

## **Second Meeting of the CDC Committee on Science Education (2004-2005) (26 April 2005)**

### **Gist of Meeting**

- The minutes of the first meeting (2004-2005) were confirmed with a minor amendment in the attendance.
- The progresses of the revision of Sixth Form Chemistry Curriculum and Sixth Form Physics Curriculum were reported.
- Mr LAU Yuen-tan reported the recent developments of NSS Science curricula since the last meeting. An informal meeting of this Committee was held on 30 Dec 2004 to discuss the preliminary feedbacks from schools on the proposed NSS Science curricula. A joint meeting of the CDC-HKEAA Biology, Chemistry and Physics Committees was held on 10 Jan 2005 to discuss the development of a combined approach of Science Curriculum. It was agreed that an alternative mode of Science curriculum (combined approach) could be developed to provide a balanced learning experience for students in the study of science and broaden their future choices for further study and work. It was designed to cater for students who took one other science subject including either Biology, Chemistry or Physics. The curriculum comprised of 3 parts with contents selected respectively from Biology, Chemistry and Physics curricula. Students should take only the 2 parts which were complementary to the discipline being specialized.
- Ms CHUNG Oi-lin, Mr FONG Wai-hung, Mr LO Chi-lap and Ms Grace LUI briefed members about the revisions made and the features in the second draft of the consultation documents for the proposed senior secondary curricula for Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Science respectively.
- Some members raised concerns about the difference in level of difficulties between topics in the elective part of the Physics curriculum. Mr LO commented that each topic had different emphases and the difference in level of difficulties between topics might not be very big, but he agreed to reflect members' concerns to the CDC-HKEAA Physics Committee.
- Some members were of the view that the Science curriculum (multi-discipline approach) should be oriented as a curriculum for scientific literacy. It was suggested that the curriculum document should indicate clearly the depth of treatment for each topic and make the curriculum emphases (e.g. nature of science and unifying concepts) more explicit to avoid over teaching. Ms Grace LUI explained that sample resources would be developed to illustrate the depth of treatment of the curriculum. Members were invited to propose a suitable name for this Science curriculum.
- Ms LAU Yuen-tan introduced the consultation document on the Science curriculum (combined approach).
- Members were invited to send in further comments on the second draft of the consultation documents on New Senior Secondary Science Curricula.
- Date of next meeting – to be decided (around July 2005)