PRESS RELEASE
Appointment of Secretary General of the HKEAA

The Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority (HKEAA) announced today (27 November 2020) the appointment of Professor Wei Xiang-dong as Secretary General, effective 1 March 2021.

The appointment is made after a rigorous search process by the Search Committee through open recruitment locally and internationally.

Mr Samuel Yung Wing-ki, Chairman of the HKEAA, said, ‘The committee was pleased to conclude that with extensive experience in higher education both in Hong Kong and the United Kingdom (UK), and a strong commitment to the promotion of education and assessment, Professor Wei is the most suitable candidate for the role. Professor Wei is also visionary in adopting technology to enhance the administration and management of examinations and assessment.’

‘I am confident that under his leadership, the Authority will be able to maximise its resources for better service to the education community. With profound knowledge in e-learning research and rich experience in administration and management, Professor Wei will be able to reinforce the HKEAA’s pursuit of excellence in delivering examinations and assessment to meet educational needs of the community.’ he added.

Currently a Professor of the Department of Economics at the Lingnan University, Professor Wei is an expert in Economics of Education and is now the Director of Pan Su-tong Shanghai-Hong Kong Economic Policy Research Institute and China Economic Research Programme. He had served as Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences at the Lingnan University, as well as the Supervisor cum Deputy Chairman of the Board of Governors of Lingnan Institute of Further Education. He also took up various teaching and research positions in universities in the UK and the Mainland.

Mr Samuel Yung also expressed his deepest gratitude to Dr So Kwok-sang, the current Secretary General, for his contribution to the HKEAA over the past three years. In particular, his leadership in the smooth delivery of the 2020 HKDSE, which is among the first large scale public examinations administered during the COVID-19 pandemic around the world.

Professor Wei said, ‘With more than four decades of experience in public examinations and assessment development, the HKEAA has been widely recognised in Hong Kong and around the world as the foremost and a world-class examination board. I am delighted to be appointed to take up the important role as Secretary General and greatly look forward to working with the Council, the Secretariat staff, the education community and various
stakeholders. With dedicated efforts in research and development, I believe the HKEAA will achieve its vision of promoting Assessment for Learning for the benefit of the community.’

Notes to Editors: Please see the attachment for Professor Wei Xiang-dong’s profile

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Date: 27 November 2020
Profile of Professor Wei Xiang-dong

Professor Wei Xiang-dong is currently a Professor of the Department of Economics at the Lingnan University. He is also the Director of Pan Su-tong Shanghai-Hong Kong Economic Policy Research Institute and the China Economic Research Programme.

Professor Wei has been serving the Lingnan University since 1995, including three years as Lecturer, seven years as Associate Professor and 15 years as Professor. In recent years, he had taken up various positions which include the Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences from 2012 to 2019; the Supervisor cum Deputy Chairman of the Board of Governors of Lingnan Institute of Further Education from 2014 to 2019; as well as the Founding Director of the Master of Science in International Banking and Finance programme from 2006 to 2014.

Before joining the Lingnan University, he was a lecturer in the Department of Economics of Royal Holloway College at the University of London, and Part-time Chair Professor in Industrial and Labour Economics of the Business School at University of Birmingham, UK. Over the years, he has gained extensive experience in educational research and administrative management.

Professor Wei is currently the Vice-President of the Hong Kong Economic Association and a member of the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC), UK. He had served as a member of the Manpower Development Committee of HKSAR Government and the Board of Joint Quality Review Committee in Hong Kong; and also served as consultant for various governmental organisations in Hong Kong, UK and the Mainland.

Professor Wei graduated from the Sun Yat-sen (Zhongshan) University in China with a Bachelor of Science in Mathematics, then he got his Master of Social Science in Money, Banking and Finance, and Doctor of Philosophy in Economics from the University of Birmingham in UK.

Professor Wei has involved in a wide range of research projects benefiting the community. In particular, he has introduced online learning system and various e-learning resources in China. He also developed e-learning module and assessed the effectiveness of different e-learning models, in order to enhance the educational quality and resources for children living in rural areas. He also founded the Lingnan University STEAM Education and Research Centre to promote STEAM education in Hong Kong.