

# Quality Enhancement Grant Scheme

**Progress Report**

**Project No. : 32/QEGS/B-08-09**

Reporting Period : From September 2010 (month/year) to February 2011 (month/year)

## Part A

Project Title : An Outcome-based Approach to Curriculum Development in AD Programmes

Name of Grantee : Hong Kong Community College

Project Period : From September 2009 (month/year) to August 2012 (month/year)

## Part B

Please use separate A4-size sheets to report the progress with regard to the following aspects:

1. Types and brief descriptions of Project activities held/completed during the reporting period (*the information may be presented in the form of a table*).
2. The dates, time, venues and number of participants / beneficiaries of Project activities held, and resources (e.g. equipment, manpower) used for the implementation of Project activities.
3. Project milestone(s) and deliverables attained at the end of the reporting period and evidence showing the attainment of milestones and deliverables.
4. The percentage, in terms of key tasks, of the Project completed at the end of each reporting period.
5. Project variation\*, if any, during the reporting period, together with details and justifications

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_



Organization Chop: \_\_\_\_\_



Name of Authorized Person: Dr Simon Leung

Name of Grantee

Organization: PolyU HKCC

Position of Authorized

Person: Director

Date: 30 March 2011

\* A separate written application should be submitted to the Grantor for prior written approval.

## **Quality Enhancement Grant Scheme – Progress Report**

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**Project Title:** An Outcome-based Approach to Curriculum Development in Associate Degree Programmes

**Project Code:** 32/QGES/B-08-09

**Reporting Period:** September 2010 to February 2011

### **A) Milestone(s) and deliverable(s)\*:**

\*(This part is derived from and elaborated based on the milestones stated in the 'Schedule of Implementation': 1) Collect data by using indirect measurements in accordance to the planned timeline; 2) Analyze transcribed data from focus groups; and 3) Implement 'Fuzzy Inference System' for programme refinement.)

#### **1. Indirect measurement: Survey administration and analysis**

- **Phase One:**

Section of the survey that deals with students' learning environment and experience (Student Engagement Questionnaire (SEQ)) was analyzed. Since publication is one of the deliverables as stated in the proposal, the results of this section were written up and submitted to an international conference (International Technology, Education and Development Conference 2010) for virtual presentation. In sum, cohort difference (year of study) and discipline difference were found in students' perception of learning experience. The full submitted paper is attached in *Appendix I 'Conference Proceeding'*. Section of the survey that deals with programme-specific learning outcomes was analyzed for Marketing and Engineering programme. Respective brief reports are attached in *Appendix II & III namely, 'Results for Marketing' and 'Results for Engineering'*. The brief report for Sociology and Culture programme is under way, as the questions used in the section require further validation (factor analysis) prior to the proper use of statistical analysis.

- **Phase Two:**

Survey was administered across the above three programmes. A total of 649 students (headcount) had filled out the survey at the beginning of the academic year 2010/2011 (Semester One) between the period of September to October. Raw data have been entered. And analysis is now under progress.

(The survey used in both Phase One and Two, which has been attached in the submission of earlier progress reports, is now attached again for easy reference. See *Appendix IV 'Questionnaire'*)

2. Indirect measurement: Focus groups administration and analysis

- Phase One:  
Data obtained from Phase One's focus groups have been analyzed. The *first draft report* on students' perception of generic learning outcomes has also been generated. The report will be further revised and it will serve as the basis for Phase Two analysis. The draft report is attached in *Appendix V 'Draft Qualitative Report'*
- Phase Two:  
Focus groups were conducted with graduates (Cohort 2008) from the three participating Associate Degree programmes. There were 14 focus groups held consisting of 29 graduates in total. Transcriptions and analysis are now under progress.

3. Direct measurement: Use of course-embedded assessment

- The detail version of P-LOAP on course-embedded assessment has been implemented in 2010/2011 Semester One. A total of 11 subjects are invited to provide various forms of course-embedded assessment results of a total of 1793 students (headcount) for use. Raw data have now been gathered and are ready for analysis.

4. Delphi survey (Fuzzy logic inference system): Evaluation of curriculum map

- The Delphi round 3 questionnaires is under development. The data collected in round 2 are used to analyze which subjects are important for the attainment of which programme learning outcomes. Round 3 questionnaire aims at tapping programme team members' understanding of the relationship between the attainment of programme learning outcomes and students' performance in the subjects identified as important in round 2. Specifically, a 5-point Likert scale is used as the descriptors of the extent of programme learning outcomes achieved; and grade range for each subject is used to benchmark attainment in the corresponding learning outcome. An example of the round 3 questionnaire is attached in Appendix VI "Delphi Round 3".
- A computer programme has been designed by using the computer software, Matlab, in which the results from the Delphi survey can be computerized and modeled. The initial framework is attached in Appendix VII 'Framework'. The actual implementation of this programme will be carried out upon the completion of the 4<sup>th</sup> round of Delphi survey data collection.

5. Overseas consultancy visit:

- As planned, Prof. Mary Allen, an expert in the field, has accepted our College's invitation to pay us a consultancy visit in the period of 3<sup>rd</sup> May to 7<sup>th</sup> May 2011. A contract for service agreement was prepared by the College and now signed by Prof. Mary Allen. The duplicate of a signed copy is attached in *Appendix VIII 'Contract'*.
- A tentative programme for the abovementioned consultancy visit has also been developed. The programme is attached in *Appendix IX 'Consultancy Visit Programme'*.

**B) Resources used (period of September 2010 to end of February 2011):**

Major expenditure items	1 <sup>st</sup> Installment used (HKD)	2 <sup>nd</sup> Installment used (HKD)	3 <sup>rd</sup> Installment Used (HKD)	Cumulative Amount used (HKD)
1. Manpower (Project Associate Salary)	62,475.00	107100.00	106981.00	276556.00
2. Equipment and facilities	32,715.00	12077.39	8988.00	53780.39
3. Others	7,356.80	--	--	7356.80
<b>Actual total expenditure</b>	<b>102,546.80</b>	<b>119,177.39</b>	<b>115,969.00</b>	<b>337693.19</b>
<b>Approved allocation (by installment)</b>	<b>222,500.00</b>	<b>132,300.00</b>	<b>134,300.00</b>	<b>489,100.00</b>

\* Difference between actual expenditure and approved allocation of installments is mainly due to the delay experienced in the employment of project staff; and salary was made commensurate with the appointee's qualification of which is approximately 5K lower than that specified in the proposal.

**C) The percentage of the project completed:**

As of 28<sup>th</sup> February 2011, approximately **50%** of the project has been completed.

**D) Work schedule for next half-year:**

1. Collect and analyze direct measurement data;
2. Collate materials and evidence for consultancy visit;
3. Hold consultancy visit; and
4. Prepare for the recruitment of the second project staff (liaison officer).