

Foreword

General education in university education is at a very critical juncture. From this year (2012) onwards, thanks to the 3–3–4 curriculum education reform, all local universities will institute general/liberal education in their undergraduate curriculum. In spite of differences in the curriculum adopted by different universities, there are surely commonalities in the problems that these institutions face. Together with the undergraduate curriculum reforms in most Asian universities (mainland China, Taiwan, Macau, Korea, Japan, Thailand, etc.), discussions on curriculum, pedagogy, management, quality assurance, and staff development are crucial for the advancement of the cause of general and liberal education in this area of the world. There is certainly a great need of an open platform for serious academic discussion.

Baldwin Cheng Research Centre for General Education (previously Research Centre for General Education, renamed in 2011) has published six issues of *University General Education Bulletin* since 2006, in Chinese at first. The *Bulletin* has been very well received by educators working for general education among Chinese speaking universities. However, in order to tap into the knowledge and experiences of international experts, the *Bulletin* has published both English and Chinese articles since 2009. Facing the challenges from the university education reform, we believe it is time to

add an academic rigor to the *Bulletin* by introducing a peer review system. Hence the present (7th) issue of the *Bulletin* is renamed *Journal of General and Liberal Education*. It will be a bilingual journal dedicated to issues and concerns of general and liberal education in the 21st century. Our contributors include local, regional and international colleagues working in this field.

The special topic of this issue is “Humanistic Concern of General Education in the 21st Century”. We are very grateful to have contributions from Roosevelt Montás (USA), Chuan-Shyong Tso (Taiwan) and Bernald Hung-kay Luk (Canada). Their important insights will hopefully initiate further discussion on this topic. We would also like to thank other authors for sharing their experiences and visions on “Teaching and Learning in General Education”, “General Education Research” and “Forum”.

Journal of General and Liberal Education welcomes your comment and contribution.

Chan-Fai CHEUNG

Mei-Yee LEUNG

Editors-in-chief

卷首語

當前是大學通識教育發展的關鍵時刻。2012年起，「三三四」教育制度改革，香港各大院校的本科課程紛紛發展通識教育。各院校的通識課程縱然有不少相異之處，但面對的困難卻極為相近。與此同時，亞洲不少大學本科教育亦進行了改革，當中包括中國內地、台灣、澳門、韓國、日本、泰國等地。要推進和完善區內的通識教育發展，課程設計、教學法、課程管理、質素保證、教師培訓等重要議題的討論，實在不可或缺，亦亟需要一個供學術探討和交流的開放平台。

鄭承峰通識教育研究中心（前名「通識教育研究中心」，2011年正式命名為「鄭承峰通識教育研究中心」）自2006年成立，已出版六期《大學通識報》。《大學通識報》初期只刊載中文論文，供華語地區大學從事通識教育的同工閱讀。其後，為報導國際學者的真知灼見，分享各地教育工作者的經驗，《大學通識報》遂於2009年轉為英漢雙語刊物。面對大學教育制度改革的挑戰，我們決定引入評審制度，以更嚴謹的學術態度處理文稿。由是，本期（第七期）《大學通識報》改名為《大學通識》，與本地、華語地區乃至全球學者討論廿一世紀所關注的通識議題。

今期專題為「廿一世紀通識教育中的人文精神」，有幸得到Montás教授（美國）、鄒川雄教授（台灣）及陸鴻基教授（加拿大）賜稿。希望藉着三位教授的大作，能掀起更多的討論。另外，在此亦感謝

其他幾位作者在「通識教與學」分享經驗，發表「通識教育研究」結果，以及在「論壇」一欄論述對通識教育的理解。

《大學通識》誠邀閣下投稿指教！

主編

張燦輝、梁美儀