



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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10 April 2013

Clerk to Panel
Legislative Council Panel on Education
Legislative Council Complex
1 Legislative Council Road
Central
Hong Kong
(Attn: Miss Polly Yeung)

Dear Miss Yeung,

**Legislative Council Panel on Education
Selection of Presidents of Local Universities**

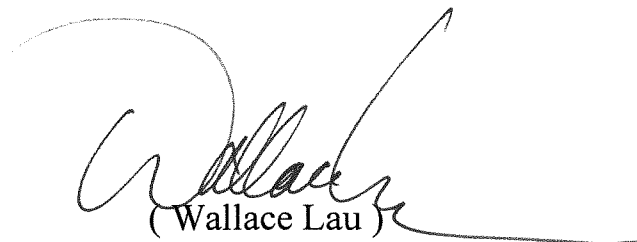
I refer to your letter of 22 March 2013.

The eight University Grants Committee (UGC)-funded institutions are independent bodies governed by their respective ordinances and enjoy a high degree of academic freedom and institutional autonomy. The power of appointment of the Presidents of all UGC-funded institutions, by law, rests with their respective Councils. Each Council draws up its own procedures for the appointment of a President in accordance with the relevant statutory requirements and on the basis of the long-term needs of the institutions. According to the institutions, a rigorous search process and extensive consultation with relevant stakeholders (including staff, students and alumni) are in place to ensure that only the best qualified candidates are selected for appointment.

As a matter of principle, the Government and the UGC respect the autonomy of the institutions and will not interfere with their internal appointment matters. We are confident that the respective Councils of the institutions will continue to exercise their power of appointment of the Presidents in accordance with the relevant statutory provisions and having regard to the long-term interests of the institutions.

Thank you for your interest in the matter.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Wallace Lau', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

(Wallace Lau)
for Secretary for Education

cc. Secretary-General, University Grants Committee