

Quality Enhancement Grant Scheme

Progress Report	Project No.: 30/QEGS/B-08-09
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Reporting Period: From March 2010 (month/year) to August 2010 (month/year)

Part A

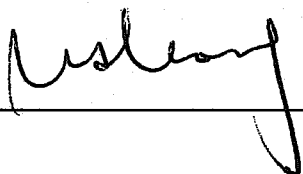
Project Title: The Impact of the New "334" Academic Structure on the Self-financed Sub-degree Programmes Units (SSPUs) – Meeting the Challenges through Professional Exchange

Name of Grantee: Joint Quality Review Committee

Project Period: From September 2009 (month/year) to August 2011 (month/year)


Part B

Please refer to the attached progress report for details.

Signature: 

Name of Authorized Person: Wong Wai Sum (Ms)

Position of Authorized Person: Executive Director

Organization Chop: 

Name of Grantee Organization: Joint Quality Review Committee

Date: 30 September 2010

Progress Report on the Impact of the New “334” Academic Structure on the Self-financed Sub-degree Programmes Units (SSPUs) – Meeting the Challenges through Professional Exchange

(Reporting Period: from March 2010 to September 2010)

Introduction

1. The Project consists of two components: (1) seminar /sharing sessions which form the major component and (2) background research of the current practices and issues in the Self-financed Sub-degree (SFSD) programmes.
2. The Project includes the following personnel:
Project Director: Dr. SO Kwok Sang (*Deputy Chairman, JQRC*)
Deputy Project Director: Professor CHAN Tsang Sing (*Immediate Past Chairman, JQRC*)
Deputy Project Director: Professor HAU Kit Tai (*Member of Board of Directors, JQRC*)
Project Advisor: Professor HO Yan Ki, Richard (*Former Member of Board of Directors, JQRC*)
Project Coordinator: Ms. Wai Sum WONG (*Executive Director, JQRC*)

Seminars / Sharing sessions

3. The seminar / sharing sessions of the whole project include four sessions for heads and senior staff, four sessions for front-line staff and a concluding symposium for major stakeholders.
4. The first seminar had already been held on 4 December 2009. During this reporting period, three more seminars, which again aimed to prepare the senior management of the SFSD sector for the new academic structure, were held on 11 March 2010, 25 May 2010 and 20 September 2010 respectively. Programme summaries are now listed in the tables below:

2nd seminar:

Title	Impact of the New “334” Academic Structure on Self-financed Sub-degree Programme Units – Planning new sub-degree programmes
Date	11 March 2010
Venue	12/F, Madam Chan Wu Wan Kwai School of Continuing

	Education Tower, Hong Kong Baptist University, 9 Baptist University Road, Kowloon Tong
Descriptions	<p><i>Introduction</i> Dr. K. S. So Project Director and Deputy Chairman, JQRC</p> <p><i>The Move Towards 334: Preparation of the Self-financed Sub-degree Sector</i> Ms. Jennifer Ng Principal, Community College of City University</p> <p><i>The Common Core Curriculum</i> Mr. Gwyn Edwards Director of Common Core Curriculum, The University of Hong Kong</p> <p><i>Non-JUPAS Admissions</i> Dr. Tong Chong Sze Academic Registrar, Hong Kong Baptist University</p> <p><i>Open Discussion</i> chaired by Professor T. S. Chan, JQRC Chairman and Deputy Project Director</p>
Attendance	121 participants from 27 SSPUs/Institutions/Organizations

3rd seminar:

Title	Impact of the New "334" Academic Structure on Self-financed Sub-degree Programme Units – Core Curricula and Business Degrees
Date	25 May 2010
Venue	Lecture Theatre II, 2/F, The Chinese University of Hong Kong – Tung Wah Group of Hospitals Community College, 31 Wylie Road, Homantin, Kowloon
Descriptions	<p><i>Introduction</i> Professor T. S. Chan JQRC Chairman and Deputy Project Director</p> <p><i>Core Curriculum in Lingnan University: A Liberal Arts Perspective</i></p>

	<p>Professor Lee Keng Mun, William Associate Vice-President (Academic Affairs), Lingnan University</p> <p><i>Stronger Foundation for the 4-year Bachelor Degree: General Education Curriculum Renewal in CUHK</i> Dr. Leung Mei Yee Associate Director of University General Education, The Chinese University of Hong Kong</p> <p><i>Business Education in 2012</i> Professor Ho Yan Ki, Richard College of Business, City University of Hong Kong</p> <p><i>New Business Programmes at HKU Commencing 2012</i> Professor Chau Yam Keung, Patrick Faculty of Business and Economics, The University of Hong Kong</p> <p><i>Open Discussion</i> chaired by Dr K. S. So, Project Director and JQRC Deputy Chairman</p>
Attendance	125 participants from 30 SSPUs/Institutions/Organizations

4th seminar:

Title	Impact of the New "334" Academic Structure on Self-financed Sub-degree Programme Units – Degrees in Self-financed Institutions and Social Studies Degrees
Date	20 September 2010
Venue	Yeung Kai-yin Memorial Lecture Theatre, Room 751, 7/F, Vocational Training Council Tower, 27 Wood Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong
Descriptions	<p><i>Introduction</i> Professor Frank Hoo Kin FU, MH JP JQRC Chairman</p> <p><i>An Experience Sharing on Preparation of the Degrees in Self-financed Sector for the 334 Academic Structure</i> Professor Danny Shek Nam WONG</p>

	<p>Vice-President (Academic) The Open University of Hong Kong</p> <p>Ms. Andrea HOPE Associate Academic Vice President Hong Kong Shue Yan University</p> <p><i>A Subject-based Experience Sharing on New Bachelor Degree Programmes in Applied Social Studies</i> Dr. Raymond Kwok Hong CHAN Associate Head of Department of Applied Social Studies City University of Hong Kong</p> <p><i>A Subject-based Experience Sharing on New Bachelor Degree Programmes in Social Work</i> Professor Joyce Lai Chong MA Chairperson of Department of Social Work The Chinese University of Hong Kong</p> <p><i>Open Discussion</i> chaired by Professor HAU Kit Tai, Deputy Project Director and Member of Board of Directors of JQRC</p>
Attendance	118 participants from 26 SSPUs/Institutions/Organizations

5. The following issues were identified by the speakers and participants:

- The current admission of senior places in universities is decided by the faculties and/or departments of the university. Articulation/credit transfer from sub-degree sector to university is commonly done on a case-by-case basis within an open competition environment. Each university makes its own decisions to grant advanced standing to AD/HD graduates for articulating to the senior years of a 4-year degree programme.
- Some sub-degree providers considered that the requirement of 60% of generic contents for AD programmes and 60% of specialized contents for HD programmes may have substantial impact on granting credit transfer/exemptions to AD/HD graduates by universities. That is, AD graduates may not obtain full exemption for their generic studies from the universities, whereas HD graduates may only be granted exemptions, on the basis of their specialized studies from the universities' introductory

courses.

- In particular, different universities have different concepts of the common core curriculum; it is difficult for universities to grant full exemptions for the generic studies of sub-degree programmes. Sub-degree providers, on the other hand, are also not sure which common core curriculum to which they should make reference when designing the programmes.
 - Some sub-degree providers found it hard to find out what is going on in the degree sector, and suggested more regular communication and exchange between the sub-degree sector and the degree granting institutions. They further suggested JQRC or EDB / UGC / HUCOM to facilitate communication and discussion between sub-degree sector and the university sector for identifying difficulties and doing some alignment on the issues of admission, curriculum and articulation.
6. An informal meeting with two Heads of SSPU was conducted on 20 April 2010 to find out more about the impact of the New Academic Structure on the SFSD sector.
 7. In order to accommodate the busy schedules of teaching staff at the start of AD/HD new academic year, the fourth seminar that was initially proposed to be conducted in the month of August, had been rescheduled on 20 September, 2010.
 8. Programme plan of the four remaining seminars for both senior management and front-line staff is being composed and preparation is undertaken. The fifth and sixth seminars are scheduled to be held on 18 October 2010 and 25 November 2010 respectively.
 9. To further promote the use of these seminars for professional exchange, presentation materials of the seminar will be uploaded to JQRC website after the event, details of which can be found at <http://www.jqrc.edu.hk/>.

Background research of the current practices and issues in the SFSD programmes

10. In preparation for the workshops, seminars and sharing sessions, which form the main part of the Project, JQRC has planned to conduct background

research to obtain more information on the following:

- Informational and developmental needs of SSPUs in preparation for the new “3-3-4” academic structure (*report had already been distributed at 11 March 2010 seminar*)
- Statistics on AD/HD programmes of both 2009/10 and 2010/11 academic years
- Overseas sub-degree programmes

The Way Forward

11. About 50% of the Project has been completed at the end of the reporting period.
12. The Project will continue to achieve the objective to facilitate professional exchanges among SSPUs and between the sub-degree and degree sectors
13. The next progress report will cover all forthcoming seminars that are planned to be held in the period from October 2010 to March 2011.