

(No subject)  
HOLZ Carsten A <socholz@ust.hk>  
Fri 2/14/2014 5:21 PM  
To: [Dean] Cc: [School faculty]

Apologies if this email arrives repeatedly. The HKUST server does not recognize some of the HUMA email addresses taken from the Communications Directory.

Dear [Dean],

my calendar shows a school board meeting on 20 February.

(i) Something I have been wondering for a long time and rather than attend another meeting not knowing what the rights and duties of the School Board are, let me ask explicitly: What are the rights and duties of the School Board?

In the Statutes of the University I find the following passage:

Statute 4

Powers of the Board of Each School

Subject to the provisions of the Ordinance and the Statutes, the Board of each School shall have the power:-

- (a) to advise the Senate on any matters relating to the work of the School; and
- (b) to perform any duty which the Senate may delegate to it and to do all such acts and things as may be required to perform the same.

I am not aware that we have been advising the Senate (a). Could you please let me know what the duties are that the Senate has delegated to the School Board (b)?

(ii) I noticed that the physical presence of SOSC has been abolished and that all that is left is a School. I did not see the division approve such a step but maybe it happened before 2013/14 – could you please point me to the decision/minutes? If there has not been explicit division approval for abolishing the physical presence of the division, I request that a discussion of the issue be put on the agenda of the upcoming School Board Meeting (assuming that such a request conforms with the rights and duties of the School Board).

(iii) At the Provost's last visit to SOSC, he was asked, among others, who makes the decision on the remuneration for teaching in the self-financing program, and he said very briefly and succinctly "The School" (which would also imply that the Senate has delegated such authority to the School Board). I therefore request that the compensation for teaching in the self-financing program be put on the agenda of the School Board meeting. In order to make informed decisions on compensation in the self-financing program, I would think it is necessary that the School budget be shared in writing and in sufficient detail with the School Board, and I request that that be done. – The Provost's statement appears inconsistent to me with current practice and I don't want to live with the hypocrisy. I ask this to be resolved.

Best,  
Carsten

PS: I wouldn't mind being able to send emails to my HUMA colleagues (with who I now share a general office!) without having to type in their email addresses individually. Others (regular colleagues) have been given such a right and I ask for this right, too.

My email to dean of 14 Feb.  
HOLZ Carsten A <socholz@ust.hk>  
Wed 2/19/2014 4:46 PM  
To: [School faculty]

Dear all,

in response to my email to the dean on 14 February 2014, I have received fragmentary answers.

Ad (i) rights and duties of the School Board

No formal reply. (An informal one re consultative/advisory function without reference to any regulatory framework.)

The Senate regulates that the School Board has to meet once a semester “to perform any duty which the Senate may delegate to it and to do all such acts and things as may be required to perform the same.” But the Senate hasn’t delegated any duty to us.

I conclude we don’t need more than a one-minute School Board Meeting: we must meet because the regulations say so, and one minute is enough to do no duties.

We could have a Dean’s Love Fest afterwards. No rules on rights, duties, or procedures are needed for that, since the dean is just privately asking for our advice. – I teach till 10:20.

Ad (ii), the abolition of the physical presence of SOSC. I have an informal reply that refers to space being allocated to schools, not division. No information re SOSC faculty members or the School Board having approved the abolition of the SOSC general office. The reply combined with reality implies the extra step that School = Dean. Which would also mean School Board Meeting = Dean meeting the Dean.

Ad (iii), remuneration in the self-financing program, I received the below response:

>

The University has a UAC Sub-Committee on Continuing and Professional Education (SCCPE) which is in charge of setting the tuition as well as the payment to the Director and faculty of our university's taught programs. Generally these are decided in accordance with current Hong Kong and some times - especially for SBM programs – international practice. Currently the Chair of the SCCPE is the Associate Vice-Provost for Postgraduate Studies.

When the Provost refers to the School what he probably means is that program requests regarding tuition and faculty compensation have to be approved first by the sponsoring unit - in our case either the Division or School Executive Committee depending on if the taught program is proposed by the school or by one of our Divisions - before they are sent on to the SCCPE.

<

The question put to the Provost was who makes the decision on the remuneration for teaching in the self-financing program. His answer was ‘The School.’

– So many meanings of School!: Dean, SCCPE, and who knows what else, just \*not\* “the

faculty members that constitute the School of Humanities and Social Sciences.” I suspect management OD’ed on ‘1984.’

Separately, I haven’t heard back from Connie in response to my request for the door code to the general office. And if you see a lot of HUMA emails at the top of this email, then I still am not among the select group of colleagues who have been authorized to use the School [my take on the meaning of School] mailing list.

Best,  
Carsten