

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL BRIEF

APPROVAL FOR

POST SECONDARY COLLEGES TO AWARD DEGREES

INTRODUCTION

At the meeting of the Executive Council on 15 March 2022, the Executive Council ADVISED and the Chief Executive ORDERED that approval should be granted to –

- (a) Chu Hai College of Higher Education (CHCHE) to award degrees for the following programmes –
 - (i) Master of Business Administration in Entrepreneurship;
 - (ii) Master of Science in Applied Finance; and
 - (iii) Master of Arts in History and Culture of South China;
- (b) The Hang Seng University of Hong Kong (HSUHK) to award degrees for the following programmes –
 - (i) Master of Arts in Chinese;
 - (ii) Master of Arts in English Language Teaching and Assessment; and
 - (iii) Master of Arts in Theatre Studies;
- (c) Hong Kong Shue Yan University (HKSJU) to award degrees for the following programmes –
 - (i) Bachelor of Science with Honours in Applied Data Science; and
 - (ii) Master of Social Sciences in Play Therapy; and
- (d) Tung Wah College (TWC) to award degrees for the Bachelor of Health Information and Services Management (Honours) programme.

JUSTIFICATIONS

Chu Hai College of Higher Education

2. CHCHE has been registered under the Post Secondary Colleges Ordinance (Cap. 320) since 2004 and began to offer degree programmes in the same year. In the 2021/22 academic year (AY), CHCHE operates 21 self-financing locally-accredited local degree programmes, including 14 Bachelor's degree programmes and seven Master's degree programmes.

3. CHCHE obtained a Learning Programme Accreditation (LPA) status from the Hong Kong Council for Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications (HKCAAVQ) for the proposed programmes under paragraph 1(a) above from May to September 2021.

The Hang Seng University of Hong Kong

4. HSUHK, formerly the Hang Seng Management College as transformed from the Hang Seng School of Commerce, has been registered under Cap. 320 since 2010. It was granted a university title under Cap. 320 in 2018. In the 2021/22 AY, HSUHK operates 34 self-financing locally-accredited local degree programmes, including 27 Bachelor's degree programmes and seven Master's degree programmes.

5. HSUHK obtained an LPA status from HKCAAVQ for the proposed programmes under paragraph 1(b) above between July and October 2021.

Hong Kong Shue Yan University

6. HKSYU, formerly Hong Kong Shue Yan College, is a self-financing post-secondary institution founded in 1971 and has been registered under Cap. 320 since 1976. It was granted a university title under Cap. 320 in 2006. In the 2021/22 AY, HKSYU operates 35 self-financing locally-accredited local degree programmes, including 17 Bachelor's degree programmes, 11 Master's degree programmes, and seven Doctorate programmes.

7. HKSJU obtained an LPA status from HKCAAVQ for the proposed programme under paragraph 1(c)(i) in December 2021. The proposed programme under paragraph 1(c)(ii) above is covered by the Programme Area Accreditation (PAA) status obtained by HKSJU in the sub-area of Counselling and Psychology under Social Sciences at Qualifications Framework Level 6. Hence, HKSJU need not obtain an LPA status from HKCAAVQ for the proposed programme.

Tung Wah College

8. TWC has been registered under Cap. 320 since 2011. In the 2021/22 AY, TWC operates ten self-financing locally-accredited local Bachelor's degree programmes.

9. In September 2021, TWC obtained an LPA status from HKCAAVQ for the proposed programme under paragraph 1(d) above.

Considerations

10. The proposed new degree programmes of CHCHE, HSUHK, HKSJU, and TWC have obtained HKCAAVQ's accreditation (in the form of an LPA or a PAA status) as part of the quality assurance process. These programmes are intended to be launched in the 2022/23 AY.

IMPLICATIONS OF THE PROPOSAL

11. The proposal is in conformity with the Basic Law, including the provisions concerning human rights. It has no significant family implications, and no financial and civil service, productivity, environmental, and gender implications. The proposal would have positive sustainability and economic implications in widening the institution and programme choices for students and possibly helping nurture more talent, although the impact is not expected to be significant.

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

12. Public consultation is not necessary as the proposal involves no policy change.

PUBLICITY

13. A spokesman of the Education Bureau will be available for answering public enquiries.

ENQUIRIES

14. In case of enquiries, please contact Mr Kasper NG, Principal Assistant Secretary (Further Education), at 3509 8502.

Education Bureau
March 2022