

## **Proposal to Host an AEARU Conference on Teaching and Learning**

### **School of Humanities and Social Science**

### **The Hong Kong University of Science & Technology**

#### **Background: HKUST and HKUST SHSS**

Universities around the world today are committed to providing an education that combines research-embedded teaching with capacity building instruction emphasizing connectivity, creativity, and English-language communication. HKUST, the first Asian University to offer a Massive On-line Open Course in 2012, the first Asian university to partner with Coursera and edX in 2013-2014, the first university to develop a visual analysis of MOOC learning behavior (VisMOOC) in 2014-2016, and the first university to use these materials to flip the classroom and systematically develop a blended Humanities and Social Science on-line curriculum (2013-2016), is committed to develop, to deliver, and to promote best practices among institutions sharing the same vision in terms of pedagogical innovation.

The HKUST School of Humanities and Social Science (SHSS), as one of leading HKUST pioneers in MOOC development, has already offered four HKUST MOOCs in the fields of Science/Technology/Society; Social-Economic History; Political Science, Language

- 1) ***Science, Technology, and Society in China, Parts 1&2***  
*Professor Naubahar Sharif with the help of Christian Daniels 2012 and 2016*
- 2) ***Understanding China, 1700-2000: A Data Analytic Approach, Parts 1&2***  
*Professor James Lee, with Byung-Ho Lee, and Hao Dong 2013 and 2015*
- 3) ***Business English***  
*Dr. Sean McMinn 2015*
- 4) ***Chinese Politics, Parts 1&2***  
*Professor David Zweig 2015 and 2016*

And has four more courses scheduled to be completed this year in Quantitative Methods, Music, Economics, and Economic History

- 5) ***Intimacy of Creativity: Entering the Minds of Composers***  
*Professors Bright Sheng and Matthew Tommasini 2016*
- 6) ***Social Science Approaches to the Study of Chinese Society***  
*Professor Cameron Campbell 2016 and 2017*
- 7) ***China's Economic Transformation, Parts 1 & 2***  
*Professor Albert Park 2016 and 2017*
- 8) ***Inequality and Hard Times in the Past***

*Professors Tommy Bengtsson, Campbell, Lee, and Feng Wang 2017*

This set of eight courses reflect the best efforts of SHSS to develop a Global China Studies (GCS) curriculum taught exclusively in English and designed for a multi-lingual student body through online education, blended classroom teaching, and active learning. Our interdisciplinary curriculum showcases SHSS' world-class research strength in creative arts, humanities, language education, and social science as well as our development of a new pedagogy using on-line resources to develop students' communication skills, teamwork, and creativity.

In addition, SHSS will be able to share and soon join hands with HarvardX, an online learning platform launched in parallel with edX, to create ChinaX, an on-line China Studies curriculum in arts, humanities, and social science.

SHSS faculty have already used the above MOOC videos to teach HKUST classes in a blended or flipped format, some as many as six to nine times, combining both asynchronous on-line and synchronous face-to-face components, i.e. MOOC videos and their accompanying power point presentations, and a powerful HKUST click-stream instrument called VisMOOC. Furthermore, we have provided shadowing teaching opportunity to eight faculty from universities in mainland China two years in a row.

We expect to share our experience and disseminate our Global China Studies on-line curriculum and blended and flipped pedagogical materials by hosting or co-organizing the proposed AEARU Conference on Teaching and Learning.

### **Conference Objective**

We expect the proposed AEARU conference to be a collective and enthusiastic reach-out effort among the seventeen AEARU members in terms of the sharing of the best and promising pedagogical practices, to create a platform for sustaining shared teaching approaches, and to explore possibly a shared credit-bearing e-learning course curriculum.

### **Conference Venue and Accommodation**

HKUST is located in a hillside and water front complex overlooking the Clear Water Bay peninsula, less than 30 minutes' driving time from Central Hong Kong.

Located atop of the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST) main campus at Clear Water Bay near its South Gate, Conference Lodge is the most upscale accommodation option on campus. With a 180-degree unobstructed panoramic sea view, Conference Lodge offers professional and friendly

hospitality services with food and beverage, meeting and catering facilities, exclusively to the HKUST conference delegates, visiting scholars and professors, postgraduate students and university guests.

### **Conference Programs**

The proposed conference programs may include but not limited to keynote speeches, disciplinary plenary sessions, and round tables on the following topics:

- The profound impact of the global educational innovation
- pedagogical shift from knowledge transmission to transformative learning
- integrate discipline training and Competency and Capacity building
- nurture lifelong consumers of knowledge
- interaction and assessment in a proactive learning environment
- education informed research

### **Budget (HK\$)**

**Accommodation:** 70,000 (700 \* 100 participants)

**Opening Ceremony** (venue rental, equipment, transportation and catering): 60,000

**School Visits and dialogue with local community:** 30,000

**Daily catering and transportation** (3 days): 200,000

**Staffing:** 100,000

**Promotion and Printing:** 20,000

**Total: 318,000**