that are subject to protection. Press releases will continue to be used as appropriate for communication outside of the University. The Council trusts that the above measures constitute a more pragmatic approach than making public the meeting documents of the Council.

Regarding the proposed establishment of an elected independent inter-institutional complaints committee, the Council endorses the view of the Heads of Universities Committee, as conveyed by its convenor in his letter dated 16 October 2008 to the Secretary-General of the University Grants Committee for onward transmission to the Panel on Education of the Legislative Council.