

Questions for HKUST Univ. Appointments and Substantiation Committee

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To: bomaria@ust.hk, socholz@ust.hk

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Bcc: xxx omitted xxx

Dear members of the UASC (bcc'ed to regular faculty in HSS),

in your memo to the VPAA of 26 May 2008 you turned down my 07/08 application for full professorship.

I am aware that, by HKUST rules, you have the freedom to ignore all external letters and all lower-level within-HKUST reports (and all department policies). You have just done that in my case and, by HKUST rules, there is nothing I can do, except document what I make of your report, at <http://ihome.ust.hk/~socholz/HKUST-SOSC.html#UASC-VPAA>.

However, for me and my colleagues in HSS to be properly informed when we apply for promotion, I ask that you publicly, for all HSS faculty members, clarify three issues:

(1) Are faculty members of HSS judged by the UASC along disciplinary lines or along interdisciplinary and area studies lines (with what weights)? Or specify your (other) choice. If along disciplinary lines, can I assume that you choose as discipline of an applicant the discipline in which the candidate received his/her PhD?

(2) Are your criteria for approving an application for full professorship pegged at (i) a certain level of performance independent of the years spent in an academic career (and/or at HKUST), or (ii) is the standard against which you evaluate an application an expectation of performance by year 12 (the U.S. standard) and when you compare the applicant to other faculty members you consider those other faculty members' performance by year 12?

(3) Do you desire the applicant to provide some form of citation index (please be specific as to from which source)? --- The HKUST regulations make no mentioning of a citation index and do not ask a faculty member to submit one. (I faced prolonged discussions about the UASC having such an under-the-table requirement.)

I ask you for precise answers.

Sincerely,
Carsten

This is the HSS/bcc list of regular faculty according to the latest Univ. Communications Directory: xxx omitted xxx