

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL BRIEF

**APPROVAL FOR CENTENNIAL COLLEGE
AND TUNG WAH COLLEGE
TO AWARD DEGREES**

INTRODUCTION

At the meeting of the Executive Council on 17 April 2012, the Council ADVISED and the Acting Chief Executive ORDERED that approval should be granted to –

- (a) Centennial College to award degree for the proposed Bachelor of Arts (Honours) programme; and
- (b) Tung Wah College to award degree for the proposed Bachelor of Health Science (Honours) programme.

JUSTIFICATION

Centennial College

2. Centennial College is a wholly-owned subsidiary of the University of Hong Kong registered under the Post Secondary Colleges Ordinance (the Ordinance) to provide full-time self-financing programmes leading to the award of bachelor's degrees.

3. Following the approval of the Chief Executive in Council for Centennial College to use “明德學院” as its Chinese name and to award degree for the Bachelor of Professional Accounting (Honours) programme on 10 January 2012, the Permanent Secretary for Education approved the registration of the College under the Ordinance in February 2012. Separately, Centennial College obtained the Hong Kong Council for Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications' (HKCAAVQ) accreditation of the Bachelor of Arts (Honours) programme in February 2012. Altogether, the College plans to offer two self-financing degree programmes in the 2012/13 academic year.

Tung Wah College

4. Tung Wah College is a post-secondary college established by the Tung Wah Group of Hospitals (TWGHs), a charitable organisation offering medical and health, education and community services in Hong Kong. Registered under the Ordinance in April 2011, the College now operates the Bachelor of Business Administration (Honours) programme and Higher Diploma in Nursing programme. In March 2012, Tung Wah College obtained HKCAAVQ's accreditation of the Bachelor of Health Science (Honours) programme. Tung Wah College intends to introduce the programme from the 2012/13 academic year.

Award of Degrees

5. Section 10(a) of the Post Secondary Colleges Ordinance provides that a College may, with the prior approval of the Chief Executive in Council, award degrees. Centennial College and Tung Wah College will deliver the relevant programmes in accordance with the requirements set by HKCAAVQ in the accreditation exercises.

IMPLICATIONS OF THE PROPOSAL

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

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

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

PUBLICITY

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

ENQUIRIES

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

Education Bureau
3 May 2012