

Thank you and Season's Message to All Colleagues and Students

22 December 2017

Dear Colleagues and Students,

Time flies. Next Monday will be Christmas Day and I hope you will enjoy the short break before the 2nd semester starts. Amidst the joy of this festive season, I am pleased to share with you our recent development and accomplishments over the past few months, in addition to the many achievements mentioned in my "*New Academic Year Message*" to all staff and students on 31 August 2017. I am delighted to highlight the following:

- (1) Joined the UNESCO Global Humanities Network, with HSMC as the only invited member institution in the local higher education sector, and subsequent launching of the "HSMC Global Humanities Initiative" at HSMC in October 2017, in association with Asian New Humanities Net and the UNESCO Chair in Asian Humanities and Global Network.
- (2) With funding support from Shao Ming Lo Foundation and under a signed partnership agreement, HSMC and Peter F. Drucker Academy jointly conducted the Management as a Liberal Art (MLA) Conference in October 2017 featuring a number of distinguished speakers. Credit-bearing MLA elective courses have been launched at HSMC and the two institutions will implement further initiatives to advocate MLA in the region.
- (3) Held the HSMC G-20 2017 – A Simulation of the Annual G-20 Leadership Summit at HSMC in November 2017, with Mr Kuet Tong, US Consul General to Hong Kong and Macau, as the keynote speaker. HSMC students from different undergraduate programmes participated in the simulation and gained a good understanding of international affairs and developed skills in multilateral negotiations, public speaking, team building and diplomacy.
- (4) Delivered a public talk "Slovenia, China and Hong Kong in the Global Context" by the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Food of the Republic of Slovenia, Mr Dejan Židan, at HSMC during his visit to Hong Kong in November 2017.

- (5) Successful accreditation of five new degree programmes, BBA in Human Resources Management, MSc in Entrepreneurial Management, MSc in Global Supply Chain Management, MA in Translation (Computer-aided Translation), and MA in Strategic Communication, for launching in the near future.
- (6) Our students had outstanding performance again in several large-scale, open competitions such as:
 - Winner of “Best in Tech News Reporting” and “Best in News Video Reporting” of China Daily Hong Kong Edition 2017 Campus Newspaper Awards;
 - “Best Student Awards 2017”, The Chartered Institute of Procurement & Supply;
 - “Outstanding Debater” in the Joint Tertiary Institution Putonghua Debate Competition, Radio Television Hong Kong; and
 - 1st Runner-up and a Certificate of Merits in the Hong Kong Undergraduate Financial Planners of the Year Award 2017 organized by the Society of Registered Financial Planners.
- (7) Launched the Joint-Institution Network for Student Success (JINESS) job portal, a pilot project funded by the QESS for about HK\$20M and led by HSMC in collaboration with four other self-financing degree-granting institutions. It offers a platform for both students and employers in search of career opportunities and talents respectively.
- (8) Approval of the “*Institutional Review (IR) Main Submission*” report for acquiring private university title was granted by the College Council at its meeting in November 2017, following our application to EDB in March 2017. The report will be submitted to HKCAAVQ in December 2017 for the on-site IR exercise to be held in late April 2018.
- (9) Approval of the Strategic Plan 2018-2023 “*Riding on the New Era: Private University with a Difference*” was granted by the Board of Governors at its special meeting in December 2017. The Strategic Plan had consolidated and distilled comments and advice from staff, students, alumni, Governors, College Council Members and other stakeholders including parents and employers over a three-month period.

The College is now in full swing preparing for the said IR exercise for acquiring the private university title. The College will also embark on a course of initiatives in 2018 on various strategic areas. In particular, with secured external donations, we will establish several new student development units including the Wu Jieh Yee Centre for Innovation and Entrepreneurship and the Institute of Youth Sustainability Leadership.

Our unwavering goal remains to become a leading private liberal-arts-oriented university in the region, nurturing students to become global citizens and leaders with critical thinking, innovative minds, caring attitude, moral values and social responsibility.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our Board Governors and Council Members for their constant guidance and support. Also, my heartfelt appreciation to all of you for your tireless and dedicated work throughout the years which have contributed to the College's achievement thus far. With our shared vision and concerted efforts, I am confident that we can keep expanding new frontiers in higher education and take HSMC to another level of success in 2018.

Meanwhile, I wish you will have a restful break spending time with your loved ones. May your Christmas be filled with lots of happiness, peace and love!