



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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15 February 2013

Miss Polly Yeung  
Clerk to Panel on Education  
Legislative Council Complex  
1 Legislative Council Road  
Central, Hong Kong

Dear Miss Yeung,

**LegCo Panel on Education**  
**Closure of the Sacred Heart Canossian College of Commerce**

In response to your letter of 31 January 2013 regarding the letter dated 30 January 2013 from Dr Hon Kenneth Chan and the closure of the Sacred Heart Canossian College of Commerce (the College), our reply is as follows.

This Bureau is aware of the announcement made by the Canossian Daughters of Charity in Hong Kong on 4 February 2013 that all the programmes run by the College would cease to admit new applicants. After serious consideration of the views from students and parents, the College decided to continue offering the second-year programme to first-year students currently on a two-year Higher Diploma programme, so that these students may complete their studies with the College. For those who plan to switch to other institutions, the College has also made necessary arrangements and obtained the consent of some institutions to admit these students to the second year of relevant programmes. As informed by the College, the parents and students affected are generally satisfied with the above arrangements.

Looking ahead, we expect a continuous drop in the population of the relevant age cohort. While we will remain committed to providing flexible and diversified study pathways with multiple entry and exit points, it is also time for the sector to consolidate sub-degree programmes and seek refinements in terms of both quantity and quality. On quantity, the Education Bureau has all along been maintaining dialogue with the sector. With the establishment of the Committee on Self-financing Post-secondary Education in April last year, an appropriate platform is now available for the sector to look at issues such as the demand and supply of intake places from macro and strategic perspectives. On quality, it is imperative that institutions should strengthen both teaching and learning, enhance the development of professional and vocational competencies, and have due regard to the long-term manpower needs of our society. These will help ensure employers' recognition of the quality of graduates and the qualifications conferred by the programme.

Yours sincerely,



( Ms Pecvin YONG )  
for Secretary for Education