

# Quality Enhancement Grant Scheme

**Progress Report**

**Project No. : 25/QEGS/09-10**

Reporting Period : From March 2011 (month/year) to August 2011 (month/year)

## Part A

Project Title : Math Portal

Name of Grantee : Hong Kong Community College

Project Period : From September 2010 (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 KW Hung

Name of Grantee  
Organization: PolyU HKCC

Position of Authorized

Person: Acting Director

Date: 30 September 2011

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

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## Progress report on OEGS Project – Math Portal

### Project Code: 25/OEGS/09-10

The captioned OEGS project has completed Phase II (from 1<sup>st</sup> March, 2011 to 31<sup>st</sup> August, 2011). This report summarizes the project activities completed and the milestones and deliverables attained as of 31<sup>st</sup> August, 2011.

#### 1. Project activities held/completed during the reporting period

##### (I) Math Learning Centre

Math Learning Centres (MLC) continued its operation on both HHB and WK campuses to provide students with additional channel to seek help for mathematics-related problems. In semester 2, 2010/11, around 1800 students enrolled in the subjects concerned in the captioned project.

During term time from Monday to Friday from 14:00 to 18:30, either one of the MLC on both campuses was opened for students enrolled in the concerned mathematics / statistics subjects. In order to provide more comprehensive support service to students, several extra consultation sessions have been arranged for students. All the full time lecturers of the CC2052 subject team have heavily involved in it, each of them have kindly offered at least 4 consultation sessions for students. Students also actively participated in these sessions.

\* 'CC2052 Elementary Statistics' is one of the subjects concerned in the captioned project.

##### (a) Number of visits per week

Day	Number of Visits (Head Count)													Total
	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	Week 7	Week 8	Week 9	Week 10	Week 11	Week 12	Week 13	Week 14	Week 15	
Mon	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	1	5	1	3	--	21	35
Tue	0	0	1	0	0	3	6	1	--	0	3	1	0	15
Wed	2	0	1	0	2	0	2	1	0	1	0	2	0	11
Thu	2	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	15	3	0	0	27	49
Fri	3	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	40	0	--	3	54	103
<b>Total</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>213</b>

-- public holiday

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## (b) Promotion

Students have been informed of the free support services provided by MLC via the following channels:

- Email which introduces the services provided by MLC has been sent to all students concerned at the beginning of each semester,
- Posters have been posted on the notice boards of the campuses / insides the lifts,
- Subject team members of the concerned subjects were well informed about the services and their assistances on introducing the services to students during class were sought,
- Information about the MLC has been uploaded to Digital Display Systems,
- Roller stands and promotional stands have been placed around the two campuses.

## (c) Review of operation of the Math Learning Centres

Besides the two sets of questionnaires that had been developed in Phase I of the captioned project for collecting students' feedback on the support services provided by MLC, one additional set of questionnaire had been developed to collect students' feedback on the extra consultation sessions.

Positive comments from students were received. In particular, an average score of 8.8 (on a 10-point scale) on the question about the effectiveness of the services provided in the Math Learning Centres in helping students' learning was obtained. Encouraging feedbacks on the extra consultation sessions from students were received, around 90% of respondents commended that the sessions were helpful to them.

The following table shows some key findings obtained from the questionnaire survey that conducted at the end of the semester to study the reason(s) for the low utilization of the support services provided by the MLCs.

	no of respondents	R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6
Total	852	175	343	220	220	173	13
%	100.0%	20.5%	40.3%	25.8%	25.8%	20.3%	1.5%

where,

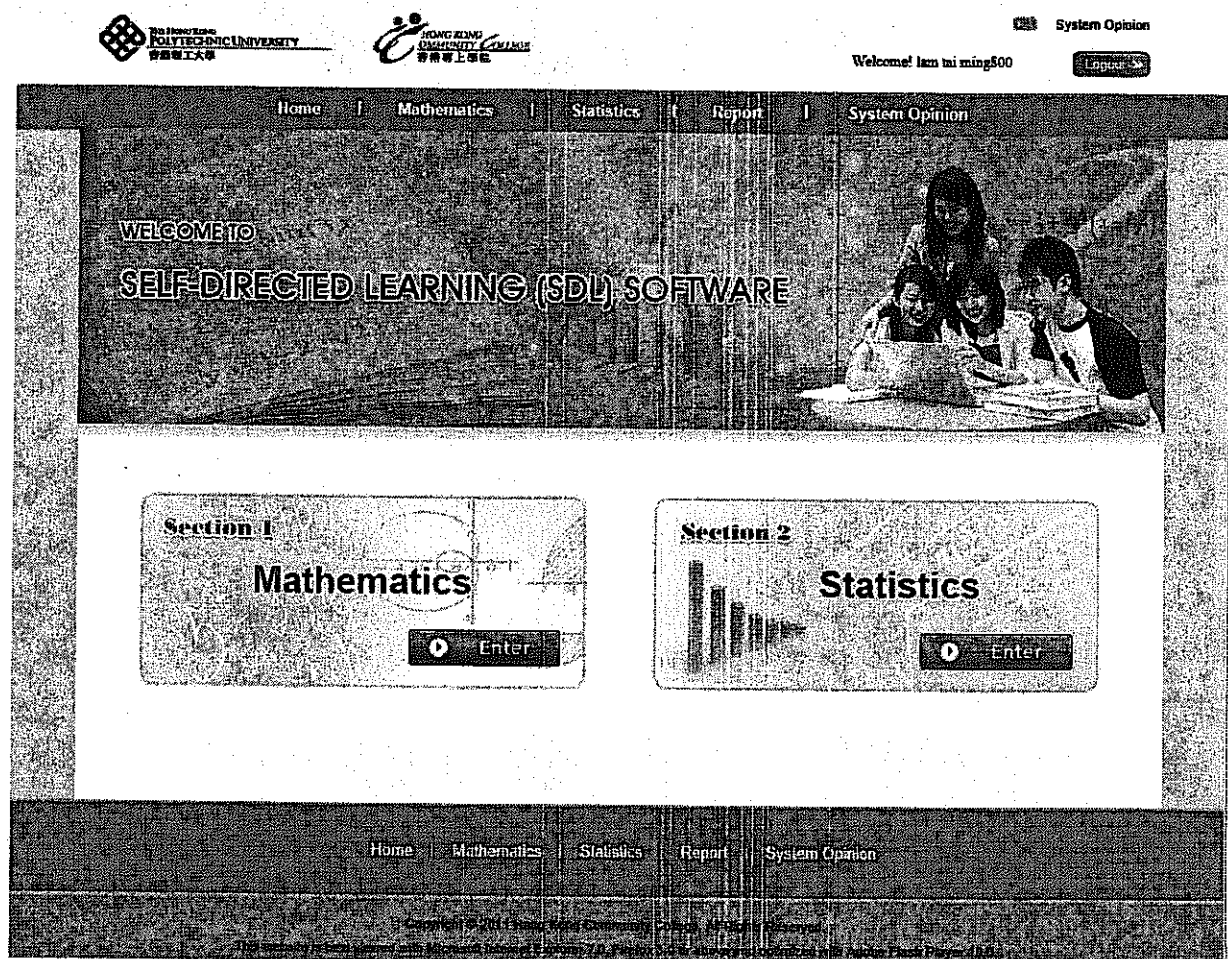
- R1: I am able to cope with the subject materials. Thus, I do not need this kind of help.  
R2: I can seek assistance from my lecturers/friends whenever I need.  
R3: The lectures and tutorials are adequate for me.  
R4: I am not available during the opening days and hours.  
R5: I am not aware of the services of MLC.  
R6: The learning assistant is not capable of solving my problems

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## (II) Self-directed Learning Software

A total of 6 companies were invited to submit their offers for taking up the task of constructing the self-directed learning software for the captioned QEGS project. Three companies had submitted their offers, and Artech Creative Production & Printing Limited (with the lowest and compliant offer) was recommended to take up the project.

The platform web pages and resource system have been built.



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The screenshot shows a web interface for a statistics course. At the top, there are logos for The Hong Kong Polytechnic University and Hong Kong Community College. A navigation bar includes links for Home, Mathematics, Statistics, Report, and System Opinion. A large banner with the word 'Statistics' is centered. On the left, a sidebar menu lists various statistical topics, each with a plus sign to expand it. Below the menu is a search box with a 'GO' button. The main content area, titled 'Statistics', lists nine topics, each with a right-pointing arrow to indicate it is expandable. The topics are: Topic 1 Basic Statistics >>, Topic 2 Descriptive Statistics >>, Topic 3 Probability, Topic 4 Discrete Probability Distributions >>, Topic 5 Continuous Probability Distributions, Topic 6 Sampling Distribution, Topic 7 Confidence Interval, Topic 8 Hypothesis Testing, and Topic 9 Simple Linear Regression.

The following tasks regarding the self-directed learning software are in progress:

- Development and review of content materials,
- Test run of the software and follow up with the vendor on the problems identified,
- Input the content materials (notes, tutorial exercises, self-practice exercises and quizzes) to the resource system.

### (III) Entry Test and Remedial Courses

Six sessions of entry tests were administered to around 4700 stage-1 sub-degree students of HKCC during 22-24 August, 2011 and 1 September, 2011 (make-up session). With references to their performance on the test, appropriate remedial courses have been arranged for students in need. A total of 66 classes (39 classes on West Kowloon campus and 27 classes on Hung Hom Bay campus) have been offered in Semester 1, 2011/12 for around 1300 students.

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The following materials for the remedial courses, each containing (i) notes together with examples (ii) preliminary exercises, and (iii) drilling exercises have been developed.

Lesson	Elementary Algebra	Pre-Calculus	Basic Statistics
1	(i) Approximation and Errors (ii) Exponential and Logarithmic Functions	Trigonometric Function I	Organization and Representation of Data
2	Simultaneous Linear Equations in Two Unknowns	Trigonometric Function II	Measures of Central Tendency and Dispersion
3	Linear Inequalities	Partial Fraction and Series	Permutation
4	Linear and Quadratic Graphs	Differentiation I	Combination
5	Formulas and Basic Algebraic Identities	Differentiation II	Probability I
6	Laws of Indices and Scientific Notation	Complex Number	Probability II

## 2. The percentage, in terms of key tasks, of the project completed at the end of the reporting period

Milestones scheduled for completion during the reporting period **	% attained	Remarks
- Implementation of the Math Learning Centre	100%	
- Review the operation of the Math Learning Centre	100%	
- Recruit teaching staff for developing teaching and learning materials for the remedial courses	100%	
- Develop teaching and learning materials for the remedial courses	100%	
- Administer the entry test to all 1 <sup>st</sup> year sub-degree students	100%	
- Recruit teaching staff for conducting the material courses	100%	
- Perform a test run of the self-directed learning software	100%	
<b>Overall Project</b>	<b>25%</b>	

**\*\* Please seek prior approval from the QEGS Secretariat if the project milestones cannot be completed at the end of the reporting period.**

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3. Project variation (a separate written application should be submitted to the QEGS Secretariat for prior written approval.)

Descriptions of variations (e.g. change of the project scope or duration, deferral of completion date, relocation of an amount exceeding 10% between items of expenditure in the budget)	Date of approval sought from QEGS Secretariat

4. Financial position as at the end date of the reporting period

Expenditure items	Approved budget (a)	Committed or actual expenditure (b)	Balance [(a)-(b)]
a. Manpower	277,425	Part-time project assistant = 94,377.5 Development of test bank /materials = 169,635	13,412.5
b. Equipment / facilities	50,000	Notebooks and accessories = 42,026	7,974
c. Services	40,000	Construction of software = 40,000	0
d. General expenses	42,575	Textbooks and miscellaneous = 7656.85 Administration cost of entry test and remedial courses = 26042	8,876.15
e. Others	---	--	--
<b>Total</b>	<b>410,000</b>	<b>379,737.35</b>	<b>30,262.65</b>
<i>Project Income (if any)</i>			
<i>Total Balance</i>			<b>30,262.65</b>