

Resumption of Administrative Operations and Research Activity

Wednesday, April 29, 2020 5:00 PM

Dear Members of HKUST,

The Government announced on 28 April 2020 that public services will resume as normal under a phased approach starting next Monday, 4 May 2020. In line with the Government's announcement, the University will resume administrative operations and research activities in a progressive manner from 4 May 2020, while teaching will continue in live interactive on-line mode.

Administrative operations

Administrative operations will resume starting 4 May 2020. Department Heads and Directors should plan for the progressive return to work of all staff, taking into consideration preventive measures in the 13 March 2020 announcement by HSEO (https://hseo.ust.hk/system/files/documents/COVID-19_Info_Web_Email_2020-03-13_HSEO.pdf). In addition to ensuring social distancing and personal hygiene, Heads and Directors should also consider adopting staggered working hours and lunchtime to help avoid crowding. Please approach HSEO if you have any question or need any assistance.

Research activities

Central Research Facilities and research laboratories will resume normal activities in a progressive manner, while social distancing and other preventive measures will continue. Supervisors or Principal Investigators must assess and mitigate the risks in allowing research staff and students to resume laboratory work. Lab users must wear a mask all the time and maintain a social distance of 1.5 m. HSEO will continue to monitor laboratory activities and provide support when necessary.

Restricted opening of facilities

Some facilities will remain closed or operated in restricted mode. Please keep checking these websites <https://covid19info.ust.hk/campus-facilities> for updated arrangements and opening hours of Library, Sport Facilities, Catering Outlets, University transport, Computer Barns and other facilities.

Travel restriction

The University reminds all members to refrain from any outbound travel including personal trips until further notice. Students who are now outside Hong Kong are advised not to return to the City.

COVID-19 Related Travel and Contact History Report Form

Members are reminded to report when there is any update on travel/contact history ([form](#)).

Hygiene practices remain in force

All campus hygiene practices, including stepped-up facility cleaning, regular refilling of hand sanitizers and mask supply to staff and students will continue. Members are minded to keep up good personal and environmental hygiene practices.

Stay tuned

Please refer to the University website <https://covid19info.ust.hk/> to find COVID-19 related information quickly and easily.

We are grateful for the dedication and commitment shown by University staff in helping to safeguard our campus. We are also grateful for the cooperation and understanding shown by all students and staff during this difficult time.

Wei Shyy, President

Lionel Ni, Provost

Mark Hodgson, Vice-President for Administration and Business

Nancy Ip, Vice-President for Research and Development