



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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21 September 2021

Clerk to the Legislative Council Finance Committee
Legislative Council Complex
1 Legislative Council Road
Central, Hong Kong
(Attn.: Miss Bowie Lam)

Dear Miss Lam,

Finance Committee
Follow-up action of the meeting on 19 February 2021
56EF Centralised General Research Laboratory Complex (Block 2)

At the discussion of the agenda item FCR(2020-21)92 at the meeting of the Finance Committee (FC) held on 19 February 2021, Members requested for supplementary information on the captioned project from The Chinese University of Hong Kong. The University's response is set out at Annex, for Members' reference please.

Yours sincerely,

(Derek Lai)
for Secretary for Education

c.c. Secretary-General, University Grants Committee (Attn: Miss Jenny Cheung)
Vice-President (Administration) and University Secretary,
The Chinese University of Hong Kong

**Supplementary Information arising from
the Finance Committee meeting on 19 February 2021 provided by
The Chinese University of Hong Kong**

Planning and Facilities of Blocks 1 and 2 of the Centralised General Research Laboratory Complex

The Centralised General Research Laboratory Complex (Block 1) was completed in 2012 and is now named as Lo Kwee-Seong Integrated Biomedical Sciences Building. The School of Biomedical Sciences under the Faculty of Medicine is the main user of the building with core research laboratories, including:

- (a) Macromolecular & Microarray Core Laboratory;
- (b) Flow Cytometry & Cell Culture Core Laboratory;
- (c) Histology Core Laboratory; and
- (d) Microscopy & Imaging Core Laboratory.

The building is equipped with advanced biomedical equipment to enhance the conduct of interdisciplinary research by different professionals which in turn will help cultivate a dedicated research team.

2. For the proposed Centralised General Research Laboratory Complex (Block 2), the major user will be the School of Life Sciences under the Faculty of Science. The research areas fall mainly within the two strategic areas of the University, namely “Environment and Sustainability” and “Translational Biomedicine”, e.g. using biotechnology to tackle climate change and developing novel treatment strategies for human diseases. The building will house the following laboratories and state-of-the-art facilities for research activities to support the Government’s goal to develop Hong Kong into an International Innovation and Technology hub:

- (a) State Key Laboratory of Agrobiotechnology for research in climate-smart agriculture;
- (b) specialised laboratories for high-precision instruments such as electron microscopes, mass spectrometers, X-ray diffractometers;
- (c) green house for plant biotechnology researches;

- (d) research facilities for animal models of human diseases;
- (e) computational and data center for bioinformatics research; and
- (f) herbarium to provide a platform for supporting research and education in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics).

3. Upon completion of the Centralised General Laboratory Complex (Block 2), the School of Life Sciences will be relocated from the Central Campus to the new building, creating synergy effects with the Lo Kwee-Seong Integrated Biomedical Sciences Building located nearby. It forms a part of the University's long-term strategy to develop the northern part of its campus into a cluster of research hub for life/biomedical sciences and enhance collaboration in Translational Biomedicine researches between the two schools in the future. The close proximity to the Hong Kong Science Park will also promote synergy in downstream technology development.

Users of the Centralised General Research Laboratory Complex (Block 2)

4. Approximately 86% of the net operational floor area in the Centralised General Research Laboratory Complex (Block 2) is research laboratory space. The laboratories will mainly be used by the researchers and research postgraduate students from the School of Life Sciences for carrying out academic research activities. Some senior undergraduate students (i.e. students in years three and four of their studies) enrolling in relevant programmes will also participate in individual research projects in the new building¹. Currently, there are 36 professors and 148 research staff in the School of Life Sciences. In addition, there are 181 research postgraduate students, comprising 75 local students and 106 non-local students. The non-local students are mainly from Mainland China, with a few others from Europe, America, Southeast Asia, etc.

Disciplinary proceedings against the students violating the law / university's rules since the social events

5. The Chinese University of Hong Kong will not condone actions that

¹ These undergraduate programmes include Biochemistry, Biology, Cell and Molecular Biology, Environmental Science, Food and Nutritional Sciences, and Molecular Biotechnology. Currently, there are a total of 446 senior undergraduate students enrolling in the aforementioned programmes, among which 417 are local students.

breach University regulations or the principles of diversity and inclusion, nor tolerate any act that disrupts campus operations or brings disrepute to the University. Violence or illegal activities in any form are not acceptable. There are established procedures for student disciplinary cases, and cases relating to the disturbances arising from proposed legislative amendments are handled accordingly. In general, the University will only commence the disciplinary proceedings of a case after completion of the relevant legal proceedings involved. Since the outbreak of the social incident, the University has initiated disciplinary proceedings on 19 students, of which three cases had been completed with penalties imposed on the students concerned.

The Chinese University of Hong Kong
September 2021