

Legislative Council Brief on the  
Statutes of the University of Hong Kong (Amendment) Statute 2021

## **INTRODUCTION**

1. The University of Hong Kong (“HKU”) proposes to amend the Statutes of the University of Hong Kong (“Statutes”) in the Schedule to the University of Hong Kong Ordinance (Cap. 1053) (“the Ordinance”) as set out in the Statutes of the University of Hong Kong (Amendment) Statute 2021 (“Amendment Statute”).
2. Section 13(2) of the Ordinance stipulates that “The Council may propose to the Court additions to, or the amendment or repeal of, any of the statutes, whereupon on the recommendation by the Court to the Chancellor, the Chancellor may make any such addition, amendment, or repeal as recommended by the Court”. The HKU Court, on the proposal of the HKU Council, has made a resolution for making the Amendment Statute, which was approved by the Chancellor on 15 January 2021. The Amendment Statute is now submitted to the Legislative Council for scrutiny by way of negative vetting.

## **THE AMENDMENT STATUTE**

3. In the Explanatory Note of the Amendment Statute, it is stated that:

“This Statute amends the Statutes of the University of Hong Kong in the Schedule to the University of Hong Kong Ordinance (Cap. 1053) to add certain masters degrees which may be conferred by the University of Hong Kong.”
4. HKU, as a comprehensive university, has always been working towards offering more diversified programmes to meet the demands of students gearing for the future in this rapidly changing world. The addition of the masters degrees as set out in the Amendment Statute is proposed in recognition of the rising needs of education and training in the respective academic disciplines.

## **CONSULTATION**

5. The Amendment Statute has gone through the proper procedure in HKU which involved its relevant departments and faculties, the Senate, and the Council. HKU has also consulted the Education Bureau and, through the Bureau, the Law Draftsman. The Law Draftsman’s comments on the Amendment Statute have been incorporated as appropriate.

## **LEGISLATIVE TIMETABLE**

6. The legislative timetable is as follows –

Publication in the Gazette	12 March 2021
Tabling at the Legislative Council	17 March 2021

Subject to the outcome of the Legislative Council's scrutiny by way of negative vetting, the Amendment Statute will come into operation on 1 June 2021.

## **ENQUIRIES**

7. Any enquiry on this brief can be addressed to Ms. Jeannie Tsang, Registrar of HKU (Telephone: 2859 2222).

The University of Hong Kong  
March 2021