

# THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

## COUNCIL

The following matters have been discussed at the Council meeting held on April 28, 2009:

1. The Council RECEIVED a verbal report from the Vice-Chancellor on the recent activities of the University, including
  - (a) the institutional audit conducted by the Quality Assurance Council, a semi-autonomous body under the aegis of the University Grants Committee;
  - (b) the visit of the following senior government officials from the United Kingdom:
    - (i) Professor John BEDDINGTON, Chief Scientific Advisor and Head of the Government Office for Science, on April 3, when he gave an open talk, "Let there be Light!"; and
    - (ii) Ms. Fiona HYSLOP, the Scottish Cabinet Secretary for Education and Lifelong Learning, on April 6, to exchange views about curriculum reforms and other issues relating to higher education;
  - (c) his attendance at the 4th Annual Conference and Exhibition of the Asia-Pacific Association for International Education (APAIE) and the University Presidents' Roundtable at the Renmin University of China in Beijing from April 15 to 16;
  - (d) the visit of a delegation of a number of Deans of Faculties of the University, which he would lead, to the academic institutions in the United Kingdom from May 4 to 8; and
  - (e) the results of the admission of students under the Early Admissions Scheme.
2. The Council, in considering the Deputy Vice-Chancellorship of the University, RESOLVED
  - (a) by a majority vote, that subject to comments of the Senate, to extend the Deputy Vice-Chancellorship of Professor R.Y.C. WONG for up to one year from September 1, 2009 under the provisions of Statute VIA.1 to allow time for the University to appoint his successor and to facilitate a smooth transition of the various projects currently in progress; and

- (b) to approve the setting up of a Search Committee with the remit of identifying a suitable candidate for appointment as Deputy Vice-Chancellor.
  
- 3. The Council CONSIDERED proposals from the Senior Management Team for unification of leave for professional development purposes, which recommended that the different types of leaves for professional development purposes be merged into two types, being Professional Leave (replacing Special Leave) and Sabbatical Leave (replacing Study Leave and Clinical Training Leave) with a view to streamlining and simplifying the different categories of leave for academic/research purposes for professoriate staff; and AGREED that the proposals be brought to the Council for further consideration after addressing the comments raised.
  
- 4. The Council APPROVED, on the recommendation of the Senate, that the Centre for the Advancement of University Teaching, a sub-division of studies and learning, be renamed as the “Centre for the Enhancement of Teaching and Learning” with effect from July 1, 2009, under the provisions of Section 8(3) of the Ordinance.

May 2009