

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL BRIEF

APPROVAL FOR HKCT INSTITUTE OF HIGHER EDUCATION TO AWARD DEGREES AND TO INCLUDE “HOK YUEN” IN ITS CHINESE NAME, AND FOR TUNG WAH COLLEGE TO AWARD DEGREES

INTRODUCTION

At the meeting of the Executive Council on 27 May 2014, the Council ADVISED and the Chief Executive ORDERED that approval be granted to –

- (a) HKCT Institute of Higher Education (CTIHE) to use “港專學院” as its Chinese name and to award degrees for the proposed Bachelor of Social Sciences (Honours) in Social Development Studies programme, subject to the registration of CTIHE under the Post Secondary Colleges Ordinance (the Ordinance) (Cap. 320); and
- (b) Tung Wah College (TWC) to award degree for the proposed Bachelor of Health Science (Honours) in Nursing (Post-Registration) programme.

2. Following the approval of the Chief Executive-in-Council, the Permanent Secretary for Education has approved the registration of HKCT Institute of Higher Education (港專學院) under the Ordinance.

JUSTIFICATIONS

HKCT Institute of Higher Education

3. Formerly known as the Mong Kok Workers’ Night School, the Hong Kong College of Technology (HKCT) has been offering locally-accredited post-secondary programmes since 2001. In the 2013/14 academic year, HKCT operates 19 locally-accredited self-financing

full-time sub-degree programmes with about 880 students. Building on HKCT's experience in post-secondary education, HKCT Group Limited, the sponsoring body of HKCT, has decided to establish a registered post secondary college, namely CTIHE.

4. In August 2013, the Hong Kong Council for Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications (HKCAAVQ) completed an Institutional Review, commissioned by CTIHE, to ascertain whether CTIHE has a suitable academic environment for the conduct of degree level programmes in general. CTIHE was confirmed to meet HKCAAVQ's accreditation standards in February 2014. Separately, in March 2014, CTIHE obtained HKCAAVQ's accreditation of the proposed Bachelor of Social Sciences (Honours) in Social Development Studies programme.

5. Section 8(1) of the Ordinance provides that every college shall be registered under such name in both English and Chinese as may be approved by the Permanent Secretary for Education, who shall not without the prior sanction of the Chief Executive-in-Council approve any name containing the word "University", or the Chinese words "Tai Hok" (大學) or "Hok Yuen" (學院). As CTIHE would like to use the Chinese name "港專學院", approval of the Chief Executive-in-Council is required. Save for the Hong Kong Shue Yan University (香港樹仁大學), all institutions registered under the Ordinance are now using names containing the words "Hok Yuen" (學院), with approval previously given by the CE-in-Council. They are the Caritas Institute of Higher Education (明愛專上學院), Centennial College (明德學院), Chu Hai College of Higher Education (珠海學院), Hang Seng Management College (恒生管理學院), Hong Kong Nang Yan College of Higher Education (香港能仁專上學院) and TWC (東華學院).

Tung Wah College

6. TWC is a post secondary college established by the Tung Wah Group of Hospitals and registered under the Ordinance in 2011. In the 2013/14 academic year, TWC operates nine self-financing full-time locally-accredited post-secondary programmes, including five bachelor's degree programmes and four sub-degree programmes with around 1 530 students.

7. In April 2014, TWC obtained HKCAAVQ's accreditation of the proposed Bachelor of Health Science (Honours) in Nursing (Post-Registration) programme.

Award of Degrees

8. Section 10(a) of the Ordinance provides that a post secondary college may, with the prior approval of the Chief Executive-in-Council, award degrees. CTIHE and TWC have both obtained HKCAAVQ's accreditation of their proposed programmes and hence the quality is assured. CTIHE and TWC intend to introduce the aforementioned bachelor's degree programmes in the 2014/15 academic year.

IMPLICATIONS OF THE PROPOSAL

9. The proposal is in conformity with the Basic Law, including the provisions concerning human rights. It has no significant economic and sustainability implications, and no financial and civil service, productivity, environmental or family implications.

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

10. Public consultation is unnecessary as the proposal involves no policy change.

PUBLICITY

11. A spokesman will be available for answering public enquiries.

ENQUIRIES

12. In case of enquiries, please contact Ms Pecvin Yong, Principal Assistant Secretary for Education, at 3509 8502.

Education Bureau
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