For information

Legislative Council Panel on Education

Development of an extension to the existing Academic Building by The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology

PURPOSE

This paper briefs Members on a proposed capital works project for the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST) to develop an extension to its existing Academic Building within the University campus in Clear Water Bay.

JUSTIFICATION

2. The new academic structure for senior secondary education and higher education (i.e. the "3+3+4") will be implemented starting from the 2009/10 academic year. The first cohort of senior secondary students will undergo a four-year undergraduate programme starting from the 2012/13 academic year. The University Grants Committee (UGC)-funded institutions, including HKUST, need to expand their campus space and facilities in order to accommodate the additional students under the new four-year undergraduate programme and to provide a suitable teaching and learning environment in support of the new academic structure.

3. HKUST plans to carry out two capital works projects¹ to provide additional space and facilities of some 15 500m² in net operational floor area (NOFA) within its campus for implementation of "3+3+4", one of which is to construct an extension to its existing Academic Building of some 3 000m² in NOFA to create additional teaching and learning facilities. The project involves expansion of each of the five levels of the Academic Building so that additional facilities such as open laboratories, classrooms, study space, library facilities, offices and student/staff amenities can be provided. The proposed extension will also facilitate self-study and co-operative learning by providing space and facilities in the study area within the University

_

The other "3+3+4" capital works project is the construction of a new Academic Building. HKUST is working on the project details and intends to submit it to the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council for consideration within the current legislative session.

Library. HKUST also plans to redistribute its library services to facilitate the creation of student-based learning centres. The proposed extension to the HKUST Academic Building will provide an infrastructure nurturing a multiple and mixed environment for whole-person education and self-study learning.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

4. The estimated cost of the project is \$90.8 million in money-of-the-day prices. The project will have no impact on tuition fees. The additional recurrent costs associated with this project will be absorbed by HKUST. The proposal has no additional recurrent implications on the Government.

IMPLEMENTATION TIMETABLE

5. We plan to seek the approval of the Public Works Sub-committee and the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council for the proposal on 20 December 2007 and 11 January 2008 respectively. Subject to funding approval of the Finance Committee, HKUST plans to start the construction works in mid 2008 for completion in mid 2010.

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

6. The project is an extension to an existing academic building located within the HKUST campus. There are no residential developments nearby, and the project will not affect residents in the vicinity. HKUST has consulted its staff and students, who have expressed support to the project.

Education Bureau December 2007

香港科技大學現有教學大樓擴建工程的工地平面圖 Site plan for the development of an extension to the existing Academic Building by The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology

