PANEL ON EDUCATION OF LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

The University of Hong Kong Ordinance (Cap. 1053)

The University of Hong Kong (Amendment) Bill 2008

INTRODUCTION

1. This paper provides information on matters of concern raised by the Hon. Emily LAU Wai-hing, J.P. about the Council of The University of Hong Kong (the "University").

Attendance Records of Council members

- 2. The Audit Commission of the Government published the Director of Audit's Report on the results of value for money audit in 2003. The Report made observations and suggestions on how the UGC-funded institutions could improve their governance, accountability, transparency and effectiveness. Recommendations of the Report were followed up by the Public Accounts Committee of the Legislative Council. Amongst the recommendations is to request the UGC-funded institutions to consider publishing the attendance records of their Council members for access by the public.
- 3. The University is fully aware that its governing Council, in fulfilling its responsibilities, is in effect discharging public duties. Hence, in moving towards good corporate governance, the University has released since December 2003 the records of attendance of individual members of the Council on its web page.
- 4. The attendance record of each of the University Council members can be viewed at http://www.hku.hk/hkuhome/about/governance/attendance.htm. A copy of such list downloaded from the web is attached at Annex A for reference.
- 5. The attendance records of the Council members are available for reference in considering possible membership re-appointments to the Council.

Public Access to Papers of the Council

6. The Panel on Education of the Legislative Council proposed, at its meeting on January 11, 2005, that the agenda and minutes of meetings of the Council of each University should be made public. The Clerk to the Panel, through the Convenor of the Heads of Universities Committee (HUCOM), requested all universities to consider the proposal of the Panel.

7. The Council, having deliberated the matter, felt that because of the sensitivity of issues discussed at its meetings (such as matters relating to the terms of appointment of individual staff members, or matter which were in its preliminary stage, awaiting deliberations and therefore were premature for early disclosure, or strategic issues which were not appropriate for disclosure), it was not appropriate to make all Council agenda and minutes public. The University is however mindful of the importance of maintaining transparency. It therefore undertakes to inform the public of the Council's decision and policy through different appropriate channels and mechanisms, whenever necessary and appropriate. In the past years, the Council indeed announced from time to time its resolutions in which the public had an interest through press conferences and press statements.

ENQUIRIES

8. Any enquiries about this paper can be directed to Mr. Henry Wai, Registrar, The University of Hong Kong, Pokfulam Road, Hong Kong, Tel No.: 2859 2222, Fax No.: 2546 0456.

Registrar The University of Hong Kong June 11, 2008



Attendance of Members at Council Meetings

Meeting date	Feb 27, 2007	Mar 20, 2007	Apr 10, 2007	May 22, 2007	Jul 11, 2007	Aug 28, 2007	Nov 20, 2007	Jan 29, 2008	Feb 20, 2008	Mar 18, 2008	May 27, 2008
Member											
Dr. Victor K.K. Fung (Chairman)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	Х	1	~
Professor Lap-Chee Tsui (Vice-Chancellor)	/	1	1	1	1	✓	1	1	1	1	✓
The Hon. Henry H.L. Fan (Treasurer)	✓	1	✓	Х	1	✓	1	1	1	1	✓
Dr. Chan Che-wai	✓	✓	✓	1	✓	Х	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
The Hon. Mr. Justice Patrick Chan	Х	1	х	1	1	Х	Х	1	1	✓	х
Mr. Christopher W.C. Cheng	✓	1	✓	1	1	✓	✓	1	1	✓	✓
Mr. Linus W.L. Cheung	/	Х	✓	1	1	1	✓	1	1	1	х
Mr. Cheung Pok-yin	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	✓
Mr. Yuki C.M. Chong	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	~
Mr. Paul M.Y. Chow	✓	✓	Х	х	✓	✓	✓	✓	•	х	х
Ms. Wendy K.S. Gan	1	х	✓	1	1	1	х	1	1	х	✓
Mr. Danny D.B. Ho	1	1	✓	х	1	1	1	1	1	1	х
Mr. Kwok Wing-kin	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓
Dr. the Hon. Leong Che-hung	1	1	✓	1	1	1	Х	1	1	1	✓
Dr. York Liao	х	1	1	1	Х	Х	1	1	1	х	1
Mr. Man Cheuk-fei	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	1	✓	X	1	1	✓
Professor Ng Tung-sang	1	1	Х	1	1	1	✓	1	1	1	✓
Mr. Raymond C.F. Or	х	1	✓	х	X	✓	1	X	1	Х	✓
Mr. Jack C.K. So	/	1	✓	х	1	Х	Х	X	1	Х	✓
Dr. John E. Strickland	1	1	✓	1	Х	✓	✓	1	1	✓	✓
Dr. Patrick H. Toy	✓	✓	✓	X	1	✓	✓	✓	✓	Х	х
Mr. Allan C.Y. Wong	1	Х	1	X	1	Х	1	1	X	1	✓
Dr. Albert T.C. Yeung	✓	✓	✓	1	✓	✓	✓	1	✓	✓	✓

- # Special meeting
- Present at meeting
- x Absent from meeting
- \triangle Withdrawn from meeting because of conflict of interest