

**A list of decisions made by the Council
at its meeting on 7 June 2011**

Establishment of HKBU Changshu Research Institute

1. Following the decision made at the last Council meeting to establish the HKBU Changshu Research Institute in the Changshu Economic Development Zone to serve as a bridgehead for the University's research and other educational endeavours in the Yangtze River Delta, the Council resolved to approve the business plan of the HKBU Changshu Research Institute.

2011-12 University recurrent budget and the 2011-12 budgets for the School of Continuing Education, Chaplain's Office and student residences

2. The Council resolved to approve for implementation the 2011-12 University recurrent budget and the 2011-12 budgets for the School of Continuing Education, Chaplain's Office and student residences.

Tuition fees for UGC-funded programmes in 2011-12

3. The Council resolved to approve the tuition and related fees for UGC-funded programmes in 2011-12.

Revision of rates of housing allowances for eligible staff

4. Following the revision of the rates of housing allowances in the Civil Service with effect from 1 April 2011, the Council resolved:
 - (a) to adopt the revised rates of Private Tenancy Allowance with retroactive effect from 1 April 2011, for application to eligible staff entering into a new tenancy agreement on or after 1 April 2011; and
 - (b) to adopt the revised rates of Home Financing Allowance with retroactive effect from 1 April 2011, for application to eligible staff who commence to receive the allowance on or after 1 April 2011.

Revision of rates of Responsibility and Acting Allowances

5. As a result of a review of the rates of Responsibility Allowance and Acting Allowance conducted by the University Administration, the Council resolved:
 - (a) to approve a number of upward adjustments to the rates of Responsibility Allowance and Acting Allowance with effect from 1 July 2011; and

- (b) to adopt some refinements to the guidelines on the provision of Responsibility Allowance and Acting Allowance with effect from 1 July 2011.

Enhancement of the appeal process for service termination

6. To enhance the appeal process for service termination, the Council resolved to approve for implementation with immediate effect:

- (a) that with regard to the procedures for service termination of academic staff, senior teaching staff and senior non-teaching staff on contract/continuous contract appointment, the President and Vice-Chancellor would continue to be the authority for approving service termination of these staff, having considered relevant reports from the University Review Panel, while the Chairman of the Personnel Committee of Council would be the authority for handling and deciding on any appeal against a decision of service termination of these staff; and
- (b) that the membership composition of the Appeal Committee for staff on substantiated appointment and that for staff not on substantiated appointment be revised as follows:

Staff on substantiated appointment

5 independent members including:

- (i) a lay Council member as Chairman;
- (i) 3 other Council members; and
- (iii) another lay Council member or, as considered necessary by the appeal authority, an external member.

Staff not on substantiated appointment

3 independent members including:

- (i) 2 senior academic/teaching and senior non-teaching staff members who are at least of the same rank/grade as the staff under review; and
- (ii) a lay Council member or, as considered necessary by the appeal authority, an external member.

[The appeal authority will appoint one of the above 3 members to be the Chairman of the Appeal Committee.]

Compliance with the Minimum Wage Ordinance

7. To ensure that the University will not be paying staff below the Statutory Minimum Wage currently set at \$28 per hour, the Council resolved:
 - (a) to set \$7,700 as the reference minimum wage level for University staff appointed on or after the implementation of the Minimum Wage Ordinance on 1 May 2011; and
 - (b) to adjust the minimum monthly pay level for Junior Research Assistant from \$7,000 to \$7,700 with immediate effect.