

## **LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL BRIEF**

### **APPROVAL FOR HANG SENG MANAGEMENT COLLEGE AND CARITAS INSTITUTE OF HIGHER EDUCATION TO AWARD DEGREES**

#### **INTRODUCTION**

At the meeting of the Executive Council on 7 July 2015, the Council ADVISED and the Chief Executive ORDERED that approval should be granted to –

- (a) Hang Seng Management College (HSMC) to award degrees for the Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Chinese programme; and
- (b) Caritas Institute of Higher Education (CIHE) to award degrees for the Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Digital Entertainment programme.

#### **JUSTIFICATIONS**

##### **Hang Seng Management College**

2. The Hang Seng School of Commerce (HSSC) was founded in 1980 to provide mainly business diploma courses, as well as matriculation courses, pre-associate and associate degree programmes in later years. Established by HSSC, HSMC has been registered under the Post Secondary Colleges Ordinance (Cap. 320) (the Ordinance) since 2010. In the 2014/15 academic year, HSMC operates 11 self-financing locally-accredited post-secondary programmes, including 10 bachelor's degree programmes and an associate degree programme with around 4 550 students.

3. In April 2015, HSMC obtained accreditation from the Hong Kong Council for Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications

(HKCAAVQ) of the proposed Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Chinese programme.

### **Caritas Institute of Higher Education**

4. Caritas-Hong Kong is a charitable organisation offering medical, social work and community services as well as education services in Hong Kong. Established by Caritas-Hong Kong in 1985, Caritas Francis Hsu College (CFHC) had been offering advanced level courses and diploma programmes, and was later registered under the Ordinance in 2001 for operating programmes at sub-degree level. In May 2011, the Chief Executive in Council approved CFHC to award degrees for its proposed Bachelor of Business Administration (Honours) programme. In the same year, CFHC was approved to change its English name to “Caritas Institute of Higher Education” under the Ordinance. In the 2014/15 academic year, CIHE operates 10 full-time locally-accredited self-financing post-secondary programmes, including four bachelor’s degree programmes and six sub-degree programmes with around 1 040 students.

5. In May 2015, CIHE obtained HKCAAVQ’s accreditation of the proposed Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Digital Entertainment programme.

### **Award of Degrees**

6. Section 10(a) of the Ordinance provides that a post secondary college may, with the prior approval of the Chief Executive in Council, award degrees. HSMC and CIHE intend to introduce the proposed programmes in the 2015/16 academic year.

### **IMPLICATIONS OF THE PROPOSAL**

7. The proposal is in conformity with the Basic Law, including the provisions concerning human rights. It has no significant economic and sustainability implications, and no financial and civil service, productivity, environmental, family and gender implications.

## **PUBLIC CONSULTATION**

8. Public consultation is unnecessary as the proposal involves no policy change.

## **PUBLICITY**

9. A spokesman will be available for answering public enquiries.

## **ENQUIRIES**

10. In case of enquiries, please contact Ms Pecvin Yong, Principal Assistant Secretary for Education, at 3509 8502.

**Education Bureau**  
**July 2015**