

Quality Enhancement Grant Scheme

Progress Report	Project No. :
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Reporting Period : From October 2012 (month/year) to March 2013 (month/year)

Part A

Project Title : Models on Sub-degree General Education Curriculum and Exemplary General Education Subjects

Name of Grantee : Federation for Self-financing Tertiary Education

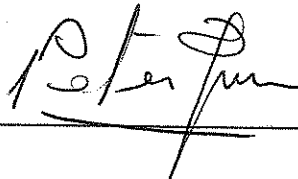
Project Period : From October 2011 (month/year) to September 2013 (month/year)

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: Professor Peter Yuen

Name of Grantee: Federation for Self-financing
Organization: Tertiary Education

Position of Authorized

Person: Chairman, R&D Committee

Date: 24th July, 2013

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

Project Objectives

The project aims to enhance the development and delivery of General Education (GE) of sub-degree programmes through sharing of expertise among universities and sub-degree institutions in conjunction with visiting Fulbright scholars from American universities. It is also hoped that through alignment of GE curricula among sub-degree institutions and making reference to those of local universities, a credit accumulation and transfer system of GE subjects between sub-degree and degree programmes can be facilitated.

Implementation of project activities

According to the project schedule, specific tasks to be undertaken during the 3rd half year (October 2012 – March 2013):

1. Organizing seminar on general education development in the sub-degree sector
 2. Developing exemplary GE subjects
 3. Developing the outline of the Guidebook
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1. Organizing seminar on general education development in the sub-degree sector
 - 1.1 A Seminar given by Professor Reza Hoshmand, Director of General Education at Hong Kong Baptist University, was held on 10 October 2012. With attendance of 19 participants from sub-degree institutions, the seminar featured Professor Hoshmand's summary of sub-degree providers' applications to Baptist University for GE credit transfer/exemption, (Programme rundown and powerpoint of his presentation are attached as **Appendix I & Appendix II** respectively).
 - 1.2 With the involvement of two Fulbright Scholars, Dr Dennis Berg and Dr Robert C Lagueux, who are seasoned experts in the field of GE development from American higher education institutions, a seminar entitled *Achieving Learning Outcomes – Hints for Frontline Teaching Staff* was organized on 26 January 2013, with around 80 participants from sub-degree institutions. Frontline teaching staff joined different groups, namely Chinese Language, English Language, Arts and Humanities, Social Sciences and Natural Sciences, according to their needs and interests. (Dr Dennis Berg's and Dr Robert Lagueux's biography, programme rundown and powerpoint of their presentation are attached as **Appendix III, Appendix IV & Appendix V** respectively).
 - 1.3 Teachers welcomed FSTE to organize cross-institution events for network building and professional development. FSTE was suggested to organize related activities

for the sector.

- 1.4 Dr Paul Hanstedt, a Fulbright scholar in General Education and the author of *General Education Essentials: A Guide for College Faculty*, agreed to conduct workshops on assessment strategies in June. Moreover, Dr Hedley Freake, a Fulbright scholar, agreed to conduct seminar for GE Administrators on program articulation and workshop for science GE teachers on engaging students in June.
- 2 Developing exemplary GE subjects
 - 2.1 A total of 38 GE courses were sent to Fulbright scholars and local academics for review. All comments would be further reviewed by GE Task Group members and a number of the GE courses would be selected for inclusion in the GE Guidebook.
 - 2.2 16 comments from Fulbright scholars were received until February while 18 comments from local academics were received until March. Working Group kept inviting Fulbright scholars to review the remaining cases.
- 3 Developing the outline of the GE Guidebook
 - 3.1 Dr Paul Hanstedt has been agreed to be the academic consultant of GE Guidebook. He will make an overall comment on the draft manuscript of GE Guidebook upon his arrival in Hong Kong in June.
 - 3.2 Six chapters (chapters 1, 2, 3, 4, 6 & 9) have been drafted. Four chapters (chapters 5, 7, 8 & 10) were being prepared. A member of Working Group was invited as an editor for the draft chapters. Table of Content of the GE Guidebook is as follows:

Foreword

- 1 *Introduction*
- 2 *Outcome-based approach to General Education*
- 3 *Requirements of Common Descriptors on GE for sub-degree programmes*
- 4 *Survey of sub-degree General Education curricula*
- 5 *Exemplary General Education courses and analysis*
- 6 *Good practices*

- 7 *Strategies to avoid potholes in General Education provision at sub-degree level*
- 8 *General Education framework for sub-degree curriculum*
- 9 *Articulation and transfer*
- 10 *The way forward*

3.3 Two Fulbright Scholars, Dr Linda Bowman and Dr Jerry Gaff, have agreed to write prefaces for the GE Guidebook.

Expenditure Summary

The project expenditure summary is attached as **Appendix VI** for reference.

Conclusion

A clear timeline for GE Guidebook has been set out. An academic editor with extensive experience in editing college-level essays, papers and books would be engaged as the chief editor of the GE Guidebook.

From the feedback of two seminars during the reporting period, participants appreciated the cross-institution events for knowledge exchange and network building. It enhanced the confidence of the Working Group to organize more seminars and workshops for GE development in near future.

It was estimated that approximately 60% of the entire project has been accomplished up to this stage. With the close monitoring by the Working Group, we shall get forthcoming deliverables reached as planned.