

Message to Fellow Students on viral outbreak and Pro-P

Wednesday, 5 February 2020 4:11 PM

Dear Fellow Students and Exco of HKUSTSU,

With the outbreak of the 2019 nCoV virus which is entering a critical stage with increasing number of confirmed cases around the world, we have already stepped up all the measures to ensure health safety against the spread of this virus and possible infection. These measures include cancelling in-class meetings to reduce the social contact among students/instructors, set up of quarantine facility at the conference lodge, all to minimize the health risk.

Many student activities, academic or non-academic alike, have been cancelled in the past weeks and the coming month for the same specific reason. Up till to date, all 3 suspected cases reported recently have been cleared, and we have ZERO case of confirmed infection. We all should stay vigilant and try our best to maintain a safe environment to the whole university as far as possible.

Promotional Period (Pro-P) aims to promote the nominated cabinets of societies to gather members' support. When there are limited number of students on campus, holding Pro-P in this period would not serve the original purpose. More importantly, initiating any student activities that aim to trigger interest and bring along more students on campus, e.g., the preparation of the Pro-P decoration would only elevate the risk of increased personal contacts.

Based on such consideration, we do not support the organization of Pro-P in February, and thus DSTO and FMO will not approve the use of common rooms, Atrium and Academic Concourse for Banner Posting, Big Decoration assembly and display. We also rule out that similar activities with student gathering to be held in other university premises.

We hope that all responsible student associations, including our SU and its societies, will abide by this decision and keep their nominated cabinets informed. Any unapproved usage of the premises will be handled by existing university framework, including necessary sanction, and unauthorized items will be removed in due course.

At this difficult time when all parties are trying hard to cope with the epidemic, I hope that all student societies and individuals would be working with us to put personal and community health on the top priority so that we can all ride through the challenges ahead.

Sincerely,
King L.
Chow
Acting Dean of Students