The following matters have been discussed at the Council meeting held on November 3, 2009:

1. The Council NOTED that four of the serving members of the Council, Mr. Justice Patrick CHAN, Mr. Christopher CHENG, Mr. Raymond OR and Mr. Jack SO, would be retiring from their membership from November 7, 2009, which was in line with the Government’s “six-year rule”; and RECORDED a vote of thanks to them for all their most valuable contributions to the University during their term of membership with the Council.

2. The Council NOTED that the membership of the postgraduate student representative on the Council, Mr. W.S. FUNG, would end on November 4, 2009; and RECORDED a vote of thanks to Mr. FUNG for his participation in the work of the Council during his term of membership.

3. The Council RECEIVED a verbal report from the Vice-Chancellor on the further developments of the various initiatives under the Shenzhen Projects.

4. The Council ACCEPTED the resignation of Professor G.C. BIDDLE from the Deanship of Business and Economics from February 16, 2010, noting his decision to return to the innovation and development of his research and teaching as Hongkong Telecom Foundation Professor in the Faculty of Business and Economics; and RECORDED a vote of thanks to Professor BIDDLE for his contributions to the Faculty of Business and Economics during his term of Deanship.

5. The Council APPROVED amendments to the Procedures for the Resolution of Staff Grievances.

6. The Council APPROVED, for submission to the Court, a recommendation of the Senate that Statute III “Degrees and Other Academic Distinctions” be amended by the inclusion of the title “Bachelor of Arts in Landscape Studies (園境學文學士)” in paragraph 1(a) thereof.

7. The Council APPROVED a recommendation of the Management Committee of the Centre of Buddhist Studies, supported by the Senate, that consequent upon the re-affiliation of the Centre of Buddhist Studies from the Faculty of Social Sciences to the Faculty of Arts, the terms of reference of the Management Committee of the Centre of Buddhist Studies be amended by replacing the membership category of “Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences (or his/her representative)” by “Dean of the Faculty of Arts (or his/her representative)”.

8. The Council APPROVED, on the recommendation of the Committee for the Selection of Wardens and Hall Tutors, the amendments to the terms of reference of the Committee.
9. The Council RECEIVED a report from the Committee on Academic Reviews on the review of the Hong Kong Putonghua Education and Assessment Centre (HKPEAC), a sub-division of studies and learning in the Faculty of Education; and NOTED that the Senate had approved the recommendations contained therein.

10. The Council RECEIVED, via the Senior Management Team, the final report on the progress of integration of staff and facilities of the former Institute of Molecular Biology; and NOTED that the Senate had approved the recommendations contained therein.

11. The Council NOTED that the following had been appointed/re-appointed as members of the Council in the category “6 persons, not being students or employees of the University, appointed by the Chancellor” for a term of three years from November 7, 2009:

   Mr. Lester Garson HUANG
   Mr. Benjamin HUNG Pi Cheng
   Mrs. Margaret LEUNG KO May Yee
   Mr. Martin LIAO Cheung Kong
   Dr. York LIAO (re-appointment)
   Ms. Ayesha Abbas MACPHERSON

12. The Council NOTED that the Chairman of the Council had approved, on behalf of the Council, the Vice-Chancellor’s appointment as a member of the Board of Trustees of the Council for Advancement and Support of Education, Washington, D.C., an international association serving educational institutions in alumni relations, communications, development, marketing and allied areas, from July 1, 2009 for a period of three years, which did not involve any payment of honorarium (but with financial compensation, including travel, food and lodging expenses for meeting attendance).

November 2009