

THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG
HALL EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

MINUTES of 4TH OPEN FORUM

Date: 15 April 2011 (Friday)
Time: 5:15 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Venue: K. K. Leung Concourse

Present: Dr. Robert Chung (Chairman of the Committee and
Budget Holder of the HED Project)
Dr. K. C. Cheung
Mr. Theo Chan
Miss Mimi Lee
Mr. Samuel Shek
Mr. Andy Yip

Moderator: Miss Mimi Lee

Secretary: Mr. Anders Wong (The HEDO Manager)

No. of participants: Around 15

1. Questions raised

- a. On the HED Project:
 - Why does the HED Project target mainly on hall students?
- b. On Intellectual Development in Halls:
 - What will be the content of the hall education courses?
 - How large is the scale of the hall education courses?

2. Suggestions from students

- Since the first day students stepped into the University, they had already been given lots of responsibilities. They were expected to participate in many activities that had been the same for many years. Fewer and fewer students think about the meanings of the activities. They even never think about the reasons of joining. No one is going to review the functions and activities in halls. The idea of the HED Project is a very good start to

initiate the reform of hall culture. However, it is still “spoon-feeding” instead of driven by student autonomy.

- The schedule of HKU students nowadays is packed. Students do not have much time on reviewing the activities in halls. Without understanding the meanings, the activities were regarded as non-educational. Time was spent while nothing was gained by the students. That accounts for the bad image of HKU halls. The HED Project is expected to help students think about the value of different activities rather than merely organize events.
- Regarding the unwillingness to be executive committee members, it was said to be related to the atmosphere of criticism among hall students. Executive committee members were questioned more than appreciated.
- Some students participating in hall activities are trying to fulfill their responsibilities instead of enjoying. They finally learnt nothing because they did not work according to their true wishes.
- Publicity on the HED Project is not enough.
- One of the benefits a hall has given students is their relationships. Students in different curriculums may share their knowledge in halls.
- Students like to choose internships instead of hall activities because they are somehow short-sighted. They focus on instant rewards rather than life-long education. The events held by HEDO are expected to be recognized by the University and many other parties so that students can put these experiences in their resumes.
- Hall education courses are expected to be more experiential rather than lecture-based.
- An overseas study tour is more attractive to students.