

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Women's Foundation Launches Scholarship Scheme to Send Hong Kong Students to the University of Cambridge

HONG KONG, November 21, 2012 – The Women's Foundation, a leading Hong Kong non-profit organisation dedicated to the advancement of women, today announced the launch of a Scholarship Scheme to send Hong Kong students to the University of Cambridge to pursue the MPhil in Multi-disciplinary Gender Studies.

The scholarship is a critical step in developing and equipping a talented pool of individuals from Hong Kong with the knowledge, skills and resources to further gender studies and gender research for the greater good of society.

Su-Mei Thompson, CEO of The Women's Foundation, said "From our work we know two things: that more research is needed in many areas relating to women and gender and that there is currently only a small talent pool of people who can join the dots between data and statistics on the one hand and the formulation and effective implementation of public policy on the other. We need more skilled practitioners to ensure Hong Kong is allocating the right resources to fix the root causes of the social ills we see on our doorstep."

The Women's Foundation Scholarship will cover all university and college fees enabling the recipients to pursue their studies regardless of financial capability. All graduates from a Hong Kong university or tertiary institute holding an upper second-class degree or equivalent are eligible to have their application considered, having been accepted onto the MPhil through the University of Cambridge's standard admission procedure. The first of the scholarship students will start their studies in Cambridge in Autumn 2013.

The MPhil in Multi-disciplinary Gender Studies at Cambridge is an innovative new programme at one of the world's leading universities. The course involves up to 23 departments within the university and an international network of gender scholars. The unique MPhil curriculum spans a number of critical topics from across the disciplines, from global development and environmental change to radical biomedical advances, while focusing on rigorous gender analysis. There is also a strong focus on the

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promotion of gender awareness and its relevance in historical, economic, political, social and scientific contexts. Students who complete the programme are well positioned for future careers in policy, journalism, broadcasting and business as well as academia and other research.

According to Dr. Andrew Tucker, Deputy Director of the University of Cambridge Centre for Gender Studies: "Students who attend the Masters programme in Multi-disciplinary Gender Studies can expect to engage with world-class leaders across the various fields of gender and to be part of an open and stimulating campus environment. We are delighted to be partnering with The Women's Foundation and look forward to welcoming Hong Kong students to the programme."

Dr. Maggy Lee, Associate Professor in Sociology, University of Hong Kong, commented "Hong Kong provides a unique opportunity for doing cutting edge gender research that affects both men and women. Through The Women's Foundation's scholarship programme, we will expose a new generation of enthusiastic young minds from Hong Kong to the latest thinking and global best practices in gender studies. This could generate a virtuous cycle of good research, good policies and real social impact which would be very exciting for Hong Kong."

The Women's Foundation will be offering a series of Information Sessions on the Scholarship Scheme at leading universities and other tertiary institutions in Hong Kong. For more information on the Scholarship Scheme and the Information Sessions, please visit www.thewomensfoundationhk.org.

About The Women's Foundation

The Women's Foundation (www.thewomensfoundationhk.org) is a Hong Kong registered not-for-profit organisation dedicated to improving the lives of women and girls in Hong Kong. The Foundation is focused on challenging gender stereotypes, increasing the number of women in decision-making and leadership roles, and empowering women in poverty through ground-breaking research, innovative and impactful community programmes, and education and advocacy.

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