香港中文大學 CHINESE UNIVERSITY HONG KONG

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The School of Education Becomes A Faculty

The School of Education of The Chinese University of Hong Kong has been formally reconstituted as the Faculty of Education starting from August 1, 1991, with a newly elected Dean, Dr Leslie Lo.

The reorganization indicates that Education has finally taken its place with Arts, Science, Social Science, Business Administration, Medicine and Engineering in the administrative structure of the Chinese University. The new Faculty is composed of four departments including Educational Psychology, Curriculum and Instruction, Educational Administration and Policy, and Physical Education.

As of now, the newly reorganized Faculty of Education has a teaching staff of sixty. There are over 800 students enrolled for the three Diploma-in-Education, the master's degree, the doctoral degree, and the two part-time bachelor degree programmes. The Faculty also offers physical education as well as general education courses in Education for undergraduate students of the University; altogether over 160 courses are offered.

The School of Education was established in 1965 as the first postgraduate professional school of the Chinese University. During its early years, its mission was simply to provide a oneyear Diploma-in-Education course to train university graduates to become professional teachers at the senior secondary level.

In the mid 1970's, secondary education in Hong Kong underwent rapid expansion, social demand for postgraduate teacher education increased tremendously. There was also an emerging need for specialist education researchers. The School of Education responded to the social needs with rapid expansion, diversification and upgrading of its curriculum and facilities.

Administratively, when the University reorganized itself in 1977 to centralize all faculties and departments, the School of Education was rather an independent Unit and function as a division within the Graduate School. In 1987-88, the teaching staff of the School unanimously adopted a resolution requesting the University to reorganize the School as a faculty within the meaning of the Statutes of the University, and the Senate accepted the proposal in principle. It also transferred to the School the Physical Education Unit which had been in charge of undergraduate physical education, in order to facilitate the development of research and professional training in Physical Education.

Since 1988-89, The Director of the School has been elected by the teaching staff of the School from among themselves. Other aspects of the reorganization were also realized one after another. By now, the School has eventually been formally reconstituted as the Faculty of Education.

During the past quarter-century, the School of Education trained for Hong Kong some 6,000 senior secondary teachers, more than 200 educational researchers and specialists, and more than 50 teacher educators. The academic staff and research students of the School also made significant contributions in their scholarly studies, which were published in the bilingual Education Journal of the School and other local and international journals.