Press Release on Referendum on Institutional Autonomy

The Referendum on Institutional Autonomy, organized by staff unions and concern group of 8 universities and supported by Hong Kong University Public Opinion Programme ("HKUPOP"), was finally closed in the evening of 23 March with vote counting completed today. Among the 4,520 votes casted, those who support the motion of "To abolish the powers of the Chief Executive in appointing members to the Council" amount to 4,157, representing 92% of the vote casted. Those who support the motion of "To increase the ratio of elected members of academic/teaching and administrative/supporting staff, postgraduate and undergraduate students in the Council" amount to 4,285, representing 95% of the vote casted.

各院校投票人數 **No. of staff voted in each institution**

| | 香港城市大學 CityU | 香港浸會大學 HKBU | 嶺南大學 LU | 香港中文大學 CUHK | 香港教育學院 HKIEd | 香港理工大學 PolyU | 香港科技大學 HKUST | 香港大學 HKU | | | 八大院校總數 **Overall Total** |
								教員 Teachers	其他職員 Other staff	總數 **Total**	
教職員人數 **No. of Staff**	2,500	1,100	709	7,635	1,200	3,588	2,400	1,200	6,000	7,200	**26,332**
投票人數 **No. of votes**	459	183	319	1,235	261	646	377	291	749	1,040	**4,520**
投票率 **Voting rate**	18.4%	16.6%	45.0%	16.2%	21.8%	18.0%	15.7%	24.3%	12.5%	14.4%	**17.2%**

註 Notes:

1)各院校教職員人數由各院校教職員工會(香港科技大學資料由 "科大校院管治關注組")提供 *Figures on the no. of staff are provided by the staff union of each institution (figure of HKUST from "HKUST University Governance Concern Group")*

點票結果 **Vote Counts**

議題一. 取消特首任命校董會/校委會成員的權力
Motion 1. **To abolish the powers of the Chief Executive in appointing members to the Council.**

	香港城市大學 CityU	香港浸會大學 HKBU	嶺南大學 LU	香港中文大學 CUHK	香港教育學院 HKIEd	香港理工大學 PolyU	香港科技大學 HKUST	香港大學 HKU			八大院校總數 Overall Total
								教員 Teachers	其他職員 Other staff	總數 Total	
贊成 Support	445 (96.9%)	169 (92.3%)	229 (71.8%)	1,164 (94.3%)	248 (95.0%)	588 (91.0%)	345 (91.5%)	280 (96.2%)	689 (92.0%)	969 (93.2%)	**4,157 (92.0%)**
反對 Oppose	10 (2.2%)	8 (4.4%)	48 (15.1%)	53 (4.3%)	8 (3.1%)	51 (7.9%)	20 (5.3%)	7 (2.4%)	36 (4.8%)	43 (4.1%)	**241 (5.3%)**
棄權 Abstention	4 (0.9%)	6 (3.3%)	42 (13.2%)	17 (1.4%)	5 (1.9%)	7 (1.1%)	12 (3.2%)	4 (1.3%)	22 (2.9%)	26 (2.5%)	**119 (2.6%)**
廢／白票 Invalid/Blank votes	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	1 (0.1%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	2 (0.3%)	2 (0.2%)	**3 (0.1%)**
總數 Total	**459**	**183**	**319**	**1,235**	**261**	**646**	**377**	**291**	**749**	**1,040**	**4,520**

註 Notes:
1) 院校以英文全名排序　Institutions arranged in alphabetical order of their English full names
2) 嶺南大學是以自設電子投票進行公投四項議題，其中兩項與上述相類似，故其結果可納入本項目的整體結果。Lingnan University held the referendum on 4 motions by its own e-voting system, 2 of which are similar to the motions of this project, so the results are included in the overall vote counts of this project.

議題二.　　　增加校董會/校委會中民選教員、職員、研究生、本科生代表的比例

Motion 2.　　　**To increase the ratio of elected members of academic/teaching and administrative/supporting staff, postgraduate and undergraduate students in the Council.**

	香港城市大學 CityU	香港浸會大學 HKBU	嶺南大學 LU	香港中文大學 CUHK	香港教育學院 HKIEd	香港理工大學 PolyU	香港科技大學 HKUST	香港大學 HKU			八大院校總數 **Overall Total**
								教員 Teachers	其他職員 Other staff	總數 Total	
贊成 **Support**	452 (98.5%)	173 (94.5%)	277 (86.8%)	1,178 (95.4%)	253 (96.9%)	609 (94.3%)	359 (95.2%)	276 (94.8%)	708 (94.5%)	984 (94.6%)	**4,285 (94.8%)**
反對 **Oppose**	4 (0.9%)	3 (1.6%)	19 (6.0%)	23 (1.9%)	4 (1.5%)	28 (4.3%)	3 (0.8%)	6 (2.1%)	24 (3.2%)	30 (2.9%)	**114 (2.5%)**
棄權 **Abstention**	3 (0.7%)	7 (3.8%)	23 (7.2%)	31 (2.5%)	4 (1.5%)	9 (1.4%)	15 (3.9%)	9 (3.1%)	16 (2.1%)	25 (2.4%)	**117 (2.6%)**
廢／白票 Invalid/Blank votes	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	3 (0.2%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	0 (0.0%)	1 (0.1%)	1 (0.1%)	**4 (0.1%)**
總數 **Total**	**459**	**183**	**319**	**1,235**	**261**	**646**	**377**	**291**	**749**	**1,040**	**4,520**

註 *Notes:*

1) 院校以英文全名排序　*Institutions arranged in alphabetical order of their English full names*

2) 嶺南大學是以自設電子投票進行公投四項議題，其中兩項與上述相類似，故其結果可納入本項目的整體結果。*Lingnan University held the referendum on 4 motions by its own e-voting system, 2 of which are similar to the motions of this project, so the results are included in the overall vote counts of this project.*

The above-mentioned results show that more than 90% of the 4,520 staff participating in the referendum is in favour of the two motions. This reflect the over-whelming and near-unanimous support among the staff working in different universities to abolish the powers of the Chief Executive in appointing members to the Council as well as to increase the ratio of elected members of academic/teaching and administrative/supporting staff, postgraduate and undergraduate students in the Council

Since this is the first time to hold cross-institutional referendum in tertiary educational sector of Hong Kong, it is difficult to establish comparison in view of lack of precedence. We shall continue our close communication and cooperation with other stakeholders of different institutions and propose more detailed reform directions on governance structure based on the results of this referendum. We are hopeful that the university administration and the Legislative Council can adopt policies in compliance with the opinions of the stakeholders of different institutions.

We are thankful for the support from HKUPOP. This referendum is not meant to replace any opinion-gathering channels of the existing organizations in different universities but rather a new credible and effective platform to aggregate opinions of their stakeholders on important issues.

We shall arrange a press conference on or after 29 March (Tuesday) (details to be announced later) to respond any queries on this referendum.

Academic Staff Association of HKU
University of Hong Kong Employees Union
The Chinese University of Hong Kong Employees General Union
Polytechnic University Staff Association
City University of Hong Kong Staff Association
Hong Kong Baptist University Faculty and Staff Union
Academic Staff Association of the Hong Kong Institute of Education
Staff Association of The Hong Kong Institute of Education
HKUST University Governance Concern Group
24 March, 2016