

12 April 2021
Carsten A. Holz

Statement in support of my self-nomination for chair professorship

The relevant regulation of the Hong Kong University of Science & Technology, AP 15.2 (“Chair Professorship”) lists in item 7 three requirements to be considered for the Chair Professor title: *the candidates must be*

(a) current full-time regular faculty members at the rank of Professor;

My rank is that of Professor.

and (b) acknowledged internationally as leaders in their fields of research activity. [The scholastic leadership should be documented by achievements such as notable contributions to research published in leading journals and/or books, accomplishments widely recognized for excellence, prestigious academic awards and honors, and citations.];

I am acknowledged internationally as a leader in the field of (understanding) official PRC statistics. Evidence: my publications in this field, my citation record ([google scholar profile](#)), frequent inquiries from and communications with other researchers on PRC statistics, and being contacted by media about PRC statistics. Beyond this specific expertise, I have published (and am being cited) as a Chinese economy scholar on a broad range of (China) economic development and reform topics.

and (c) having demonstrated significant leadership in raising the standards of the University with respect to teaching, research and service.

That’s a comparison with colleagues. I have done such a comparison for research and teaching back in 2018 [[here](#)]. The results are striking, rendering the fact that I have not been given the chair professor title years ago an embarrassing reflection on the dean at that time.

Service:

Academia: I provide the usual range of service to the academic community, from journal refereeing and guest editorship to grant and tenure reviews. Most recently, I have published on the dangers to academic freedom in Hong Kong (*Hong Kong Free Press* [[here](#)], *Academia Letters* [[here](#)], and forthcoming in *International Higher Education* [[here](#)]). I have applied for a grant from the General Research Fund for a project on academic freedom at HKUST [[here](#)].

Society: I provide the usual range of service to society, from being available to journalists to writing the occasional op-ed.

Students: I provide the usual range of service to students from being available beyond course issues (when students ask for, typically, career advice) to regularly writing letters of recommendation. I fulfill the School-assigned tasks from mentoring Capstone projects to student advising.

The institution HKUST: I am providing exceptional, outstanding service to the institution. The institution HKUST is defined by its mission / vision / core values. These do not include obedience to administrators (who all too often treat the institution like a privately-owned sweatshop and all too often violate university rules), and they do not include wasting time with fake exercises. Instead, they promote a climate conducive to the advancement of learning and knowledge, emphasize being a leading *university*, and commit to such values as integrity and academic freedom.

Dozens of my initiatives in this service to the institution, especially the integrity of the institution, are documented [here](#). For example, most recently, I have written at great length about the >Gleichschaltung< of HKUST [[here](#)], the non-sense of establishing a HKUST (Guangzhou) campus [[here](#)], and the various system failures imposed by HKUST administrators (for example, [here](#)).

Altogether, this service to the institution amounts to a paragraph by paragraph carefully documented and argued, book-length documentation. I am spending well in excess of 20 percent of my time in service to (just) the institution.

[End]

Referenced websites (should the hyperlinks embedded above not work):

<https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=NIxNLIUAAAAJ&hl=en>

<https://carstenholz.people.ust.hk/Initiative/2018-10-11-ResearchTeaching.pdf>

<https://hongkongfp.com/2020/09/20/hong-kong-academic-freedom-is-it-safe-or-dead-under-the-national-security-law/>

https://www.academia.edu/45537659/University_Rankings_Comparing_Apples_and_Pears

<https://carstenholz.people.ust.hk/AcademicFreedom/CarstenHOLZ-UniversityRankings-AcademicFreedom-IHE-WEB-29Dec2020.pdf>

<https://carstenholz.people.ust.hk/AcademicFreedom/CarstenHOLZ-GRF-AcadFreedom-Submission-31Oct20-16603621.pdf>

<https://carstenholz.people.ust.hk/Initiative.html>

https://www.researchgate.net/publication/327527943_The_Gleichschaltung_of_the_Hong_Kong_University_of_Science_Technology

<https://carstenholz.people.ust.hk/CarstenHolz-CritiqueHKUST-GZcampus-25Jun2020.pdf>

<https://carstenholz.people.ust.hk/ReflectionsOnProvostComments-SOSCmeeting7Dec2020.pdf>