

**立法會**  
**Legislative Council**

LC Paper No. CB(4)1207/18-19  
(These minutes have been seen  
by the Administration)

Ref : CB4/PL/ED

**Panel on Education**

**Minutes of meeting**  
**held on Friday, 1 March 2019 at 10:45 am**  
**in Conference Room 3 of the Legislative Council Complex**

**Members present** : Hon IP Kin-yuen (Chairman)  
Hon Vincent CHENG Wing-shun, MH (Deputy Chairman)  
Hon LEUNG Yiu-chung  
Hon Abraham SHEK Lai-him, GBS, JP  
Hon Starry LEE Wai-king, SBS, JP  
Dr Hon Priscilla LEUNG Mei-fun, SBS, JP  
Hon Mrs Regina IP LAU Suk-ye, GBS, JP  
Hon Claudia MO  
Hon MA Fung-kwok, SBS, JP  
Hon Charles Peter MOK, JP  
Hon CHAN Chi-chuen  
Hon LEUNG Che-cheung, SBS, MH, JP  
Hon Dennis KWOK Wing-hang  
Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG Chiu-hung  
Dr Hon Helena WONG Pik-wan  
Dr Hon CHIANG Lai-wan, SBS, JP  
Ir Dr Hon LO Wai-kwok, SBS, MH, JP  
Hon CHU Hoi-dick  
Hon Jimmy NG Wing-ka, JP  
Dr Hon Junius HO Kwan-yiu, JP  
Hon HO Kai-ming  
Hon Holden CHOW Ho-ding  
Hon SHIU Ka-chun  
Hon Tanya CHAN  
Hon CHEUNG Kwok-kwan, JP  
Hon HUI Chi-fung  
Hon LUK Chung-hung, JP  
Hon LAU Kwok-fan, MH  
Dr Hon CHENG Chung-tai  
Hon Gary FAN Kwok-wai  
Hon AU Nok-hin  
Hon CHAN Hoi-yan

**Members absent** : Hon Tommy CHEUNG Yu-yan, GBS, JP  
Hon Michael TIEN Puk-sun, BBS, JP

**Public Officers attending** : Agenda item III

Mr Kevin YEUNG, JP  
Secretary for Education

Mr Rex CHANG, JP  
Deputy Secretary for Education (1)

Professor James TANG  
Secretary-General  
University Grants Committee

Professor Benjamin W WAH, JP  
Chairman  
Research Grants Council

Agenda item IV

Mr Kevin YEUNG, JP  
Secretary for Education

Mr Rex CHANG, JP  
Deputy Secretary for Education (1)

Task Force on Review of Self-financing Post-secondary Education

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Professor Anthony CHEUNG, GBS, JP  
Chairman

**Attendance by invitation** : Agenda item IV

Federation for Self-financing Tertiary Education

Prof YUEN Pok-man Peter  
Chairman

President Club of Self-financing Degree-awarding Institutions

Dr CHUI Hong-sheung  
Representative

Hong Kong Professional Teachers' Union

Dr FUNG Wai-wah  
President

Hong Kong Federation of Education Workers

胡少偉博士  
副主席

The Student Union of Hong Kong Shue Yan University

Miss Kristine LAI  
臨時行政小組組長

**Clerk in attendance** : Ms Angel WONG  
Chief Council Secretary (4)4

**Staff in attendance** : Miss Mandy NG  
Senior Council Secretary (4)4

Ms Sandy HAU  
Legislative Assistant (4)4

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**I. Information paper(s) issued since the last meeting**

(LC Paper No. CB(4)579/18-19(01) -- Joint letter dated 28 January 2019 from Dr Hon CHIANG Lai-wan, Hon CHEUNG Kwok-kwan and Dr Hon Elizabeth QUAT concerning school bullying

LC Paper No. CB(4)579/18-19(02) -- Administration's written response dated 22 February 2019 to the joint letter dated 28 January 2019 from Dr Hon CHIANG Lai-wan, Hon CHEUNG Kwok-kwan and Dr Hon Elizabeth QUAT concerning school bullying)

Members noted that the above papers had been issued since the last meeting.

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**II. Items for discussion at the next meeting**

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| (Appendix I to LC Paper No.<br>CB(4)577/18-19 | -- List of outstanding items for<br>discussion |
| Appendix II to LC Paper No.<br>CB(4)577/18-19 | -- List of follow-up actions)                  |

Items for discussion at the next regular meeting

2. Members agreed to discuss the following items at the next regular meeting on 29 March 2019 at 10:45 am:

- (a) Review of the directorate manpower and organizational structure of the Education Bureau ("EDB");
- (b) Report of the Task Force on Professional Development of Teachers; and
- (c) Payment for the examination fees for school candidates sitting for the 2020 Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education Examination.

*(Post-meeting note: At the request of the Administration and with the concurrence of the Chairman, item 2(b) above had been retitled as "Improving the manpower at the middle management level and rationalizing salaries for school heads and deputy heads in public sector primary schools".)*

3. Dr CHIANG Lai-wan requested the Panel to discuss the arrangement of providing a one-off grant of \$2,500 to needy students as proposed in the 2019-2020 Budget ("the Budget") at the next regular meeting. Ms Tanya CHAN considered that members could discuss initiatives proposed in the Budget at the upcoming special meetings of the Finance Committee ("FC"). The Chairman advised that members might also request the Administration to provide more information in writing.

Proposed items for discussion at future meetings

4. The Chairman advised that the Administration proposed to discuss a number of items at the forthcoming meetings, namely capital works projects, staffing proposals, as well as five review reports on key education areas. As such, the Panel might not have sufficient time to discuss issues raised by members before the end of the current legislative session. An additional meeting might have to be scheduled in May 2019. Members raised no objection.

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5. The Chairman and the Deputy Chairman informed members that a joint Panel meeting with Panel on Welfare Services would be convened to follow-up the recommendations of the Task Force on Prevention of Youth Suicides. The Deputy Chairman said that as proposed in the Budget, the Administration would implement the measure of "two school social workers for each school", which also addressed the issue of student suicide.

**III. New resources to further support the research conducted by the higher education sector and the funding policy of the Research Grants Council**

(LC Paper No. CB(4)577/18-19(01) -- Paper provided by the Administration

LC Paper No. CB(4)577/18-19(02) -- Updated background brief on issues related to the Research Endowment Fund prepared by the Legislative Council Secretariat

LC Paper No. CB(4)577/18-19(03) -- Submission from The Education University of Hong Kong

LC Paper No. CB(4)577/18-19(04) -- Submission from City University of Hong Kong

LC Paper No. CB(4)577/18-19(05) -- Submission from Lingnan University

LC Paper No. CB(4)586/18-19(01) -- Submission from The Hong Kong Polytechnic University)

Briefing by the Administration

6. The Secretary for Education ("SED") briefed members on the proposed injection of \$20 billion into the Research Endowment Fund ("REF"), rationalization of the use of different pots of endowment of REF, launch of the \$3-billion Research Matching Grant Scheme ("Research MGS"), and the funding policy of the Research Grants Council ("RGC"). Details of the briefing were set out in the Administration's paper [LC Paper No. CB(4)577/18-19(01)]. Professor Benjamin WAH, Chairman of RGC then gave a PowerPoint presentation on RGC.

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Declaration of interest

7. Dr Priscilla LEUNG declared interest as an academic staff of the School of Law, City University of Hong Kong. Mr AU Nok-hin declared interest as an academic staff of The Chinese University of Hong Kong ("CUHK"). Mr SHIU Ka-chun declared interest as an academic staff of Hong Kong Baptist University ("HKBU"). Dr Helena WONG declared interest as an academic staff of the General Education Centre of The Hong Kong Polytechnic University. The Deputy Chairman declared that his wife was a part-time teaching staff in universities.

Discussion

*Research funding mechanism*

8. Dr Priscilla LEUNG considered that the Administration should attach equal weight to the development in science and arts. However, the 2019-2020 Budget put greater emphasis on sciences than arts. Moreover, she was particularly concerned that RGC gave preference to research projects in science disciplines over arts disciplines when considering grant applications. Under such research funding allocation mechanism, the fastest promoted academic staff members in universities were those in science disciplines. She further pointed out that RGC gave higher regard to research projects on international issues than those on local issues, discouraging the conduct of Hong Kong-based research.

9. Mr SHIU Ka-chun and Mr AU Nok-hin shared similar concern that RGC always tilted in favour of research projects in science and technology. Mr SHIU pointed out that the success rate of science research proposals (51.8%) was much higher than that of humanities and social sciences research proposals (26.7%) in applying for General Research Fund. Also, only seven research projects were funded under the Humanities and Social Sciences Prestigious Fellowship Scheme in 2018-2019. In his view, the research funding allocation mechanism should be improved with a view to allocating more resources to facilitate research work on humanities and local policy issues. Mr AU said that the Administration should help ensure a balanced development of Hong Kong by giving equal weight to sciences and arts and allocating more resources for policy research in the higher education sector.

10. Mr SHIU Ka-chun further remarked that the University Grants Committee ("UGC") had accorded a higher priority to business-related disciplines over arts disciplines when allocating student places under the competitive allocation mechanism. To his understanding, universities were encouraged by UGC to develop new programmes, such as wine industry management and cultural management, to support the development of various industries. As a result, some

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academic departments were eliminated, jeopardizing institutional autonomy. In his view, the competitive allocation mechanism was unfair and should be reviewed.

11. Dr Helena WONG was concerned about the unfair treatment against humanities and social sciences research under competitive research funding schemes. Humanities and science research projects were assessed with the same criteria. As a result, humanities research projects were generally allocated less funding. She suggested that RGC should make reference to overseas experience, such as the United Kingdom, and consider adopting different mechanism for assessment of research proposals in different disciplines, or alternatively explore measures to ensure a balanced distribution of research funding among disciplines.

12. Dr Priscilla LEUNG said that the appointment of non-local experts to be the Chairpersons of Committees/Panels which assessed research proposals could not achieve the objective of avoiding perceived conflicts of interest. In her view, an appeal channel should be established for handling disputes relating to assessment result.

13. SED stressed that the Administration encouraged and supported research across all disciplines. The proposed injection of \$20 billion into REF and \$3-billion Research MGS aimed at further supporting the research work in all disciplines of the higher education sector. After obtaining funding approval from FC, RGC would allocate research funding to universities according to the established mechanism. There was no predetermined allocation ratio for different disciplines.

14. Chairman of RGC supplemented that RGC adopted a criterion-referenced standard in evaluating the quality of a research proposal. Whether a proposal was funded or not depended purely on the academic standard or merit of the proposal. Generally speaking, most STEM-related research projects required considerable resources for special equipment and laboratory while research projects in the humanities and social sciences disciplines normally only required funding for relief teachers. Hence, there might be a great difference in the amount of funding between these disciplines.

15. The Chairman said that the performance of an university would generally be assessed in terms of the amount of research funding received. As research projects in the humanities and social sciences disciplines only required funding for relief teachers, he suggested that the relief time of academics should be quantified for funding allocation purpose to ensure fairness. Chairman of RGC advised that the performance of academics would be assessed objectively having regard to their disciplines and categories of research projects.

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16. Dr Helena WONG sought information on measures taken/to be taken by RGC to ensure fair assessment of research proposals, and equitable distribution of research funding among different disciplines. SED undertook to provide the information before submitting the funding approval to FC.

*(Post-meeting note: The Administration's response was issued to members vide LC Paper No. CB(4)731/18-19(01) on 8 April 2019.)*

17. Mr AU Nok-hin drew the Administration's attention to the unfair distribution of funding among universities. Due to insufficient funding resources, Hong Kong Shue Yan University ("HKSYU") could hardly develop research activities. SED advised that three funding schemes were established by RGC for supporting the research projects of local self-financing degree sector. Moreover, the new Research MGS would be provided for application by all local degree-awarding institutions including self-financing institutions.

*Teaching and research staff in the higher education sector*

18. Dr Fernando CHEUNG said that the funding arrangement of UGC had made universities focus too much on research results and overlook teaching quality. In order to strive for more research funding to increase their resources, universities offered attractive remuneration packages for professoriate staff with high research output. For academic or research staff, universities only recruited them on contract or part-time basis. He was worried that such trend towards casualization of staff in the higher education sector would affect research and teaching quality, and enquired whether UGC or EDB would put in place measures to avoid casualization of staff.

19. Secretary-General of UGC undertook to relay members' views and concerns to universities and advised that teaching and research development were of equal importance to universities. In fact, funding for teaching purposes represented 75% of the block grants provided to UGC-funded universities. On staff issues, SED explained that universities enjoyed institutional autonomy in staff recruitment and management. As research funding granted by RGC was time-limited, it might be difficult for universities to employ staff on tenure.

20. In response, Dr Fernando CHEUNG said that while upholding the institutional autonomy, UGC should bring about improvements to the governance of UGC-funded universities including resource utilization, which would be conducive to teaching and research development. Sharing similar concern that teaching and research performance were equally important to universities, the Chairman said that with the provision of new resources, UGC should remind universities to improve the remuneration for academic staff and establish an effective funding allocation mechanism so as to maintain a stable teaching force.



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21. Dr CHENG Chung-tai remarked that under the existing system, it was difficult for local young scholars to develop their career in the higher education sector. He urged the Administration to provide more support and training to young scholars at their early career. In response, SED stressed that university staff members were employed on a merit basis without any preferential treatment to any particular group of applicants. Meanwhile, the Administration welcomed suggestions of ways to nurture local talents for the higher education sector.

22. Mr MA Fung-kwok noticed that due to the declining number of local students enrolling in research postgraduate ("RPg") programmes, local universities had a very high proportion of non-local RPg students. However, only around 30% of non-local students on average stayed and worked in Hong Kong after graduation. He enquired about the number of non-local RPg graduates engaged in research work in the past few years and whether measures would be in place to incentivize more local students to pursue RPg programmes and non-local RPg graduates to stay in Hong Kong to engage in research work with the provision of new resources.

23. SED advised that the Administration was aware of the declining number of local RPg students. However, in order to attract the best talents worldwide to enhance the quality of research in Hong Kong, RPg students were admitted on a merit basis, taking into account the students' academic results and research capability, regardless of their place of origin. It was considered that research development in the higher education sector would be affected if the maximum number of non-local RPg students was capped. On the contrary, EDB had launched a series of initiatives to attract more local students to pursue RPg studies and more non-local RPg graduates to engage in research work in Hong Kong. The initiatives taken included provision of tuition waiver for local students enrolled in UGC-funded RPg programmes, provision of fellowships, relaxing employment and immigration restrictions to allow non-local graduates to stay in Hong Kong for employment after graduation, etc.

*Research funding for the higher education sector*

24. Dr Helena WONG expressed concern about the low investment return from the Exchange Fund ("EF"). She was worried that given the volatilities of the investment market, the proposed injection of \$20 billion into REF would not yield good returns if it was to be placed with EF. She suggested exploring other investment schemes which generated higher investment returns or paid monthly dividends to ensure stable research funding.

25. SED explained that funds with higher investment return would involve a high investment risk, as a general rule. To ensure prudent use of public money, the Administration considered it most appropriate to place REF with EF for investment after balancing investment risk and return. In fact, the return of

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investment of EF had a good track record of investment although it was lower than the expected level in recent years. As it would take a year to generate investment return of REF, the Administration would discuss with UGC and RGC if a small part of the principal might be used if situation warranted. SED further assured members that substantial new funds would be provided to support research development in the higher education sector in the long run.

26. Mr LUK Chung-hung said that to his understanding, many research activities of overseas universities were supported by private funds. However, private funds only accounted for 15% of the total research income of UGC-funded universities. He was concerned as to whether the percentage of private funding for research development in Hong Kong was much lower than those in other economies. He called on the Administration to offer assistance to universities in diversifying sources of funding, with a view to promoting research and development ("R&D") activities through enhancing collaboration among the industry, academic and research sectors.

27. SED advised that the Administration had all along devoted effort in this direction. For example, Research MGS was proposed to incentivize the private sector to strengthen financial support for R&D for the purpose of diversifying the funding sources for research activities. In addition, the introduction of the enhanced R&D tax deduction regime in 2018 also aimed at encouraging more enterprises to conduct R&D activities in Hong Kong.

### Motions

28. The Chairman referred members to the three motions respectively proposed by Mr SHIU Ka-chun, Dr Fernando CHEUNG and Dr Helena WONG (wording of motions in **Appendices I to III**).

29. The Chairman put to vote the motion moved by Mr SHIU Ka-chun. Eleven members voted for the motion, no member voted against and one member abstained. The Chairman declared that the motion was carried.

30. The Chairman put to vote the motion moved by Dr Fernando CHEUNG. Eleven members voted for the motion, no member voted against and one member abstained. The Chairman declared that the motion was carried.

31. The Chairman put to vote the motion moved by Dr Helena WONG. Ten members voted for the motion, no member voted against and two members abstained. The Chairman declared that the motion was carried.

### Summing up

32. The Chairman concluded that the Panel supported the Administration's submission of the funding proposal for consideration by FC.

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**IV. Review of Self-financing Post-secondary Education**

(LC Paper No. CB(4)577/18-19(06) -- Paper provided by the Administration

LC Paper No. CB(4)577/18-19(07) -- Background brief on the review of self-financing post-secondary education prepared by the Legislative Council Secretariat)

Written submissions from deputations not attending the meeting

(LC Paper No. CB(4)586/18-19(05) -- Submission from Youth Policy Advocators

LC Paper No. CB(4)586/18-19(06) -- Submission from Demosisto Hong Kong)

Briefing by the Administration

33. SED briefed members on the recommendations of the Task Force on Review of Self-financing Post-secondary Education ("the Task Force") and the Administration's follow-up actions, details of which were set out in the Administration's paper [LC Paper No. CB(4)577/18-19(06)].

Oral presentation by deputations

34. Five deputations were invited to present their views at the meeting. Their major views were summarized in **Appendix IV**.

Response by the Administration

35. SED noted deputations' diverse views about the development of the self-financing post-secondary sector and stressed that the Administration was studying the recommendations of the Task Force which set out a clear direction for the development of the sector. Initially, the Administration agreed that there was a need to review the Post Secondary Colleges Ordinance (Cap. 320), strengthen the role and functions of the Committee on Self-financing Post-secondary Education, and review the accreditation standards and practices of the Hong Kong Council for Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications. The Administration would continue to gauge views from stakeholders on how to take forward the Task Force's recommendations.

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Discussion

*Regulatory framework for self-financing institutions*

36. Dr Helena WONG said that the Democratic Party supported the Task Force's recommendations of updating the current regulatory framework under Cap. 320 and providing a unified regulatory regime for the entire self-financing post-secondary education sector, with a view to enhancing governance and transparency of the sector.

37. Mr AU Nok-hin considered that the reformed regulatory regime should not be institution-based. It should comprise teacher and student members so as to collect views from different stakeholders. Dr CHENG Chung-tai considered it necessary to include representatives of teachers, alumni and students in the reformed regulatory framework with a view to providing a platform to facilitate communication between EDB and the self-financing institutions.

38. Dr Fernando CHEUNG pointed out that unlike the governing legislation of the eight UGC-funded universities, Cap. 320 did not expressly provide for a participatory governance framework (e.g. courts, councils, etc.) for self-financing post-secondary institutions. He urged the Administration to include provisions to the effect that students, teachers and alumni could participate in the governance of the sector.

39. Miss Kristine LAI, Student Union of HKSYU supplemented that the Board of Governors of HKSYU did not have student representative and student representatives of the University's committees did not have the power of policy making. For The Hang Seng University of Hong Kong ("HSUHK"), their students had discussed with the management for a long time the possibility of including student representative(s) into the institutional governance framework, but no solution had been reached.

40. Professor Anthony CHEUNG, Task Force Chairman pointed out that the Task Force saw the need to review and update Cap. 320 by making reference to comparable provisions in the statutes governing publicly-funded universities and in tandem with the academic and institutional governance expected of a modern higher education institution. Views and suggestions which were conducive to enhancing institutional governance of the self-financing post-secondary sector would be taken into consideration during the review of Cap. 320.

41. SED emphasized that the private self-financing institutions, which operated independently, might have their own considerations on governance issues. The Administration would communicate with the relevant stakeholders to explore measures in enhancing institutional governance. When formulating the

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legislative amendment proposal of Cap. 320, the Administration would take into account the views collected from the sector and stakeholders.

*Support measures for self-financing post-secondary education*

42. Mr SHIU Ka-chun pointed out that self-financing institutions could hardly compete with publicly-funded institutions in terms of hardware and software because of the limited resources available to them. Miss Kristine LAI shared with members that the library materials of HKSYU were worn out and outdated. Campus space was insufficient for organizing student activities. HSUHK came across similar problem because its campus and facilities had been fully utilized to cope with its growth in number of students and teaching staff.

43. The Chairman suggested that the Administration should consider waiving the outstanding loans of self-financing post-secondary education providers under the Start-up Loan Scheme to facilitate them in devoting more resources to students, and extending the Subsidy Scheme for Self-financing Undergraduate Studies to self-financing undergraduate programmes in the eight UGC-funded universities and sub-degree programmes.

44. SED explained that in view of the self-financing mode of operation of the self-financing post-secondary sector, the Administration's support measures were mainly in the form of provision of land and loans. Self-financing post-secondary institutions should have made careful consideration on its financial status, projected number of students, etc. before applying for loans from the Administration. Borrowing institutions with proven financial difficulties could apply for extending the loan repayment period. The Administration had no plan to waive the outstanding loans at the present stage. As recommended by the Task Force, the Administration would consider stepping up financial support for self-financing institutions, such as providing one-off financial support measures to upgrade facilities in future.

45. SED further advised that in the light of the policy objective of the current non-means-tested subsidy scheme and the views that privately-run institutions were not competing on a fair playing field with the eight UGC-funded universities in the operation of self-financing programmes, the Administration had no plan to extend the current student subsidy schemes to sub-degree students or students of self-financing programmes run by UGC-funded universities or their extension arms. Meanwhile, the Administration would press ahead with the work to review Cap. 320 and engage UGC-funded universities on the application of the reformed Cap. 320 to their self-financing sub-degree and undergraduate operations with a view to enhancing the overall quality of the self-financing post-secondary education.

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46. Mr CHAN Chi-chuen opined that the proposed financial support should be student-based rather than institution-based so as to avoid non-local students taking up public resources at the expense of local students. In fact, the public might prefer the Administration using the resources to increase the number of publicly-funded undergraduate places for local students.

*Admission of students from the Greater Bay Area*

47. Mr AU Nok-hin expressed reservation about the Task Force's recommendation of relaxing the current 10% admission quota for Mainland, Macao and Taiwan students at sub-degree and undergraduate levels. While noting that some self-financing post-secondary institutions might need to expand its student base beyond Hong Kong in anticipation of a continuous drop in the number of secondary graduates, he cautioned about the possibility of conflicts between local and Mainland students. Furthermore, he queried that the Task Force made such recommendation partly because of the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding on Strengthening Higher Education Cooperation between Guangdong and Hong Kong in November 2018, and sought information about the existing implementation arrangements for admitting non-local students from the Greater Bay Area to local self-financing post-secondary institutions. SED advised that the Memorandum aimed at facilitating Hong Kong students to study in the Mainland and Mainland students to study in Hong Kong. It had not specified the number of student intake from the Mainland.

*(Post-meeting note: The Administration's response was issued to members vide LC Paper No. CB(4)834/18-19(01) on 3 May 2019.)*

48. Dr Fernando CHEUNG pointed out that the rapid expansion of the self-financing post-secondary sector had resulted in the commercialization of the sector. He was worried that the relaxation of the current cap on self-financing institutions in admitting Mainland students would lead to excessive commercialization.

49. Mr CHAN Chi-chuen sought the Administration's stance on the relaxation of the admission quota. Dr CHENG Chung-tai considered it not conducive to the healthy development of the sector if Mainland students made up the largest group of non-local students. He urged the Administration to help self-financing post-secondary institutions to identify and develop their distinct character and niche areas.

50. Professor Anthony CHEUNG explained that in the course of conducting the review, the Task Force had consulted the relevant stakeholders including student organizations. From the consultation, there seemed to be strong aspirations from the self-financing sector for having greater flexibility in admitting non-local students, including both Mainland and overseas students. On

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the other hand, some students expressed worries that they would be affected by the relaxation of admission quota. The Task Force therefore recommended that the Administration should facilitate the sector to play an appropriate role to develop Hong Kong into a regional higher education hub on the premise that the primary mission of the sector to satisfy the educational needs of local students would not be shifted.

51. SED advised that at present, UGC-funded universities could admit non-local students through over-enrolment up to 20% of the approved UGC-funded student number targets. In respect of the admission of Mainland students to enroll in degree programmes, the Administration had been engaging concerned parties including relevant Mainland authorities and self-financing operators to discuss the proposals from some self-financing operators on relaxation of the current quota for admitting Mainland students. However, there were also other views suggesting not to remove the cap. In the light of the diverse views, the Administration would continue to consult the sector in further considering the matter.

52. Dr Helena WONG enquired whether the Administration intended to relax the admission quota of the self-financing post-secondary institutions from 10% to 20%. She held the view that in terms of education resource allocation, priority should be given to local students. To avoid cross-subsidizing non-local students, self-financing post-secondary institutions should charge non-local students significantly higher level of tuition fees. Moreover, the Administration should gauge the views of the public and the self-financing post-secondary sector, rather than Mainland authorities, on whether the current cap in admitting Mainland students should be relaxed.

53. SED clarified that the Administration noticed the diverse views about relaxing the cap on the self-financing post-secondary sector in admitting Mainland students, but had yet made any decision on the way ahead. The Administration would maintain dialogues with the self-financing post-secondary institutions to understand their needs and pay heed to different opinions of stakeholders.

54. Mr SHIU Ka-chun noticed that several local universities had/would set up branch campuses in the Greater Bay Area. He asked whether it was the Administration's policy to encourage local higher education sector to develop in the Greater Bay Area and whether those institutions would be provided with additional resources. SED explained that in view of the enormous opportunities brought by the Greater Bay Area development, the Administration encouraged post-secondary institutions of Hong Kong to explore cooperation with Mainland institutions in offering education services in the Greater Bay Area. Prior to the promulgation of the Outline Development Plan for the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area, HKBU and CUHK had already partnered with

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Mainland institutions and set up branch campuses there in light of their strategic development plans. Nevertheless, UGC-funded universities were clear that the recurrent grant allocated to them was only for supporting their operation in Hong Kong. No grant should be used for their branch campuses in the Greater Bay Area.

*Sub-degree qualifications*

55. Dr Helena WONG noted that the Task Force recommended maintaining the prevailing binary system of sub-degree education comprising Associate Degree ("AD") and Higher Diploma ("HD") qualifications based on better differentiation of the roles of the two qualifications. AD primarily prepared students for articulation to general degree programmes and HD was more vocational-oriented. She enquired whether it was feasible and practicable to differentiate the positioning of AD and HD when university programmes were becoming more vocational-oriented.

56. Professor Anthony CHEUNG explained that in reality, more HD graduates took up employment upon graduation in comparison with AD graduates. However, the Task Force considered either an AD or HD qualification could support articulation to further education. AD qualification would support articulation to general degree programmes whereas HD qualification to more specialized degree programmes. SED added that the Administration would consider the Task Force's recommendations and map out the way forward for AD and HD qualifications.

*(At about 1:00 pm, the Chairman directed that the meeting be extended for 15 minutes to 1:15 pm.)*

57. Dr Helena WONG further said that the number of sub-degree graduates continued to increase and 90% of them aspired for degree education. The Democratic Party urged for an increase in the number of UGC-funded senior-year entry places for articulation purpose. She also called for an increase in the provision of overall UGC-funded first-year first-degree places so that the increased number of manpower-planned places in, for example, healthcare-related disciplines, would not affect the number of non-manpower-planned places. SED took note of Dr WONG's views for future consideration.

Motions

58. The Chairman referred members to the four motions proposed respectively by Dr Fernando CHEUNG, Mr AU Nok-hin, Mr SHIU Ka-chun and Mr CHAN Chi-chuen (wording of motions in **Appendices V to VIII**).



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*(At about 1:04 pm, the Chairman suspended the meeting for 10 minutes to facilitate members' voting at the meeting of the Panel on Development. The meeting resumed at 1:13 pm.)*

59. The Chairman put to vote the motion moved by Dr Fernando CHEUNG. Seven members voted for the motion, one member voted against and one member abstained. The Chairman declared that the motion was carried.
60. The Chairman put to vote the motion moved by Mr AU Nok-hin. Nine members voted for the motion, no member voted against and no member abstained. The Chairman declared that the motion was carried.
61. The Chairman put to vote the motion moved by Mr SHIU Ka-chun. Ten members voted for the motion, no member voted against and no member abstained. The Chairman declared that the motion was carried.
62. The Chairman put to vote the motion moved by Mr CHAN Chi-chuen. Eight members voted for the motion, three members voted against and no member abstained. The Chairman declared that the motion was carried.

**V. Any other business**

63. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 1:16 pm.

教育事務委員會  
Panel on Education

在2019年3月1日的會議上  
就議程項目"為進一步支持高等教育界研究工作提供的新資源  
及研究資助局的撥款政策"通過的議案  
Motion passed under the agenda item  
"New resources to further support the research conducted by the higher  
education sector and the funding policy of the Research Grants Council"  
at the meeting on 1 March 2019

**議案措辭**

政府向研究基金再注資200億元以加強大學的研究實力，本委員會表示歡迎，但本委員會同時關注專上院校出現「重研輕教」的情況，院校為要讓研究評審工作(RAE)取得高分數及撥款，以及競逐排名等，以致側重於研究而減輕教學資源的投放，大大影響教學質素，最終受苦的是教師和學生。大學教育資助委員會("教資會")雖有釐定整體補助金額中75%屬教學用途，但大學在院校自主的托詞下可自主分配補助金用途，到底資源如何分配，外界不得而知。本委員會促請教育局和教資會督促大學的發展應是教研併重，並採取有效機制確保院校獲分配的資源按既定撥款用途使用。

(邵家臻議員動議)

**Wording of the Motion**

(Translation)

While welcoming the Government's further injection of \$20 billion into the Research Endowment Fund to enhance the research capacity of universities, this Panel is concerned that post-secondary institutions have placed more emphasis on research rather than teaching. In order to obtain high score and funding from the Research Assessment Exercise and compete for a good ranking, etc., institutions focus more resources on research and cut those for teaching. This has greatly

affected the quality of teaching and consequently, teachers and students suffer. Although the University Grants Committee ("UGC") has stipulated that 75% of the block grant is intended for teaching, there is no way for the public to know how resources are actually allocated as universities have autonomy over the use of such grant. This Panel urges the Education Bureau and UGC to monitor universities to put equal weight on teaching and research in their development and adopt an effective mechanism to ensure that resources received by institutions are used according to the specified funding purposes.

(Moved by Hon SHIU Ka-chun)

教育事務委員會  
Panel on Education

在2019年3月1日的會議上  
就議程項目"為進一步支持高等教育界研究工作提供的新資源  
及研究資助局的撥款政策"通過的議案

Motion passed under the agenda item  
"New resources to further support the research conducted by the higher  
education sector and the funding policy of the Research Grants Council"  
at the meeting on 1 March 2019

**議案措辭**

專上院校為行政方便和緊縮教學開支，濫用「合約教師」的情況嚴重，近年更有不少須在不同院校兼職的「流浪教師」出現，他們薪金偏低，甚少或沒有任何員工福利，長期處於不穩定和被剝削的工作環境，亦因欠缺基本教學配套而影響教學工作。就此，本委員會促請教育局及大學教育資助委員會關注及跟進相關情況，採取有效措施防止院校濫用合約和兼職制度，確保院校的聘用制度更公平合理，為教職員提供更穩定的機會和工作環境。

(張超雄議員動議)

**Wording of the Motion**

(Translation)

The abuse of "contract teachers" for the sake of administrative convenience and reducing teaching-related expenses is serious among post-secondary institutions. In recent years, there have been quite a number of "wandering teachers" taking up part-time jobs in different institutions. Their working conditions have long been unstable and exploitative, with low salaries, very little or no staff benefits. The lack of basic teaching support has also affected their teaching work. In this connection, this Panels urges the Education Bureau and the University Grants Committee to pay heed to and follow up such situation by taking effective measures to prevent institutions from abusing the system for appointing staff on contract and part-time terms to ensure a more fair and reasonable appointment system, in order to provide staff with more stable opportunities and working environment.

(Moved by Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG Chiu-hung)

教育事務委員會  
Panel on Education

在2019年3月1日的會議上  
就議程項目"為進一步支持高等教育界研究工作提供的新資源  
及研究資助局的撥款政策"通過的議案

**Motion passed under the agenda item  
"New resources to further support the research conducted by the higher  
education sector and the funding policy of the Research Grants Council"  
at the meeting on 1 March 2019**

**議案措辭**

本委員會促請政府及研資局採取有效措施，確保人文及社會科學研究撥款不會被忽視或受不公平對待。

(黃碧雲議員動議)

**Wording of the Motion**

(Translation)

This Panel urges the Government and Research Grants Council to take effective measures to ensure that research in humanities and social sciences will not be disregarded or inequitably treated when allocating research funding.

(Moved by Dr Hon Helena WONG Pik-wan)

**Panel on Education**  
**Meeting on Friday, 1 March 2019, at 10:45 am**

**Agenda item IV: Review of Self-financing Post-secondary Education**

**Summary of views and concerns expressed by deputations**

<b>No.</b>	<b>Name of deputation</b>	<b>Major views and concerns</b>
1.	Federation for Self-financing Tertiary Education	Presentation of views as detailed in the submission [LC Paper No. CB(4)586/18-19(04)]
2.	President Club of Self-financing Degree-awarding Institutions	Presentation of views as detailed in the submission [LC Paper No. CB(4)577/18-19(08)]
3.	Hong Kong Professional Teachers' Union	Presentation of views as detailed in the submission [LC Paper No. CB(4)586/18-19(02)]
4.	Hong Kong Federation of Education Workers	Presentation of views as detailed in the submission [LC Paper No. CB(4)603/18-19(01)]
5.	The Student Union of Hong Kong Shue Yan University	Presentation of views as detailed in the submission [LC Paper No. CB(4)586/18-19(03)]

教育事務委員會  
Panel on Education

在 2019 年 3 月 1 日的會議上  
就議程項目"自資專上教育的檢討"通過的議案  
Motion passed under the agenda item  
"Review of Self-financing Post-secondary Education"  
at the meeting on 1 March 2019

**議案措辭**

因現時的《專上院校條例》(Cap. 320) 未有如八大條例般，明文保障學生、教師及校友等持份者在校內管治架構(如：校董會、校務委員會等)的參與，導致校政不透明、院校決定未有從學生角度出發等問題。因此，本委員促請政府在檢討《專上院校條例》時，加入學生、教師及校友等持份者參與校內管治架構的條文，讓學生能實際共同決策校政。

(張超雄議員動議)

**Wording of the Motion**

(Translation)

The existing Post Secondary Colleges Ordinance (Cap. 320), unlike the ordinances of the eight publicly-funded universities, does not expressly provide for a participatory governance framework (e.g. courts, councils, etc.) involving students, teachers, alumni and other stakeholders. As a result, there are problems such as lacking transparency in the operation of institutions, not making decisions from students' perspective and so on. Hence, this Panel urges the Government to include provisions to the effect that students, teachers, alumni and other stakeholders can participate in the governance of institutions when reviewing the Post Secondary Colleges Ordinance so as to ensure students can really take part in decision making on institution polices.

(Moved by Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG Chiu-hung)

教育事務委員會  
Panel on Education

在 2019 年 3 月 1 日的會議上  
就議程項目"自資專上教育的檢討"通過的議案  
Motion passed under the agenda item  
"Review of Self-financing Post-secondary Education"  
at the meeting on 1 March 2019

**議案措辭**

本委員會促請政府將三萬元自資學券計劃，延展就讀於八大資助院校屬下的自資課程的學生，以減輕這些學生的學費壓力。

(區諾軒議員動議)

**Wording of the Motion**

(Translation)

This Panel urges the Government to extend the \$30,000 voucher scheme for self-financing undergraduate studies to students pursuing self-financing programmes offered by the eight publicly-funded universities so as to alleviate students' pressure on tuition fees.

(Moved by Hon AU Nok-hin)



教育事務委員會  
Panel on Education

在 2019 年 3 月 1 日的會議上  
就議程項目"自資專上教育的檢討"通過的議案  
Motion passed under the agenda item  
"Review of Self-financing Post-secondary Education"  
at the meeting on 1 March 2019

**議案措辭**

現時副學士學位課程功能模糊，升讀學士機會不足，教資會資助大學的高年級學額(UGC-funded Senior Year Places)並不能應付合資格副學士學生的需要。本委員會促請教育局重新檢視副學士學位課程的功能並增加教資會資助大學的高年級學額，以擴展本地學生的學習及發展機會。

(邵家臻議員動議)

**Wording of the Motion**

(Translation)

At present, functions of associate degree ("AD") programmes are unclear, opportunities for articulation to undergraduate programmes are insufficient, and UGC-funded senior year places have failed to meet the needs of eligible AD students. This Panel urges the Education Bureau to revisit the functions of AD programmes and increase the number of UGC-funded senior year articulation places so as to broaden local students' opportunities to learn and develop.

(Moved by Hon SHIU Ka-chun)

教育事務委員會  
Panel on Education

在 2019 年 3 月 1 日的會議上  
就議程項目"自資專上教育的檢討"通過的議案  
Motion passed under the agenda item  
"Review of Self-financing Post-secondary Education"  
at the meeting on 1 March 2019

**議案措辭**

在面對本港在職成人有進修的需要，本委員會促請政府考慮放寬在職成人入學，檢討自資專上的入學要求，如以工作經驗及面試表現為入學考慮。並鼓勵院校提供更多兼讀制課程讓在職人士進修，及向相關在職成人發放學資處的資助貸款等，讓在職成人有進修的機會。並在解決香港本地需求前，擱置放寬自資院校大灣區學生招生名額的安排。

(陳志全議員動議)

**Wording of the Motion**

(Translation)

In view of the need of working adults in Hong Kong for further studies, this Panel urges the Government to consider reviewing and relaxing the admission requirements of self-financing post-secondary institutions for working adults, such as considering work experience and interview performance for admission. In order to give working adults opportunities for further studies, institutions should be encouraged to offer them more part-time programmes and Student Finance Office should provide them with financial assistance including loans. Moreover, the arrangement of relaxing the admission quota of self-financing institutions for students from the Greater Bay Area should be shelved before local needs have been addressed.

(Moved by Hon CHAN Chi-chuen)