

**HONG KONG'S HIGHER EDUCATION
LANDSCAPE:
SOME THOUGHTS ON THE FUTURE**

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**JULAC LIBRARIES STAFF FORUM
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Session Outline

- **Not a keynote address – more a dialogue**
- **Research Assessment Exercise**
- **Research Pooling**
- **Research Funding**

Session Outline (continued)

- **R-portion review**
- **Teaching and Learning Initiatives**
- **Internationalisation**
- **Greater Collaboration**
- **Quality Audits Cycle 2**

Session Outline (continued)

- **Financial transparency**
- **Self financing and the mixed economy**
- **Governance**
- **Questions to ponder**

Research Assessment Exercise

- **Thanks**
- **Highly successful outcome**
- **200+ distinguished international scholars**
- **Will there be another? International RAE?**

Research Pooling

- **Hong Kong lacks critical mass**
- **Insufficiently high profile on the world stage**
- **Thus as a sector we need to consider research pooling**
- **More towards impact and connectivity**

Research Funding

- **Research Endowment Fund continues**
- **Possibly seek a further extension for mid-stream research**
- **Other new sources**

Research Portion (R-portion)

- **23% of the Block Grant**
- **Since 2012/13, the R-portion has been gradually allocated on a more competitive basis**
- **By 2020/21**
 - 50% to be allocated according to institutions' success in RGC Earmarked Research Grants
 - 50% to be allocated with reference to the latest results of the Research Assessment Exercise

R-portion Review

- **Competitive allocation (based on success in RGC's Competitive Research Grants)**

VS

- **Research Assessment Exercise**

Teaching and Learning Initiatives

- **Tripartite funding**
- **Collaboration yet competitive**
- **More towards larger scale projects**

Funding Scheme for Teaching and Learning Related Proposals

- **Introduced in 2012-15 Triennium: Tripartite Funding from Education Bureau, UGC and UGC-funded institutions**
- **Accelerate the adoption of necessary pedagogical changes and innovations**
- **Theme-based projects; Collaborative forums; Professional Development activities**

Funding Scheme for Teaching and Learning Related Proposals

- **23 teaching and learning proposals – majority are collaborative in nature**
- **“Enhancing information literacy in Hong Kong higher education through the development and implementation of shared interactive multimedia courseware”**
- **“A Joint E-learning/MOOC platform for Hong Kong’s Tertiary Education Sector”**

Internationalisation

- **Again tripartite funding**
- **Hong Kong Pavilion**
- **Student initiated projects and campus integration**
- **Exchange opportunities for students who are financially challenged**
- **Continued collaboration and competition emphasised**

Quality Audit Cycle 2

- **New shorter cycle, smaller panel**
- **Lighter touch?**

What is the future?

- **No additional public funding for the education mission will be forthcoming;**
- **More reliance on the mixed economy
i.e. self-financing and outside sources**
- **More competition**
- **More collaboration**
- **Thus emphasis on financial transparency,
accountability and governance**

Finance and governance

- **Improved financial transparency**
- **Self financed activity and the mixed economy**
- **Improved governance through voluntary code of practice**
- **Greater accountability**

Discussion